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DHHR offers tip for disinfecting water before consuming

Many residents across the state are still without power nearly a week after the destructive windstorms last Friday. Officials with the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources say that many residents across the state continue to be under local boil water advisories. Areas with no water, low water pressure or cloudy water need to properly disinfect their water before consuming.

Residents who remain under a local boil water advisory and who are unable to boil their water should disinfect their water using household bleach in the following manner:

- Add eight drops or one-eighth teaspoon of regular unscented household laundry bleach (5.25 percent sodium hypochlorite) to each gallon of clear water. Stir and allow the water to stand for at least 30 minutes before using. Water should have a distinct taste or smell of chlorine. If chlorine taste or smell is not present, add eight more drops or one-eighth teaspoon of bleach and allow to stand for 15 minutes before using. Boiling water for one minute is preferred over using bleach.

Learn more about safe drinking water at www.wvdhhr.org/oehs.