






# Drink Safe Water

After a natural disaster, water may not be safe to use.  
Germs and chemicals may be in the water.  
Listen to local officials to find out if your water is safe.





## Things you should do

-  Listen for announcements from local officials to find out what to do. They will tell you if there are germs and/or chemicals in the water.
-  Boil water if instructed. Boil it for at least 1 minute (start counting when the water comes to a constant boil). Let the water cool sufficiently before drinking. Boiling kills germs in the water.
-  Use bottled water if instructed. Sometimes after a disaster, there may be chemicals in the water that boiling cannot remove.









## Ways to feed your baby

-  Breast-feed or use ready-made formula.
-  If you must use water to make formula, use only commercially-bottled water until officials say your tap water is safe to drink.



## Things you should never do

-  **Never** drink the water unless you know it is safe.
-  **Never** wash or clean dishes, utensils, toys, or other objects in the water unless you know it is safe.
-  **Never** bathe in the water unless you know it is safe.
-  **Never** cook with the water unless you know it is safe.
-  **Never** brush your teeth with the water unless you know it is safe.
-  **Never** use the water to make ice unless you know it is safe.

For more information on safe water after a natural disaster, please visit

[http://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/emergency/safe\\_water/personal.html](http://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/emergency/safe_water/personal.html)

