Sample Message Map

This is an example of a completed Boil Water Advisory message map.

....

Contamination suspected/found in tap water. Take action before drinking or cooking.

Boil water for drinking and cooking.

- Fill a pot with water.
- Heat the water until bubbles come quickly from the bottom of the pot to the top.
- Keep heating the water for one more minute.
- Turn off the heat source and let the water cool.
- Pour water into a clean, sanitized container with a cover for storage.

Routine tests performed last night confirm the presence of *E.coli* bacteria in the water serving residents of [x] county.

- Your risk of illness after drinking this water is increased.
- The water utility is increasing the disinfectant levels and flushing the distribution system to eliminate the problem.
- Testing will continue until the problem is resolved. You will be informed of progress.

If you cannot boil water, disinfect it.

- If water is clear: Add 8 drops or 0.5 milliliters of unscented household bleach (with a concentration of 5-9%) per one (1) gallon of water, mix well, and then allow the water to stand for at least 30 minutes.
- If water is cloudy: Filter it, Add 16 drops, 1 milliliter, or 1/8 teaspoon of unscented household bleach (with a concentration of 5-9%) per one (1) gallon of water, mix well, and then allow the water to stand for at least 30 minutes.
- Store disinfected water in a clean container with a cover.