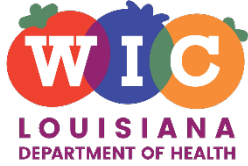


Water Advisory for Formula Feeding



Due to low water levels in the lower Mississippi River, saltwater from the Gulf of Mexico is currently intruding upstream. Salt can make tap water unsafe to consume or use. This increase in salt water, specifically sodium and chloride minerals, can make **using tap water to mix your baby's or child's formula harmful.**

Here are some tips to keep your child safe when formula feeding during this advisory:

- Check with your water system to determine whether a drinking water advisory has been issued for your area and follow local guidance.
- Bottled water is the best option to use for mixing formula.
- **Boiling water will not make water safe to consume or use. Household filters, such as a Brita filter, will not make the water safe to use.**
- **Emergency bottled water will be available at WIC clinics.**
- Families can choose to temporarily switch to ready-to-feed (RTF) formula. RTF formula does not require any preparation with water. **Call your WIC clinic** to have your WIC food package and EBT card updated.
 - Not all powdered or liquid concentrate formulas are available as ready-to-feed formula. Your WIC clinic can help you determine if your infant's formula is available in RTF.
- All powdered and liquid concentrate formulas should be prepared following the formula manufacturer's instructions. **Do not prepare formula with any liquids other than safe bottled water as long as your area is under advisory.**



For more information visit

<https://gohsep.la.gov/emergency/saltwater>