

WATER

Halakhically, heating water is by definition cooking. For this reason water is never heated on Shabbat. **This and all the regulations that follow apply to everyone, both Jew and non-Jew.** Though under certain conditions a non-Jew may perform certain tasks for a Jew on Shabbat, **a Jew is not allowed to eat food cooked by a non-Jew (or a Jew of course) on Shabbat.**

The urns we have contain sufficient water for most all affairs. (Though I do hope to identify a donor that might make it possible for us to replace the current urns with larger ones). On Friday afternoons the maintenance staff will be turning the water valve off to the urns, so that new water is not added to the urns as a result of our emptying them. The valves will be reopened after Shabbat.

No liquids may be heated on the stove or in the oven on Shabbat.

SOUP

This means soup cannot be heated on Shabbat. However, if soup is cooked before Shabbat, it can be kept warm on Shabbat if it is placed immediately into the warmers and remains there until it is served. Once it leaves the warmer, however, it cannot go back in. (our warmers seal moisture in so that soup can even be put in on Friday afternoon and it will be fine for Saturday lunch or even later and will not have evaporated). Cold soups, of course, are always okay.

COFFEE/TEA

Brewing coffee is cooking and is NOT permitted on Shabbat. Coffee grounds may NOT be put into the urns on Shabbat under any circumstances. This applies to Jews and non-Jews alike (see above). The same is true for tea leaves or concentrate of any kind.

There are three acceptable ways to make coffee for Shabbat:

1. Coffee grounds may be put into the urn on Friday before Shabbat as long as it is early enough that the coffee will be brewed before Shabbat begins (candle lighting time). Once brewed the coffee can remain in the urn over Shabbat and be served from it.
2. Instant coffee can be made on Shabbat. However, instant coffee CANNOT be added to the urn on Shabbat, as the urn is a *kli rishon* (primary cooking vessel in contact with the heating element) and therefore to add it to this vessel is deemed cooking. Instant coffee CAN be added to a *kli sheni* (secondary vessel), such as a cup or a "serving pot."
(For those interested, Starbuck's new VIA instant coffee bears the O-U, but many other instant coffees are fine).
3. You may serve hot water and use "coffee bags". Coffee bags may be placed in a *kli sheni* (a cup or serving pot) but not in the urn, which is a *kli rishon* (primary vessel).

Similarly for teas, tea bags and concentrate can be put into a secondary vessel but not into the urn.

If you have any questions, please contact Rabbi Weiss, Rabbi Rudin-Luria or our *mashgichah*, Debbie Isaak-Shapiro.