

Beverages

Sparkling Basil Lemonade

Wendy O'Connor - Spokane, WA

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Servings: 16

4 cups water

3 cups sugar

2 cups (about 1 1/2 oz) fresh basil leaves

2 one-liter bottles club soda, chilled

2 cups lemon juice

ice cubes

1 fresh jalapeno chile pepper, sliced

fresh basil leaves

For the basil syrup, in a large saucepan combine the water, sugar and two cups of the basil leaves. Bring to boiling over medium-high heat. Reduce the heat.

Simmer, uncovered, for 20 minutes. Strain and discard the leaves.

Cover and chill the syrup for 2 to 24 hours.

For the lemonade, in a very large punch bowl, combine the chilled syrup, club soda and the lemon juice.

Serve over ice and garnish with the jalapeno slices and fresh basil leaves.

Yield: 16 8-ounce servings

Per Serving (excluding unknown items): 153 Calories; 0g Fat (0.0% calories from fat); trace Protein; 40g Carbohydrate; trace Dietary Fiber; 0mg Cholesterol; 3mg Sodium. Exchanges: 0 Fruit; 2 1/2 Other Carbohydrates.