

Chlorination for Contaminated Wells

If the well and pumping unit must be disinfected because of bacterial problems, then follow these procedures:

1. Locate an opening to the wellhead such as a vent pipe by which the disinfectant can be added. If a vent pipe is not available, then the well seal will have to be removed to add the disinfectant. Have a plumber or other knowledgeable person perform this task.
2. Determine the chlorine solution strong enough to produce a chlorine concentration of 100ppm in the well and distribution system. Refer to the table below to determine the amount of chlorine compound for disinfection.
3. After the solution had been added, turn the pump on and off several times to thoroughly mix the disinfectant with the water in the well. Open all cold-water taps (sinks, spigots, water fountains, etc.) and the water run until the odor of chlorine is present at each tap. Turn off all taps at this point.
4. Allow the well and distribution system to stand without pumping for 24 hours to insure proper disinfection.
5. Pump the water to waste (preferably from the well first and away from the septic tank). Turn on all cold-water taps and run until the odor of chlorine is no longer detectable.
6. Wait 48 hours after pumping before bacteriological sample is taken.

Chlorine Compounds

	Under 150 feet	Deep Well Over 150 feet
Diameter in Inches	Sodium Hypochlorite 5.25% Clorox or Purex Liquid in ounces per 100 feet of water	Calcium Hypochlorite 65% HTH or Perchloron Granular in ounces per 100 feet of water
2	4	0.5
4	16	1.5
6	40	3
8	66	6
10	112	8
12	160	12