

Disinfection of Water Wells

Disinfection of a water well can be accomplished using chlorinated water. The source of the chlorine can be ordinary household liquid bleach. The amount of chlorine needed depends on the volume of water to be treated. Use 1 gallon of bleach for every 100 feet of standing water. NOTE. As a general rule, it is better to use too much chlorine than too little.

1. Mix the bleach with a few gallons of water in a plastic bucket.
2. Remove the cap or seal from the casing. Pour the bleach mixture into the well.
3. For best effectiveness, the chlorine should be mixed with the water in the well. This can be accomplished by connecting a hose to a faucet beyond the pressure tank and circulating the water from the tank back into the casing for about 15 minutes.
4. Open all cold water faucets (one at a time), until bleach odor is detected. Don't forget toilets, dishwasher, washing machine, etc.
5. Allow bleach to remain in system for a minimum of 8-12 hours (preferably overnight).
6. Drain and flush all lines and pressure tank by allowing water to run from spigots until no bleach odor is detected.
7. Resample after an additional 8 hours to determine effectiveness of disinfection procedure.

NOTE: It is not uncommon to have to repeat this procedure in order to obtain a 'safe' sample.



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