

Disinfecting a Well

Mixing chlorine bleach (Clorox*, Dazzle, or an EPA/NSF approved bleach.) with the water in the well or spring in the following dosages may disinfect the water system:

*** Be sure to use 'regular' Clorox
with a concentration of 6.0% sodium hypochlorite.**

DUG WELL:

DEPTH*	5 FT	10 FT	15 FT	20 FT
DOSAGE	½ GAL	1 GAL	1 1/2 GAL	2 GAL

*Approximate amount of water in the bottom of a well and not the total depth of the well. For a surface SPRING, use 2 gallons.

DRILLED WELL:

Depth	50 FT	100 FT	150 FT	200 FT	250 FT	300 FT
DOSAGE*	2 1/2C	1 1/2QT	2 QT	2 1/2QT	3 QT	3 1/2 QT

* GAL = gallon QT = quart C = cup

*PLEASE NOTE: A greater amount of chlorine maybe needed to disinfect the water depending on the degree of contamination.

Once the chlorine has been mixed with the water, open all faucets, sill cocks and similar outlets individually until you smell chlorine in each outlet. Allow the mixture to stand in the system overnight, then flush the chlorine mixture from the system using an outside faucet and garden hose. **DO NOT FLUSH THE MIXTURE INTO YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM.** You may resume using the toilet facilities as the septic system is designed to handle this, but the septic system cannot handle the large amount of water needed to flush the chlorine from the well. Since the chlorine will kill grass, be careful where you run the water outside. After disinfection, the water supply should be re-sampled. Re-sampling should be done only after the odor of chlorine disappears. It takes about 3 or 4 days of normal water usage before all of the chlorine smell disappears.