A & L LABORATORY INC.

HOW TO CHLORINATE YOUR WELL WATER

Chlorination disinfects your well by destroying unhealthy bacteria and microorganisms and removing dissolved iron, manganese and hydrogen sulfide. It can be managed easily at home with common household bleach. Shock chlorination uses concentrations of chlorine that are 100 to 400 times the amount found in municipal water supplies. The highly chlorinated water is held in the pipes of your well system for 12 to 24 hours before it is flushed out and the system is ready again for use.

When To Chlorinate Your Well

- when lab results indicate a presence of bacteria
- upon completion of a new well or after pump replacement or repair
- when the distribution system is opened for repairs or maintenance
- following contamination by flood water
- to control iron and sulfur bacteria

STEP 1 Collect as much water as you're going to need for the rest of the day and the next day for household needs.

STEP 2 Calculate the amount of bleach needed from the chart (see below). Any ordinary household bleach can be used. However, perfumed bleach should not be used, as it is not healthy to ingest the scented ingredients.

STEP 3 By-pass water treatment equipment if any.

STEP 4 Remove the well cap to allow access to the water source. Pour the chlorine mixture directly into the well.

STEP 5 In order to mix the chlorine thoroughly throughout the entire water system, it is a good idea to circulate the water in the well. This can be accomplished by connecting a hose to an outside faucet that is located after the pressure tank. Use the hose to run water back down the well. After a strong chlorine odor is apparent, rinse the inside of the top of the well and turn off the hose. Back at the house, open each indoor faucet one by one and let the water run until a strong odor of chlorine is detected.

STEP 6 Let the water stand in the household water system for at least 12 to 24 hours.

STEP 7 Flush the system of the remaining chlorine. Start by turning on outside faucets and letting them run until the chlorine smell goes away. Let the water run on the ground to reduce the load on your septic system. Finally, run the indoor faucets until the system is completely flushed.

STEP 8 Retest your water supply for bacteria after you can no longer smell any chlorine*. If shock chlorination has not eliminated the bacteria problem, you may need a continuous disinfection system or could have a problem with the well construction or its location. Call a well professional for guidance.

Be careful when handling concentrated chlorine solutions. Wear rubber gloves, goggles and a protective apron. If chlorine accidentally gets on your skin, flush immediately with clean water. Never mix chlorine solutions with other cleaning agents or ammonia as toxic fumes will form.

Diameter of Well	Dosage For Each 10 Feet of Water
2"	1/2 oz.
6"	4 oz.
12"	1 pint
24"	2 quarts
36"	1 gallon
48"	2 gallons

Recommended chlorine doasage is based on using 5.25% chlorine bleach (household bleach)

If the well is over 200 ft. deep, you may want to use chlorine tablets .

If the above dosage does not give a strong bleach odor to the water, add more bleach

***When there is no bleach odor, take a sample in our sterile lab container following all sampling instructions. The sample must be received in our laboratory within 30 hours from the time of sampling.**

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