

Well Disinfection Procedures

Please read the entire instructions before beginning well disinfection

MATERIALS NEEDED: unscented bleach; wrench to remove well cap, and hose with correct thread fitting to reach from the well to closest outside faucet after pressure tank.

Bypass water treatment equipment, if any.

1. **Inspect the well.** Remove the well cap look for any debris, insects, etc. and eliminate
2. When there are no longer any obstructions, **add the correct amount of bleach according to the table below.**

If Your Well Depth is:	Add this much liquid household bleach
Up to 150 feet	1 Quart
151 to 300 feet	2 Quarts
301 feet and over	At least 1 gal and 1c. Crushed swimming pool tablets

2. **Circulate the water.** In order to mix the chlorine thoroughly throughout the entire system, it is necessary 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 to the well. From time to time, move the hose so that the chlorinated water bathes the sidewalls of the well casing.
3. **Bring water into the entire distribution system.** Run all faucets in the house, one at a time, until you smell chlorine at the faucet. Don't forget outside faucets, washing machine, icemaker, and both hot and cold water taps.
4. **Allow the chlorinated water to stand in the system for at least six (6) hours; preferably overnight.** After this, connect a hose to an outside faucet and flush the water to an area where the chlorinated water will not cause environmental damage or affect the water supply of others.
5. **Flush the system.** Allow water to run until chlorine can no longer be smelled. Repeat flushing at each faucet in the system. For a typical well, this will take 3-4 hours. NOTE: To avoid pump overheating and possible damage, turn off the water when flow is a trickle and wait at least 15 minutes before turning pump on again.
6. After the system is flushed, put any water treatment equipment back into service. You may perform a bacterial analysis after you are sure no chlorine is left.
7. In some cases, one treatment WILL NOT be sufficient. Repeat disinfecting procedures as needed.

Notes:

- DO NOT use Ammonia in fixtures before flushing with chlorine; a poisonous gas will form.
- Chlorine may break loose iron deposits slime, and organic material. This material will make the water run colored.
- The high level of chlorine required to sanitize a water system is corrosive to most metals; therefore, do not allow chlorinated water to stand in lines more than 35 hours before being flushed.

If you have any questions, contact the Seneca County Department of Health @ 315-539-1945