

METHOD FOR DISINFECTION OF A WATER WELL

1. Remove well cover and have approved well cap available.
2. Pour one or two gallons of Clorox into the well (according to volume of water in well).
3. Connect hose to faucet and run hose down in well to mix the Clorox in the well water, turn faucet on full force for 10 (ten) minutes.
4. Shut off faucet and install approved cap on casing.
5. Allow mixed water to stand in casing at least 20 minutes before running water into house.
6. Open all faucets to fill all lines with the treated water and run until a distinct chlorine odor is present. This includes sinks, tubs, toilets, washers, outside faucets and all connections and yard hydrants.
7. The pump should then be shut off and no water withdrawn from the system for 12 to 24 hours.
8. After 12 to 24 hours the outside faucets and yard hydrants should be opened and water run until the chlorine odor disappears.
9. Use water at a normal rate for one week and then have the water rechecked for presence of coliform bacteria.

Boil all drinking water or use bottled water until a good water test is received. This method will not help a well with nitrate problems. It is advisable to have water tested at least once yearly. Newly constructed and reconstructed wells are likely to be contaminated during construction and should be disinfected before being used.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Nitrates in our potable water supply are believed to be on the increase and in some localities is causing considerable hazardous conditions and economic losses in livestock feeding. A large quantity of nitrates in the water supply is toxic to humans and animals and can cause death in infants. According to many authorities, water in excess of 10.0 MG/L Nitrates (N) can be hazardous. Nitrates cannot be removed from water by softeners. Nitrates can be removed by the use of **special** filter units or distillation units. A new, and perhaps deeper, source of water may produce water with less nitrates, but in many cases there will be an increase in other minerals. It is difficult to say where the nitrates come from, but it is usually associated with manure or sewage contamination or other sources of nitrogen.

Coliform bacteria, which is the bacteria tested for in a water test, can be found in the soil, in fecal matter in all warm-blooded animals, and varmints and insects can carry the bacteria on their bodies. Most surface waters, waters less than 12 feet deep, wells with leaking casings, or tree roots, open wells, and wells with other faulty conditions can have high bacteria levels.

Drinking water should not contain impurities in hazardous concentrations, be excessively corrosive, or retain treatment substances in excessive concentrations. Substances that are possibly injurious to health should not be introduced in ways by which they may reach the consumer.

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