

## HOW TO DISINFECT A DOMESTIC WELL - GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

If you have a filtration system installed in your home, make sure to bypass your filtration system prior to disinfecting your well with bleach. Running a bleach solution through a filtration system can damage it.

1. Remove well cap/seal at well casing.
2. Pour unscented household bleach into casing - \* See chart below
  - Mix your determined amount of chlorine solution (from chart) with 10 times as much water before pouring down well. Avoid pouring strong bleach down the well.
3. Turn on all fixtures in home one at a time. Start at furthest fixture away from well and include all outside hose bibs, water closets, dishwasher, clothes washer, etc.
4. Turn off fixture when smell of bleach occurs.
5. Let stand for 12 hours but no more than 24 hours.
6. Flush water through outside hose bib until odor is not detectable.
  - DO NOT fill septic tank with flushed water!



### \* HOW TO CALCULATE THE GALLONAGE OF YOUR DOMESTIC WELL

See chart below to find out the amount of 5% chlorine bleach (sodium hypochlorite) needed for disinfection to obtain approximately a 100 ppm chlorine solution in the well.

If using pool chlorine (10% to 12% sodium hypochlorite) use half as much chlorine bleach.

Well Casing Diameter	Distance From Water Level to Bottom of Well (Water Depth)					
	0' – 50'	50' – 100'	100 – 200'	200' – 300'	300' – 400'	400' – 500'
4"	8 oz	16 oz	24 oz	1 qt	1 ½ gal.	2 gal.
6"	1 qt	2 qt.	1 ½ gal.	2 gal.	2 ½ gal.	3 gal.
8"– 12"	1 gal.	1 ½ gal.	2 gal.	2 ½ gal.	5 gal.	6 gal.
12" – 16"	1 gal.	2 gal.	4 gal.	6 gal.	8 gal.	10 gal.
20" – 24"	2 gal.	6 gal.	10 gal.	14 gal.	18 gal.	22 gal.
30" – 36"	6 gal.	10 gal.	20 gal.	30 gal.	40 gal.	50 gal.



If you don't know your well depth, contact your well driller as they often keep records that will show the depth of the well.

**EXAMPLE...**

The well is 4" in diameter, with a depth of 400 feet. The water level is 100 feet below the surface.

$400 - 100 = 300$  feet. Use 1 ½ gallons of household bleach.

**NOTE:** In applications where it is inconvenient to determine water depth, at least ½ gallon of household bleach, or ¼ gallon of pool chlorine, may be used for wells up to 8" in diameter with water estimated to be less than 80 feet deep; one gallon should be used for similarly sized wells with water greater than 80 feet. 5. Mix the chlorine solution above with 10 times as much water before pouring down well. Avoid pouring strong bleach down the well.