

STEPS FOR WELL DISINFECTION

- 1) Turn off pump and drain cistern/pressure tank.
- 2) Open access hole into casing. If your well has a self-priming surface mounted pump, this procedure may not be necessary.
- 3) Place a funnel into the access hole and pour 1 gallon of household bleach per 100 feet of depth into the well.
- 4) Turn the well pump on and off several times to "bump" the well and mix the bleach and water.
- 5) Connect a section of garden hose to the faucet at the pressure tank (or the nearest faucet if the pressure tank does not have one) and place the other end into the funnel. Turn on the pump and the faucet and allow the water to circulate from the well to the tank and back to the well for 15-30 minutes.
- 6) Close the faucet and the access hole to the well.
- 7) Go to all water faucets in the entire system being served by the well and open them until you can smell the bleach. Start with the faucet nearest the well and work away from it. Make sure that every outlet is flushed with-the treated water. Flush the toilets, run the showers, washing machine, dish washer, ice-maker, outside faucets, etc. If there are any dead end lines, they must be opened and flushed as well. If the system is quite extensive, you may need to add more bleach to the well to ensure adequate treatment of the system.

ALLOW THE SYSTEM TO STAND AT LEAST OVERNIGHT WITH THE BLEACH IN THE LINES.

- 8) Remove any filters-or areator screens from the fixtures and flush the system with fresh water until all debris and discolored water is removed and the bleach can no longer be smelled.
- 9) Replace the filters and screens and use the water normally for a few days, then resample.
- 10) In some cases, this procedure may need to be repeated two or even three times to clear up a severe contamination problem.

This disinfection procedure will work only if the system is in a good state of repair. Leaky pipes, cracked casing or similar problems will allow immediate recontamination.

The system will need to be disinfected any time there is work on the pipes or pump.