

HOW TO CHLORINATE YOUR WELL WATER

Periodically, some wells may produce dingy water, have an unpleasant smell, or test results come back positive for bacteria. In either case, we recommend chlorinating your well as a first step of treatment. In most cases, properly chlorinating the well will rid your water of these ailments. This process can be done by the homeowner or we can assist with the process.

Before you can chlorinate the well, you must first figure how much chlorine product to use. We use and recommend pellet form chlorine, but you can use liquid Clorox, be sure to use original, non-scented Clorox. To properly figure the amount of pellets or liquid, you need to know how deep your well is.

Use the following chart to figure the amount of pellets or liquid Clorox to use.

PELLET OR GRANULE FORM

1 oz. (approx. 28 pellets) for every 100 gallons of water (1.5 gallon of water/per foot in a 6" well)

Example: Well: 300 ft. deep (approx. 250 ft. water = 375 gallons) Pellets: 105 pellets or Granule: 3.75 oz.

Crush the pellets into small chunks.

NON-SCENTED LIQUID CHLOROX

1 gallon Clorox for every 100 ft. of well depth.

Example: Well: 300 ft. deep

Clorox: 3 gallons

After you have properly calculated the amount needed, follows these instructions:

CAUTION: IF YOU HAVE A WATER FILTRATION SYSTEM SUCH AS IRON FILTER OR SOFTENER, PLEASE BYPASS THE SYSTEM BEFORE CHLORINATING THE WELL WATER.

1. At the head of the well, there should be a vent (it may have a white cap at the end of it). Remove this vent and that will leave an opening into the well. (Note: If there is no vent at the top of the well, there may be another fitting such as a plug that is easy to remove to create an opening directly into the well, do not disturb wires or pipes going into well)
2. Drop the crushed pellets, granules, or pour the Clorox into the well.
3. Let the well sit for 30 minutes.
4. If you have an outside spigot within water hose reach of the well, hook up the hose and cycle the water back in the well for 10 minutes. This will circulate the chlorinated water throughout the well.
5. Replace the vent or fitting removed at the head of the well and turn on all the faucets in your house, flush toilets, and let the water run until you can smell the chlorine or about 10 minutes.
6. At that point turn off all faucets.
7. Let the chlorinated water sit in the water lines for 24 hours or overnight.
8. After 24 hours, pump off water using the hose bibb at the top of the well or unfiltered spigot
9. Pumping off chlorine timeline: Run, half speed, for 1 hour – Rest 1 hour – Run, half speed, for 1 hour – Rest 1 hour (If you know that you have a low yield well, perform this process in 30 minute cycles)

IF AT ANY TIME THE WATER FROM THE SPIGOT STOPS – IMMEDIATELY TURN OFF BREAKER TO THE WELL PUMP FOR ATLEAST 30 MINUTES BEFORE RETRY PUMPING OFF WELL.

10. At this time – use chlorine test packet to see if free of chlorine: using a cup to mix 2 tbsp. water from spigot used to pump off water with powder from one test packet. If there is ANY tint of light pink to dark pink/red – repeat steps #9 & #10 It **STEPS #9 & #10 MAY NEED TO BE REPEATED MULTIPLE TIMES TO FREE WELL OF CHLORINE**
11. Once water at spigot is free of chlorine, turn that spigot off. Then turn on your house faucets and let them run for 15 minutes or until the smell subsides and the water runs clear.
12. After this time, you may return to regular water use.

BACTERIA: After chlorinating the well, you may take another sample and have it retested. If the sample comes back positive, you may try chlorinating the well again, but if you receive another positive result, look in to the installation of a UV Light system which continuously treats the bacteria.

ODOR & DISCOLORATION: The majority of wells that have periodic odor or discoloration can be treated every 6 months or each year by chlorination. Most homeowners find the treatment sufficient. If your water continues to have an odor or discoloration, you may want to inquire about a whole-house treatment system.

WHEN QUALITY MATTERS MOST, CALL

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