

RENSSELAER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

KATHLEEN M. JIMINO
COUNTY EXECUTIVE



MARY FRAN WACHUNAS
PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR

EMERGENCY DISINFECTION

To be used when there is any doubt as to the quality of the water you use for drinking or culinary purposes (potable water).....

Either

1. Boil water for at least **5 minutes**.
 2. Per quart of water, add **either** 2 drops of tincture of iodine or 2 drops of standard household "bleach" (5 ¼ % chlorine, without additives). Mix and allow to stand for at least 30 minutes before use.
-

NORMAL DISINFECTION OF WELLS

To be performed when a new well is installed, repairs are made to any part of the water supply system or a sample indicates that disinfection is necessary.

This procedure should be followed by a person familiar with pumps and pressure tanks.

NEEDED: A garden hose and 1 gallon of standard household chlorine "bleach" (5 ¼ % chlorine, without additives) per 100 feet of well depth. USE CAUTION.

1. Attach hose to outside tap, or tap near the pressure tank and place discharge end to the well.
2. As water is running through hose, pour about half the "bleach" into the well, recycling until chlorine odor appears. Shut down system, add remaining "bleach" to well. In the house, open one tap at a time and run until chlorine odor is present. Shut off tap and repeat procedure with every tap in the house to include shower heads, outside taps and utility sinks. Run washing machine through a rinse cycle, same with dishwasher. Flush each toilet three (3) times. Let stand for 10-12 hours (i.e. overnight)
3. Restart system to clear chlorine from well and piping. Water may be brown or grey, this is a normal reaction of the chlorine with minerals in the water. This should clear up as the water is being pumped free of chlorine.

NOTE

Pressure tanks without diaphragms should be flooded to the top during this period.

4. When you can no longer smell chlorine in the water, contact your health department representative to sample supply.

Disinfection is no assurance that water entering the well is free from pollution. The cause of the pollution should be ascertained and corrected, our representatives are available for consultation, please call.

EH-601