

Shock Chlorination of a Well System

- **1.** Mix one (1) gallon of unscented household laundry bleach with 100 gallons of water. If your well is more than 150 feet deep, mix two (2) gallons of bleach with 200 gallons of water.
- 2. Remove well cap and pour the entire bleach and water solution into the well.
- **3.** Rinse down the sides of the well casing with a garden hose for five (5) to ten (10) minutes. The rinse water should be from a hose on the water system being disinfected (to circulate bleach solution).
- **4.** To disinfect your house plumbing, bypass water treatment equipment, run all water taps until you smell bleach; turn the taps off.
- 5. Let the bleach remain in the system for at least eight hours; preferably 24 hours.
- **6.** Flush bleach solution from water system by running the water through a garden hose to an area where the bleach will not damage lawns, shrubs, or septic systems. Run water until you can no longer smell the bleach.
- **7.** After two (2) or three (3). days and then again one (1) month after disinfection, a sample from the well should be submitted for bacteriological analysis. Annual testing should be done on an ongoing basis.

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