



How to Chlorinate Your Well

Know Your Well ...

- **Removing a drilled well cap can be hazardous to your health.** The top of the well can be very sharp. The electrical wires can become frayed, leading to both a risk of electrocution and serious hand injuries. If the well cap has a bolt on top of it, it may indicate that the pump is suspended from the well cap. **We recommend that you consult with a licensed person to chlorinate your well.**
- Do not drink the water until you take two satisfactory samples 1-2 days apart.
- Pick up proper water sampling bottles at the Public Health Lab located at 160 McDougald Street, Sault Ste. Marie (or your local health unit/township office).
- Bypass water treatment equipment and filters when chlorinating and sampling.
- Sometimes, continuously flushing the well by running the garden hose for 24-48 hours will solve the problem. Monitor your pump while doing this. Resample. Be sure you drain away from your septic system and do not let your well go dry.

Procedure

Pump your well if the water is cloudy until the water is clear.

Calculate amount of vinegar and chlorine bleach needed. (see chart below)

Chlorine and Vinegar Dosages

(approximately 200ppm chlorine, pH less than 7)

My Well—Depth of water: _____ Amount of vinegar: _____ and chlorine bleach: _____

Type of Well	Description	White Vinegar	Chlorine Bleach
Drilled	6" diameter metal or plastic	1 gallon per 100' of water	60 ml per 10' of water
Dug	36" diameter concrete, plastic, metal	1 gallon per 3' of water	4 cups per foot of water
Point	2" diameter plastic or metal	1 cup per 50' of water	¾ cup per 50' of water



Turn power off to well.

Remove well cap, inspect well head and electrical components. Pour vinegar into well. Wait 2 hours.

Turn power on to well.

Mix chlorine with 5 gallons of clean water in a clean pail. Pour chlorine solution into well. Wait 2 hours.

Mix chlorine in well by placing clean garden hose in top of well. Turn on outside tap. Circulate chlorine water for 1 hour. Turn off outside tap, remove hose and replace well cap.

Disinfect water lines in house by turning on each cold water tap and running water until you smell chlorine. Turn off taps.

Let sit for 12 hours.

Drain off the chlorine water through the garden hose away from the house and septic system. Stop running the water when the smell of chlorine is gone. Drain the chlorine from each tap.

Wait 48 hours to **resample** water.

NOTE: Disinfect hot water tank by increasing temperature to 150 °F for 12 hours. Notify household members to avoid scalding. Disinfect a water softener according to manufacturer's instructions or by adding 1 cup chlorine bleach to brine cup of unit.

For further
information please
contact:

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Environmental
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