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IGSHPA CERTIFIED

CHLORINATED WELL INFORMATION

Chlorination disinfects your well by destroying unhealthy bacteria and microorganisms and removing dissolved iron, manganese and hydrogen sulfide.

When to chlorinate the well:

You should test for bacteria each year, usually in the spring, or if there is any change in the taste, color or odor of your drinking water. Any positive test result requires disinfection.

But other well maintenance activities can also threaten your water supply. Chlorinate your well when:

- The well is new. Chlorinate before using.
- The well has been repaired, reconstructed, or new pumps or pipes have been added to the water system.
- The well has been flooded or exposed to bacterial contamination in another manner, such as a crack in the well cap.

Instructions for Chlorinated Wells:

Step 1: Open each indoor faucet and any outdoor garden-type faucets one by one and let the water run until a strong odor of chlorine is detected. Shut off faucets.

Step 2: Allow the chlorine solution to remain in the well and plumbing system. WSC and NSF International recommend that the chlorine remain in the system for at least 30 minutes. For a newly drilled well, we recommend that chlorine remain in the well system for 24 hours. Flush the entire system until you can no longer smell chlorine. First run the chlorinated water outdoors. A good choice may be a backyard ditch or side area that will partially contain the solution while it is absorbed by the soil, but make sure the ditch is not connected to lake or stream.

Step 3: After the chlorine is out of the system, turn off the outside faucets and turn on the remaining faucets inside the home or distribution system to flush them. Rusty waters come from the faucets, so flush until the water is clear and no chlorine smell is easily noticed. This should only take a few minutes.

Step 4: After the entire system has been flushed out, shut down all faucets. Then put any water conditioning equipment into service. Chlorination of the well and distribution is now complete.

Step 5: Water should be tested at least 2 days after disinfection.

We recommend that you get your well water system checked annually.