

Private Well Disinfection Procedure

1.) If you have a water softener in service, you should bypass the softener during this procedure.

2.) Remove the well cap or vent pipe or plug if the well is equipped with a sanitary well seal.

3.) Pour two gallons of household bleach (5.25% sodium hypochlorite) directly into the well.

4.) Connect a hose to a house spigot and run water directly into the well until chlorine odor is present in the water. Run the water this way for 15 minutes.

5.) Shut off water to the hose and proceed to systematically open each water fixture in the house. Let water run through each fixture until chlorine odor is present. Include both cold and hot water valves.

6.) Close all valves and pour another two gallons of bleach directly into the well. Recap the well or replace the vent pipe or plug. Leave all valves closed for a period of 24 hours or longer (toilets may be flushed if needed).

7.) Open the hose spigot and discharge water to ground surface or drainage ditch until chlorine odor disappears. Open every household fixture and let water run until the chlorine is gone.

8.) The well should now be properly disinfected. You can now collect your bacterial water sample and drop it off at the lab to be tested. If you have any questions about the well disinfection procedure or sample collection, contact the City of Troy Water Treatment Plant at (937)339-4826.

