

## WELL DISINFECTION

When a laboratory analysis report shows the presence of coliform organisms, use the following procedure for well disinfection:

- First - Locate the wellhead and remove an access plug so that the area within the well casing is exposed.
- Second - Using a funnel, pour in an appropriate amount of liquid chlorine bleach (clorox, purex, etc). See chlorine bleach dosage in Table 1.
- Third - Follow the chlorine bleach with two gallons of water to wash any chlorine off of the casing and pipes.
- Fourth - After pouring the bleach and water into the well casing, turn on the next available faucet and allow it to run until the bleach odor can be detected, then turn it off. Repeat this step throughout the plumbing system at each faucet (inside and outside of your home). Then allow the chlorinated water to remain in the plumbing system overnight or for 24 hours if possible. During this time, the water should not be used.
- Fifth - After disinfecting the well and plumbing system, flush all faucets until the bleach odor disappears and the water is clear of any debris or color. **FLUSH OUTSIDE FAUCETS FIRST** - you do not want to flood the septic system.
- Sixth - After your well has been properly disinfected, you need to decide how the bacteria is getting into your well. Use caulking around any small hole that insects are able to get into the well in order to avoid any future bacteria.

Chlorine Bleach Dosage Table  
for Well Disinfection

WELL DEPTH	GALLONS OF BLEACH
Less than 100 Feet	1/2 to 1 gallon
100 to 200 Feet	1 to 1 1/2 gallons
200 to 300 feet	2 gallons
300 and above	2 1/2 or more