How to Chlorinate Your Well Water

Here are the steps to follow:

1. Before you begin the chlorination process, store enough water to meet your household needs for a minimum of 24 hours.
2. Next, remove any filter, water conditioners, or any type of water treatment system, or find a way to by-pass them during chlorination.
3. Use the chart below to determine the amount of chlorine solution that is recommended for your water system. For dug wells use approximately 1 litre of chlorine solution for every 100 litres of water.

Vol. of Chlorine Solution (litres) per diameter of Well

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Well Depth (ft)</th>
<th>4 inch</th>
<th>5 inch</th>
<th>6 inch</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>less than 50</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-100</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101-150</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>151-200</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>13.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>201-250</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>251-300</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>13.5</td>
<td>20.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>301-350</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>351-400</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Pour the chlorine solution into your well. If your well head is buried, excavation is probably required. An alternative is to apply the chlorine solution through an air line, if there is one leading from the well to your home.

5. There are two methods for using the air line: You can either insert the air line into the container of chlorine solution and pump your well until all of the solution is consumed, or simply pour the solution into the air line. If you use either of these methods, flush the air line out with cold water after chlorinating your well.

6. Attach a garden hose to an outside faucet and place the other end into the well. Turn on the outside faucet and allow the water to circulate for approximately 1 hour.

Note: If your well head is buried and you choose to chlorinate it from time to time. Chlorination refers to the process of flushing your well and water system with a chlorine solution.

This process is usually applied in order to accomplish one of the following:

- Disinfecting to “neutralize” coliform bacteria
- Disinfecting after making repairs to your well or temporary elimination of hydrogen sulphide (or removal of bacteria that create slime
- Temporarily removal of iron and manganese build-up
- Removal of bacteria that create slime
- Chlorinate it from time to time. Chlorination refers to the process of flushing your well and water system

7. This pamphlet outlines steps to assist you in chlorinating your well and water system.

8. PLEASE BE SURE TO READ ALL OF THE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE PROCEEDING!

A FINAL NOTE

Depending on the characteristics of your well water quality, it may be necessary to chlorinate your well water system more than once a year. Chlorination may or may not improve your water quality, and in some cases, provide only a temporary, or short-term solution.

There are many household water treatment systems available that are approved by the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF). Look for a listing of retailers who carry these systems, in the yellow pages of the telephone book.

Questions? Need more information? Be informed

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact any office of the New Brunswick Department of Health or visit their website at this address: www.gnb.ca/health.

You can also contact the Department of Environment by calling our general number (506) 453-2690 or by visiting our website at the following address: www.gnb.ca/environment.

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