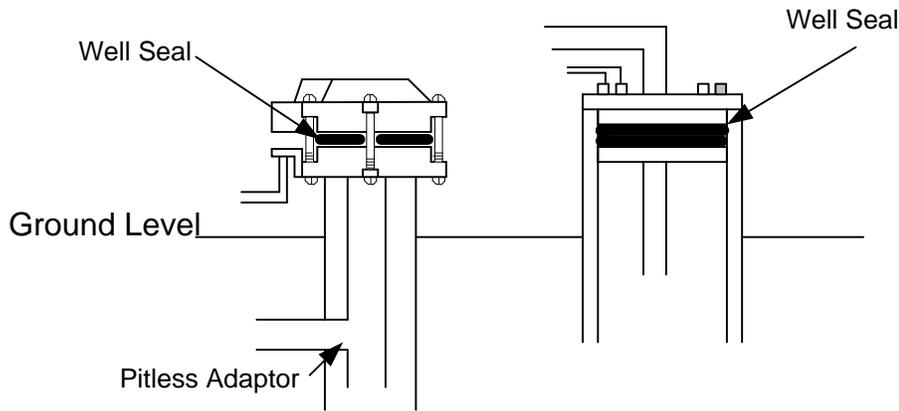


## INSTRUCTIONS FOR DISINFECTION OF WATER SYSTEMS

- Most wells have a sanitary seal. These protective caps are essential for keeping contamination out of the well. The diagrams on the backside of this handout show some of the most common sanitary seals. If your well does not have a sanitary seal, have one installed. If the existing sanitary seal is in poor condition, repair or replace it. A plumbing supply store can provide the cap.



- To chlorinate your well, you must gain access to the inside of the well casing. This is done either by removing the sanitary seal or by removing the access plug on the sanitary seal.
- The amount of chlorine needed depends on the type of chlorine used and the amount of water standing in the well casing. We recommend using common household bleach. A simple way to estimate (and often times as effective) the amount of bleach needed is shown in the table below.

Type of Well	Amount of House Hold Non-scented bleach 5.25% available chlorine
Dug Wells	1 gallon
Drilled well depths	
Less than 40ft	½ gallon
40-150 ft	1 gallon
150 + feet	2 gallons

- Before adding chlorine to well, first mix with 5 gallons of water. Then, pour the solution down the inside of casing. Don't be tempted to pour the chlorine into the well by itself. If using a small access port, a funnel will be necessary.
- If possible, run a hose from an outside faucet into the casing and circulate the chlorinated water for 3-4 hours. This helps mix the chlorine throughout the well casing.
- Rinse the sanitary seal or any other parts removed to gain access to the well casing and replace.
- Turn on all cold-water taps, run the water until you smell chlorine. Make sure the chlorinated water can be detected at all taps before turning off. **IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT THIS BE DONE TO ALL COLD WATER TAPS CONNECTED TO THE SYSTEM.** Let the chlorinated water set in the system at least 12 hours, preferably 24 hours.

8. Next, to flush the chlorinated water out of the system, connect a hose to an outside tap and turn the water on full flow. It usually takes quite a while; so do not saturate the septic drain field area and avoid a pond of the water where it may cause damage. When you can't smell chlorine, turn the water off.
9. Then turn on all other remaining taps and let them run until you can't smell chlorine.
10. To check the success of the disinfection process, a bacteriological analysis of the water must be done. This test can be performed 48 hours after you have flushed the bleach out

**IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO FLUSH ALL OF THE CHLORINE OUT OF THE WATER SYSTEM BEFORE TAKING ADDITIONAL SAMPLES**

When disinfecting cisterns, several applications may be needed together with manual scrubbing of the sides and bottom of the cistern with the chlorine solution then, flush the cistern thoroughly. Follow this with a standard disinfection of the system including the cistern. The final chlorine solution should be emptied into the cistern before filling so that the sides are disinfected as the water rises, below is a chart for how much 5.25% Bleach you need to add to a cistern.

<b>Size of Cistern</b>	<b>Amount of Household liquid Bleach(5.25%) to add</b>
50 gal	13 ounces
100 gal	26 ounces
200 gal	1 quart
500 gal	1 gallon
1,000 gal	2 gallon
2,000 gal	4 gallons
5,000 gal	10 gallons
10,000 gal	10 gallons