



INSTRUCTIONS FOR DISINFECTING A WATER WELL SYSTEM

The following procedure should adequately disinfect a typical four (4) inch well and distribution system in this area. The amount of chlorine used may be increased relative to well and system size.

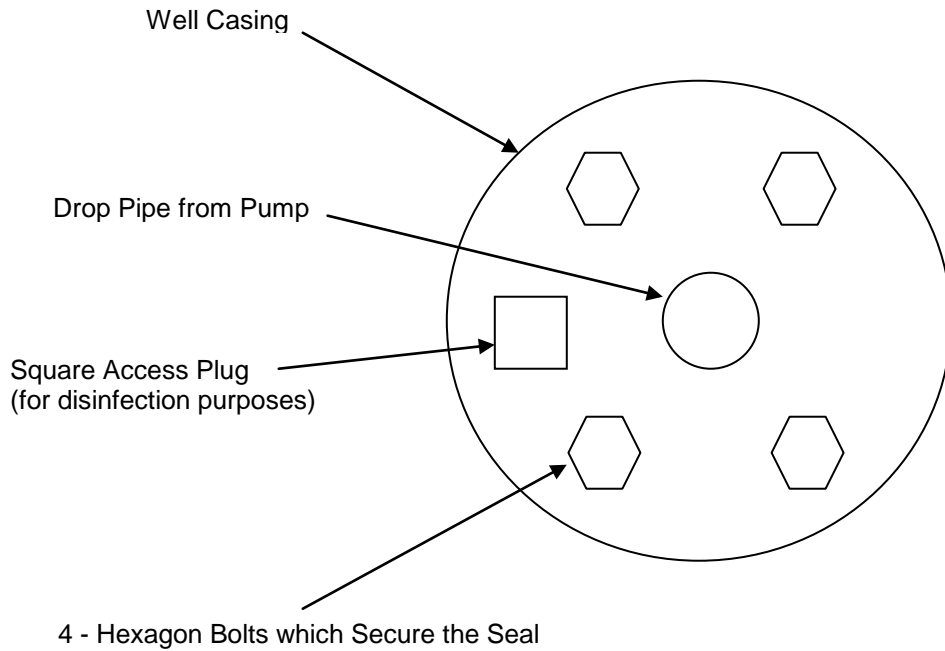
1. Before disinfecting the well, inspect the well and surrounding area to be sure the well is properly sealed and protected from surface drainage. Some things to look for are:
 - a. No standing water around or near the well.
 - b. Casing raised to at least ground level and in good condition.
 - c. Airtight seal on top of well casing.
 - d. Vent and electric wire holes plugged or sealed.

2. Make up a hypochlorite solution in a plastic pail. Use the following quantities.

<u>TYPE OF CHLORINE USED</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>VOLUME OF WATER</u>
Household bleach 5.25% <u>or</u>	2 gallons	2 gallons
Liquid pool chlorine 10%	1 gallon	2 gallons

3. If the water is discolored before chlorination, run the water until it is clear for up to 10 minutes.
4. Turn off and then drain your hot water heater – chlorine is not effective in water above 105°.
5. If you have a charcoal filter, remove and replace after the chlorination process is completed.
6. Remove the plug at the top of the well or in the well seal and pour the chlorine solution into the well. You will probably need a funnel of some sort in order to accomplish this. If the well does not have an access hole in the casing, the well seal or cap must be carefully lifted or dismantled sufficiently to gain access. If this is not possible, an alternative method would be to drill and tap a hole in the side of the casing which could be plugged later.
7. Let the chlorine solution stand in the well for 2-3 hours without running the pump.
8. Open the faucet closest to the well and let the water run until a chlorine odor is detected, then close the faucet. Repeat this procedure at ALL other inside and outside faucets in the system. The purpose of this procedure is to disinfect the storage tank and other piping in the system.
9. Allow the chlorine solution to remain in the well and system for several hours, preferably 12 to 24. **DO NOT USE THE WELL DURING THIS PERIOD.**
10. At the end of the disinfection period, open all outside faucets and allow the water to run until the chlorine odor can no longer be detected. This prevents flooding the septic tank system with chlorinated water.
11. Complete the procedure by opening all other faucets until chlorine can no longer be detected. A swimming pool test kit can also be used to check for low levels of chlorine remaining in the water.
12. After disinfection, submit recheck samples for bacteriological analysis to ensure the disinfection was adequate.
13. If you have any questions, call Hernando County Health Department at (352) 540-6800, ext. 82112.

TOP VIEW OF WELL CASING



Note:

This procedure is designed for a well with a submersible pump. For any type of surface pump (example: jet action, turbine, etc.) it is recommended that a well driller, well repair service, or perhaps a plumbing company be contacted to properly disinfect the well.