



SUPERCHLORINATION PURGE

PLEASE READ ENTIRE DOCUMENT CAREFULLY BEFORE STARTING PURGE

In order to remove bacterial contamination in a well and in the distribution system inside the dwelling or building where bacteria is present, a high degree of chlorine must be brought up to all areas where bacteria laden water contacts. This includes the well casing, piping, appliances (small and large, such as coffee makers, icemakers, laundry machines), faucets, toilets, shower heads, etc.

A residual of 100 p.p.m. of chlorine is required to be attained, brought up into all the areas noted, and remain in place for at least an (8) hour period with no disturbance (no water use.)

HAZARD: WATER CONTAINING THIS LEVEL OF CHLORINE MAY BE HAZARDOUS TO THE TOUCH AND/OR INHALATION OF ANY KIND. IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY, CALL 911.

Many people choose to chlorinate in the evening on a day when there is no immediate need to use the water the next day, such as to get ready for work, and when the water can sit undisturbed overnight.

After minimum required standing time, the purging process can begin, to remove the chlorine so that the water may be used.

Chlorine levels ranging from .1 to 4.0 p.p.m. are acceptable levels that are typically found in municipal water supplies. **Please use the test strips provided** by PWF or another type of test mechanism to determine if the water is safe for use, such as a pool or spa kit.

To purge the chlorine, open 1-2 faucets and let run (hot and cold.)

NOTE: RUNNING THE WATER FOR LONG DURATIONS COULD CAUSE THE WELL TO RUN DRY, IF THE WELL YIELD IS EXCEEDED, AND COULD CAUSE PERMANENT DAMAGE TO THE WELL PUMP. It is advised that the **well information be known so that the gallon per minute faucet discharge is contained within a tolerable range and less than the well yield.** Due to the potential risks of running water for extended periods of time, it is recommended that **the system be attended at all time, i.e, do not leave the building with the water running.**

If the **water stops coming out of the faucet(s), immediately turn the well pump and the faucets off for approximately one hour, in order to let the well recover.** Then you can begin running the water again, preferably with less flow to avoid the problem from reoccurring.

The amount of time to run the water to purge the chlorine is based on the chlorine demand in the well (this is the factor by which chlorine is used up, including iron and manganese levels, bacteria, and any other constituents that may use up or neutralize the chlorine introduced), the amount of bacteria in the lines, and the amount and length of lines. Therefore, it is unknown and cannot be determined with accuracy. Typical purge times are 2-6 hours for most wells.

Once the odor of chlorine is not detected, test the water to determine absence. If you are within range as described above, you can use the water.

It is recommended that no laundry be done until the following day after the chlorine is eliminated.

Retesting for presence of bacteria is now recommended, and protocol states a (2) week time period elapse after the chlorine is completely purged from the system before a bacteria sample be taken.

Colonies in the well must have time to rebreed and re-establish to determine if there indeed is a well source contamination. If this colonization occurs, the water will test positive for bacteria and prove the well is the source problem. If the well is the source problem, you may consider installing a continuous disinfecting type of water treatment equipment such as an ultraviolet system (restrictions apply.)

If the bacteria tests negative, it may have been introduced into the lines for some other reason such as a lack of a bug proof well cap, proper disinfection after a water heater replacement or other types of plumbing work, or proper disinfection after servicing water treatment equipment. No further action is needed other than careful monitoring to avoid a future incident.

Please disinfect after all work done on private wells to avoid future contamination.

For immediate assistance please call or email

888-582-5558, Opt 1

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