

# **HOW TO DISENFECT A PRIVATE WATER WELL**

- 1) REMOVE WELL CAP, OR VENT PIPE, FROM WELL CASING. USE CARE NOT TO SNAP WIRING IF IT ENTERS WELL AT THIS POINT.
- 2) POUR ONE GALLON OF HOUSEHOLD BLEACH ( 5.25% CHLORINE) DIRECTLY INTO THE WELL.
- 3) CONNECT A HOSE TO AN OUTSIDE SPIGOT AND RUN WATER DIRECTLY INTO THE WELL FOR 15 MINUTES. THERE SHOULD BE A DEFINANT ODER OF CHLORINE PRESENT. REPLACE THE CAP ON THE WELL CASING AT THIS TIME.
- 4) SHUT OFF WATER SUPPLY TO HOSE AND UNHOOK. PROCEED TO OPEN EACH WATER FIXTURE IN THE HOUSE, LETTING THE WATER RUN UNTIL YOU HAVE A STRONG ODOR OF CHLORINE. BE SURE TO INCLUDE BOTH COLD AND HOT VALVES. THIS INCLUDES ANY BASEMENT FIXTURES, OUTSIDE SPIGOTS, LAUNDRY MACHINE HOOK-UPS, DISHWASHERS, AND TOILETS.
- 5) MAKE SURE ALL VALVES ARE CLOSED TIGHTLY AND THEN LEAVE THEM CLOSED OVERNIGHT, OR FOR A PERIOD OF 8-12 HOURS, WHICHEVER IS THE MOST CONVIENT FOR THE HOMEOWNER.
- 6) RECONNECT HOSE TO THE OUTSIDE SPIGOT AND BEGIN RUNNING WATER ONTO THE GROUND, OR INTO A DRAINANGE DITCH, UNTIL THE CHLORINE ODOR DISAPEARS. THIS USUALLY TAKES 10-20 MINUTES. OPEN EVERY WATER FIXTURE CONNECTED TO THE SYSTEM AND LET WATER RUN UNTIL THE CHLORINE ODOR DISAPPEARS.
- 7) THE WELL SHOULD NOW BE PROPERLY DISINFECTED. CONTACT THE PAULDIG COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT AT (419)399-3921 TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT FOR A WATER SAMPLE.