



COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

(888)722-4234 • RIVCOEH.ORG

INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN NO. 6-93-EPO

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OVERSIGHT

DISINFECTION OF DOMESTIC WATER WELLS

Domestic water wells that have been inundated by floodwaters or are suspected to be polluted should be disinfected as follows:

1. Add 1-2 gallons of germicidal bleach (5.25% chlorine) into the well casing. Rinse well casing and piping with water to avoid corrosion.
2. The pump should be operated to thoroughly mix the chlorine with the water in the well. Pump the water onto the ground until there is an odor of chlorine.
3. The well shall not be used for 24 hours. Notify anyone affected and ensure bottled water is available.
4. Chlorinated water shall then be pumped to waste onto the ground until the odor of chlorine is no longer detectable. Verify chlorine level does not exist with a chlorine test kit or test strips.

LABORATORY ANALYSIS OF THE WELL WATER:

Following the disinfection of the water well, a bacteriological sample shall be taken and submitted to a state certified laboratory for analysis. The following is a partial list of approved labs in the area:

E. S. Babcock and Sons, Inc.
6100 Quail Valley Court
Riverside, CA 92507
(951) 653-3351

Clinical Laboratory of San Bernardino, Inc.
21881 Barton Road
Grand Terrace, CA 92313
(909) 825-7693

Coachella Valley Water District Laboratory
75-525-Hoevely Lane East
Palm Desert, CA 92211
(760) 398-2651 – Water Quality Division

Public Service Hours: 8:30 am-11:30 am (Tuesdays) Excluding Holidays