IAS LABORATORIES
ANALYSING RESULTS PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY

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Procedure how to disinfect your well

This method is for the disinfection of a well water supply, water storage tank, water carrying pipe work and hot and cold-water cylinders.
Caution: if you have a filter or any other type of water treatment on any part of your system, consult your supplier before following this procedure. Heavily chlorinated water may affect the filter or the chlorine may be absorbed by the filter rendering the procedure ineffective.

This Method is based on the EPA Method which can be found from the following link:
https://www.epa.ie/environment-and-you/drinking-water/faqs/#d.en.87608

For wells of 100ft in depth it is advisable to use 5L of Milton (2%). There are other products available but our experience has shown that Milton Fluid to be most suitable. **5L Milton is now on Sale in IAS Laboratories**

Step 1.
Wearing proper PPE including gloves and goggles to prepare the Milton solution to sanitise your well. *(Please follow all instructions and precautions on Milton Label)*
Fill a clean standard bucket ⅔'s with water and add ⅓ of the Milton (2% w/w Sodium Hypochlorite)
Lift the capping off the well exposing the liner, and investigate that everything is as it should be ie. the Liner (Steel pipe containing power and water lines going down the well) is clear from soil or dirt.

Pour first bucket of solution down the liner of the well.
Repeat this with a second bucket of solution.
Pour 2 buckets of water down the well after the Milton solution.

Step 2.
Turn on the drinking water tap in the kitchen and let the water run until there is a distinct smell of chlorine from the water coming out of the tap. Then turn off the tap.

Step 3.
Turn on all other taps and flush the toilets in bathrooms etc. Let the water run until there is a distinct smell of chlorine from the water from each area. Then turn off the taps.

Step 4.
Make another bucket of solution (as step 1 above) and pour the solution into the well.
Replace the cover on the well securely and allow the well to stand overnight or for at least 12 hours.

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Step 5.

After at least 12 hours, turn on all taps flush toilets and let the water run until the smell of chlorine is gone – to flush out the system.

Step 6.

Arrange for another sample of your water to be retested with IAS Laboratories to prove that sanitation process was successful – wait at least 7 days after the smell of Milton has gone from the water to retest.

N.B.

- This method is only suitable as a once-off shock disinfecting procedure and cannot replace a proper treatment system (eg. UV Light) if your water supply needs continuous disinfection.
- This method is based on the EPA & HSE disinfection procedure – and has been modified slightly based on our experience.

Notes:

When carrying out this disinfection of the well, please keep an eye out for anything unusual around the capping, or if there is anything which could cause contamination to your well.
eg. Run off water, dirt, Rodents
While the disinfection process is ongoing – you cannot drink, cook or wash clothes with this water. Toilets and dishwasher can be used as normal – but please be aware that Milton contains Sodium Hypochlorite so always use with caution.

The process may have to be repeated after 48 Hours later for heavy bacteria contamination. For expert advice – please contact IAS Laboratories for more details.

The EPA & HSE recommend domestic households to test their water every 12 months for Bacteria and every 18 months for a full health check scan.

Did you know that there is Grants are available from your local authority where improvement works are necessary to address a serious deficiency in the quality of water? The grant can cover the drilling of a new well, rehabilitating an existing well, construction of pumps house and associated works or the provision of treatment. You should go to your local authority website for more details on the application process.

Always use extreme caution & follow instructions & precautions on Milton Labels