

Flooded Water Wells

1. Remove any debris that may have entered the well during flooding. Run the water until it becomes clear.
2. Roughly calculate the volume of water in the well. To do this, multiply the number of cubic feet of water by 7 1/2 to determine the number of gallons. (NOTE: For a 36-inch diameter casing, each foot of water equals about 50 gallons. For a 6 inch diameter casing, each foot of water equals about 2 gallons.)
3. Use liquid chlorine bleach (5 1/4 – 6 1/2% chlorine) in an amount equivalent to 1 gallon for each 1,000 gallons of water in the well. Do not use bleach with “additives” such as “fresh scent”.
4. Pour the required quantity of bleach into the well. Connect a garden hose to the nearest outside faucet and circulate the water through the hose and back into the well. This will mix the chlorine with the water and the pump will draw the chlorine to the bottom of the well. After you start smelling the chlorine in the water coming out of the hose, work the hose around to rinse the upper portion of the well with the disinfectant. (NOTE: If you cannot reach the well with a hose, you can rinse the upper portion of the casing by pouring chlorinated water down the inside of the case using a bucket. Mix 1 cup chlorine bleach per bucket of water.)
5. Draw water at every water outlet connected to the system until a strong chlorine odor is perceptible.
6. Allow the disinfectant to remain in the system overnight (24 hours is preferable).
7. Use one or more outside faucets to draw water out of the well to remove the chlorine. The well should be thoroughly and repeatedly flushed to remove the chlorine. All of the water lines should also be flushed.
8. After following this procedure and rendering the water completely free of disinfectant, you should wait a minimum of seven (7) days following disinfection of a drilled well prior to resampling. You should wait a minimum of fourteen (14) days following disinfection of a dug well prior to resampling. This bacteriological analysis will indicate whether or not the underground source of water is safe for consumption.

Water sample bottles may be obtained at the Snohomish Health District, Environmental Health Section, Room 104, located in the Rucker Building, 3020 Rucker Avenue, Everett, or at the South County Clinic, 6101 200th Street SW, Lynnwood. Water bottles must be brought in to the Rucker building. There is a sample analysis fee to test the water for coliform bacteria, payable when the water sample is brought in.

Additionally, JKA Well Drilling offers well inspection, repair, and service.

Testing, Sampling, & Cleanup Information is from The Snohomish County Health Department
and

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