If your drinking water continues to test positive on repeated submissions, consult your local health unit, which can help you interpret the results of your tests and provide you with advice on what measures you can take to safeguard your drinking water.

The first step is to identify the reason for repeated adverse water quality tests and conduct a visual inspection of your well. This will allow you to close the well area, and check the area around your well is clear of any potential contaminant sources, such as pets, lawn care products, and gardens. Once you're satisfied that the area around your well is okay, take a close look at the well itself. If you have an older well, make sure that the cap and the sealant around the well casing isn't cracked or damaged. If it is, you need to fix or replace it right away. If the source of the problem can’t be detected, consult a licensed well contractor right away to identify the source of the problem and eliminate it. You can save yourself a lot of money by doing this instead of rushing out to buy a home treatment device that may be expensive to install, operate, and maintain. And maintain it, as it is not possible to eliminate the source of your problem.

### Volume of Bleach to Add for Every 3 Metres (10 Feet) of Water in the Well

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Millimetres</th>
<th>Casing Diameter</th>
<th>Volume of Unscented Bleach (5.25% solution)</th>
<th>Millilitres</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>200</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>250</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>400</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>650</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>900</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>2000 (2 litres)</td>
<td>3600 (3.8 litres)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1200</td>
<td>48</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**For example:** If you have 6 metres (20 feet) of water in your well and it has a casing diameter of 100 mm or 4 inches, you would add 60 mm or 2 fluid ounces of bleach.

For questions or more information on how to disinfect your well, contact your local health unit.

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**For more information**

- **Ontario Government Ministry Abbreviations**
  - Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care MOHLTC (also MOH)
  - Ministry of the Environment MOE (also MOEE)
  - Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food OMAF (also OMAFRA)

### Ontario Government Information Lines

- MOE Public Information Centre: 1-800-565-4923
- MOE Water Well Records: 1-888-396-9855
- MOHLTC INFOline: 1-800-268-1154
- OMAF Agricultural Information Contact Centre: 1-877-424-1300

### Ontario Government Web Sites

- MOE: www.ene.gov.on.ca
- MOHLTC: www.health.gov.on.ca
- OMAF: www.gov.on.ca/omaf

### Publications available on-line

- **Health Canada: www.hc-sc.gc.ca**
  - A Guide to Well Water Treatment and Maintenance;
  - Water treatment devices for disinfection of drinking water

- **MOHLTC: www.health.gov.on.ca**
  - How to use water safely during a “Boil Water Advisory”;
  - E. coli Bacteria;
  - List of Public Health Units in Ontario.

- **OMAF: www.gov.on.ca/omaf**
  - Assessing the Potential for Ground Water Contamination on Your Farm, Publication 97-017;

- **MOE: www.ene.gov.on.ca**
  - Important Facts About Water Well Construction, Publication 3788;
  - Water Wells and Groundwater Supplies: The Protection of Water Quality in Bored and Drilled Wells, Information Sheet PIB 601a;