



COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE • COMMUNITY HEALTH AGENCY  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN NO. 6-93-EPO

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**EMERGENCY DISINFECTION OF  
DOMESTIC WATER WELLS**

Domestic water wells that have been inundated by floodwaters and 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.
2. The pump should be operated so as 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.
4. Chlorinated water shall then be pumped to waste onto the ground until the odor of chlorine is no longer detectable.

**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.  
1595 N. "D" Street  
San Bernardino, Ca. 92402  
(909) 885-3216

\*Document available in an alternate format upon request

OFFICES IN: RIVERSIDE, BLYTHE, CORONA, HEMET, INDIO, MURRIETA AND PALM SPRINGS  
For more information call (888) 722-4234

**Department Web Site** – [www.rivcoeh.org](http://www.rivcoeh.org)