

# Water Storage Tank Maintenance

Periodic maintenance of your water storage tank is necessary to preserve your water quality. Tank vents, fill pipes and are the major culprits behind storage tank contamination. Most fill caps and vents are not tight fitting, and some are not even screened, allowing insects to enter. These factors and airborne bacteria are the major sources of storage tank contamination.

We recommend that your tank be sanitized at least twice a year, the best times being mid-summer and early winter.

A simple way to sanitize your tank is with regular (unscented) household Clorox bleach. Clorox bleach is 5.25% active ingredients (sodium hypochlorite). The maximum recommended strength to achieve sanitation is 1 part per million (ppm) of bleach in your water. Below is a table to help you figure the correct dose for your tank's capacity. This may give your water a slight chlorine odor or taste, much like chlorinated city or municipal water. Do not exceed four ppm of Chlorine, as this may cause adverse health affects and may be potentially harmful for children or elderly.

<b>Amount of Chlorine</b>	<b>Size of Storage tank in Gallons</b>
<b>1 Fluid Ounce or 30 milliliters</b>	500
<b>2 Fluid Oz. or 60 milliliters</b>	1000
<b>3 Fluid Oz. or 90 milliliters</b>	1500
<b>4 Fluid Oz. or 120 milliliters</b>	2000

Mix your measured Clorox with a quart of water and pour down fill pipe.

If you have any questions or concerns about this procedure, PLEASE CALL US!

**Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation**

Phone: 907-451-2138

Fax: 907-451-2188

E-mail: [cindy.christian@alaska.gov](mailto:cindy.christian@alaska.gov)