

**Province of British Columbia
Ministry of Health**

DISINFECTION OF TANKS & BARRELS

The following methods are recommended for the disinfection of water stored in tanks or barrels.

A. BOILING

1. Pour off clear water into a clean container. Filtering through clean cloth may help to remove debris.
2. Bring water to a full rolling boil for 2 minutes.

B. BLEACH - CHLORINE

1. Use commercially prepared solutions of chlorine (Javex, Chlorox etc) without scents, or other cleaning agents.
2. Rates: 4-6% solution (household strength) - 60 millilitres in 4500 litres of water
(4 tablespoons in 1000 gallons)
10-12% solution (industrial strength) - 30 millilitres in 4500 litres of water
or 1 drop in 8 litres (2 gallons)

NOTE: double all dosages if the water is cloudy.

C. TANK SANITATION

This is for cleaning NOT for drinking water.

1. Fill up tank with water and dose chlorinate to a rate of 75 milligrams per litre.
 2. Hold chlorinated water in tank for 24 hours.
 3. Measure chlorine again and it should be at least 25 milligrams per litre.
 4. Release chlorinated water.
- OR
5. Tank can be spray disinfected using a solution of 1000 milligrams per litre.
 6. Release chlorinated water.

CAUTION – chlorinated water must be released into an approved waste stream or must be de-chlorinated before discharge.