



AIR & WATER Home Environment Centre Inc.

260F Broadway Avenue North Williams Lake, BC V2G 2X9

Business (250) 392-4440 Fax (250) 392-4438

To Sanitize an In-Ground Holding Tank

#1- Isolate and bypass all water treatment devices

#2- Remove and pre filters installed in homes.

#3- Add $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of household bleach (6%), (non perfumed) for every 300 gallons of water in holding tank

#4- Draw water to each tap in home until the smell of chlorine is present.

#5- Run hot water taps until the smell of chlorine is present at each tap

#6- Allow for at least 3-4 hours of “down time” or overnight is best for the best kill of bacteria.

#7- After designated Kill time open an outside tap (linked to a garden hose) and flush water from holding tank until no chlorine smell is present. Take note that using a white 5-gallon bucket is very useful for the smell test.

Run water into the bucket $\frac{2}{3}$ full and smell the result .If your tank is 1000 gallons and the timed hose Gallons Per Minute flow rate is 6 GPM divide the flow rate by 1000 gallons and you would get 166.6 minutes

(Which = 2.8 hrs approximate drain time for the holding tank) Taking note that if you turn off the feed water supply the time could vary due to the lack of static pressure loading into the tank. Should you decide to leave the feed water tap open into the tank it could take a longer period of time to “flush” the chlorine from the tank, as it will depend on the dilution rate

8- Return to home and open all cold water taps to flush chlorine from them

#9- Open Hot water taps at the bath tub, full blast, and flush for about 10-15 minutes and the chlorine smell should disappear

#10- Open all by passes and re install all filter elements in home.

Note: You can use the toilets, but do not try to shower or wash up in the chlorinated water. Usually one would draw any water that may be needed in the home for domestic needs before adding chlorine.

This process will only “Kill off” any present bacteria in the holding tank, but will not stop any approaching bacteria coming from the feed water .I suggest that you plan a time when you can shut the entire water system down and clean any residual sediment from the holding tank. Should the problem continue with the smell and algae build up in the holding tank I could suggest alternative solutions to prevent this in the future.

Another item to consider is your septic field as adding the chlorine from draining the taps and hot water in the home will also “kill” the bacterial activity in the field. You should wait approximately 2 weeks and add an aggressive enzyme treatment to the septic field.