

Tulare County Health Department

Division of Environmental Health

PROCEDURE FOR DISINFECTION OF WATER FOR EMERGENCY USE

Several methods can be used to disinfect small quantities of water for human consumption.

1. Bring water to a full boil for 10 minutes (this method is not dependable at high elevations). Pouring boiled water back and forth between containers will eliminate much of the flat taste boiling causes.
2. Add 2 drops of Tincture of Iodine to each quart of water. Let water stand for 30 minutes before using.
3. Add household bleach (5% Hypochlorite) to water as recommended below:

1 quart	1 drop
1 gallon	4 drops
2 gallons	1/4 teaspoon
5 gallons	1/3 teaspoon
10 gallons	2/3 teaspoon
100 gallons	6 teaspoons or 1 ounce
1,000 gallons	10 ounces

The recommended doses are for turbid waters. Clear water from wells or good springs use ½ the recommended dose. Let water stand for 30 minutes before using.