

Chlorine Facts

1. **Why do I taste and or smell bleach in my drinking water? Chlorine bleach is added to our drinking water and must always be present. Failure to add it will result in bacterial growth that can and will cause various diseases that can be harmful or deadly.**
2. **What is it used for? By EPA and MDE mandates, we are required to add chlorine to the drinking water as a disinfectant. Chlorine has to be added to kill and or prevent various waterborne diseases such as Typhoid, Cholera, Giardia, Dysentery, E Coli, Hepatitis A, and Salmonella.**
3. **What are you disinfecting? Shouldn't well water be free of bacteria? That is correct however since our water is pumped through miles of underground pipe and stored our water towers, the probability of growing bacteria in pipes and towers exists. We add disinfectant as a preventative. This is done nationwide.**
4. **Why do I smell or taste it more during certain times of the year? More than likely it's going to be a bit stronger in the colder months. The warmer the water temperature is, the faster the chlorine will be used up, which means the levels could be much lower in the warm and hot weather months.**
5. **Is it safe? Based on decades of research, chlorine in drinking water has been found to be safe for consumption at low levels. The EPA sets maximum levels for chlorine in drinking water to 4.0 mg/l, and ours typically runs half that amount at the wells where it's added, and by the time it reaches our consumers, it's much lower than the 2.0 at point of entry.**
6. **Is there a way to get rid of it so I don't consume it? Yes, a consumer can purchase filtration systems that vary from a simple carbon filtered pitcher all the way to a whole house filtration system. Some folks have a higher sensitivity to chlorine than others and what may not be an issue to some, could be more difficult for others. Any water treatment contractor can provide you with a filtration system.**
7. **How often do you check the water for chlorine? We test all three of our wells daily for chlorine levels. Additionally, we test a random sample daily as well. We also monitor pH daily. There are also monthly, annually, and triennial monitoring requirements that we adhere to.**
8. **Is there a report we can view on our water system? Yes, please go on www.dentonpublicworks.com and look up Annual Water Quality Reports. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at 410-479-5446**