

## Disinfection Procedures for Drinking Water

There are three basic methods to disinfect water:

### 1. Boiling

- Safest method.
- Bring water to a rolling boil for at least 2 minutes (some water will evaporate).
- Improve taste by aerating: pour water between containers several times.

### 2. Disinfectant Tablets

- Available at sporting goods or drug stores.
- Follow package instructions (typically 1 tablet per quart of water).
- Double the dose for cloudy water.

### 3. Bleach Disinfectant

- Use unscented liquid bleach with sodium hypochlorite as the only active ingredient.
- Add bleach per the table below, stir, and let stand for 30 minutes.
- If water does not smell or taste of chlorine, repeat the dose and wait an additional 15 minutes.
- **Do not use this method for waterbed disinfection; use manufacturer-provided products.**

Amount of Water	Clear Water	Cloudy Water
1 quart	2 drops	4 drops
1 gallon	8 drops	16 drops
5 gallons	1/2 teaspoon	1 teaspoon