

Aerator Cleaning Instructions

SUPPLIES NEEDED

2 Channel Lock type wrenches
Screwdriver
Household bleach
Mop, or long handled brush, or broom

Controlling the quality (rotten egg smell) of your household water is dependent on the aerator being cleaned regularly. The frequency of cleaning depends on how quickly the sulfur builds up on the inside walls (slippery sides inside the aerator). Generally, the aerator should be cleaned every 30 - 90 days.

1. Unplug the house pump cord from the wall outlet.
2. Disconnect the power supply to the aerator, (usually the 110 volt cord plugged (piggy back) into the back of another cord. If not, pull all the plugs, or shut the circuit breaker off).
3. Remove the bottom drain plug of the aerator, with (2) two wrenches. One to hold the drain pipe, and one to hold the drain cap.
4. Remove the top lid of the aerator, and pour in approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon of household bleach (unscented laundry bleach).
5. Scrub the sides of the aerator, spray heads, and bottom of the aerator.
6. After all the water has drained out, turn the power supply back on. Put the lid back on , and let the spray rinse the sides for 30 seconds.
7. Replace the bottom drain plug. **HAND TIGHTEN OR $\frac{1}{2}$ a TURN WITH TWO WRENCHES.** The water will shut off when the aerator is full again.
8. Plug the house pump back into the outlet.
9. Remove the center cap off the top of the aerator lid. Drop in EITHER: un-stabilized chlorine tablet into your basket (if one is installed) OR add one (1) cup household unscented bleach. Replace center cap.

If you DO NOT have a chlorine basket with un-stabilized chlorine tablets, adding one (1) cup of household unscented bleach to your aerator will greatly reduce the growth of algae and bacterial in your aerator.

WARNING:

Do not add chlorine to your water if a **WARNING** label has been attached to your equipment stating that the water softener contains white anion resin. If the **WARNING** is on your equipment, *do not* add chlorine. You will have to add 1 cup of Citric Acid to the salt tank on a regular basis.

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Tips to Improve Your Homes Water Quality

Notice a smell in your water? Does it remind you of rotten eggs? If so, you have sulfur (hydrogen sulfide) in your water. Sulfur is a naturally occurring gas in the water coming out of your well. To reduce or remove the sulfur, your first line of defense is your aerator. By spraying the water into your aerator, (the large holding tank outside your home) this action helps to “gas off” the sulfur. The greater amount of time the water has outside you home (in the aerator) the greater the opportunity it has to “gas off” the sulfur before coming into your home.

Listed below are some tips you can do to improve the water quality in your home.

1. Do one water activity at a time. In other words, don't run the dishwasher and a load of laundry at the same time. Space out doing laundry to a couple of loads a few times per week.
2. Once a week, add ½ cup of regular non-scented household bleach to the salt tank. (It looks like a garbage can with a lid and has salt in it). If you do it on garbage night, it will become a habit and be easier to remember.
3. Drain, clean and sanitize your aerator at least every other month, or have it done. **We do provide this service.**
4. Have a basket installed in your aerator for potable chlorine tablets. This is NOT stabilized pool chlorine. Only use un-stabilized chlorine for drinking and bathing water. The chlorine helps to dissipate the sulfur quicker and adds a small residual amount of chlorine every time the aerator sprays on. It will also cut down on the bacteria in your water.

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5. Don't do outside watering or fill your pool with the “treated water”. This is the water that has been through the aerator and the water softener. If you use treated water for outside watering, you will have the smell in the house because the aerator can not keep up with gassing off the sulfur quickly enough. It will tax your whole system. Use a hose bib **BEFORE** your water treatment equipment, or at the well head. Use only straight well water that is untreated for outside use.