

Water Purification

Water obtained from rivers, lakes and seas must be purified before being consumed by humans. Some purification methods include:

- **Boiling:** water that is boiled for just a few minutes kill millions of bacteria that may be harmful to one's health. After boiling the water filtering may be necessary.
- **Distillation:** this process involves the removal of salts. A distillation apparatus is set up the solution is heated and the liquid component is condensed and collected.
- **Desalination:** this is another way of removing salts from seawater and making it suitable for drinking. This is usually carried out by plants or factories in places where freshwater is in short supply.
- **Chlorination:** chlorine is used to kill bacteria hence it is a disinfectant which removes harmful organisms. When chlorine gas forms hypochlorous acid in the water, this releases oxygen thus killing these organisms.