

# Removing Water Heater Smell

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When the water coming from the taps at home smells bad, there may be a problem with your water heater. There could be a couple of various causes of smelly water, but the primary reason is [bacteria](#). If bacteria is entering into the water, an odor likely will show up. Well water is frequently at fault for this transpiring. However, there are a few methods a Cypress Texas homeowner may take to stop bacteria from growing in their water and to eliminate existing bacteria and odors.

According to Soquel Creek Water District, “The smell is the result of four factors that must all be present for the odor to develop. These factors include:

- A high concentration of sulfate in the raw water
- Sulfate reducing bacteria, non-toxic to humans (sulfate is reduced to a sulfide state by the bacteria)
- Little or no dissolved oxygen in the water
- Hydrogen (a component of water which may be present due to water conditions reacting with the anode)”  
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## Preventing Water Heater Bacteria Growth

The best way to stop bacteria from developing and resulting in bad tastes and smells throughout one’s house, is to ensure that the temperature is fixed at 140 degrees or higher on one’s hot water heater. At this temperature bacteria can’t grow and will die. Whenever your water heater temp is set below this, bacteria will not only live but can multiply.

## Getting Rid of Hot Water Heater Bacteria



In order to get rid of present bacteria and odors, one must use harsh chemicals to destroy it. Chlorine bleach is the most powerful and comprehensive chemical cleaner to use. In cases where you are trying to clean out the water and get rid of the bacteria applying bleach yourself, you should fully understand the exact way of to do so. First of all, the electric or gas going to the hot water heater should be turned off. Then the cold water supply has to be turned off. After that, you must switch on one of the hot water faucets within the property. This lets air into the tank. Applying a garden hose, empty the water from the water heater and close up the drain valve after all the water is drained. After that, it is time to pour in the bleach. One will be needing five ounces of bleach for every gallon of water the tank retains. Remove the flexible cold water pipe and pour the bleach into the opening. If perhaps the cold water hose isn't flexible, it could be a good idea to get in touch with a pro. Attach the water line again and fill up the tank with water. It's necessary to turn off the hot water spigot in the home the moment all the air is out of the pipe. It is likewise crucial to run all the taps that utilize hot water throughout the property until it is possible to smell the bleach. The bacteria that is in the water heater could also be in water lines and fixtures consequently you should wipe out the bacteria in those locations as well. Allow the bleach water sit in the tank and in the water lines for around 3 hours without using any hot water. Then an additional flush is due. As soon as the tank is drained for a second time, do not put in more bleach but fill it up with water and allow it to stay inside the tank and inside the piping for no less than thirty minutes. Lastly, drain out the water yet again and replenish the tank with water. Let all the hot water appliances in the house drain until you can no longer smell bleach. Either switch the power on again or reignite the pilot and you should be good to go!

For any inquiries about water stench, flushing a hot water heater, [Cypress water heater repairs](#), or any other water

heater problems, give us a call!