EXAMPLE ONLY

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR TRANSPORT OF POTABLE WATER FOR ON-FARM FOOD PROCESSING

(The SOP's indicated here are intended for farms where water is transported from an alternative water supply)

1. An annual inspection of the water tank by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene will be conducted prior to any processing occurring. The tank must be approved by FDA for potable water use.
2. A potable water tank meeting FDA guidelines for food grade use will be utilized to transport water from the approved source to the processing kitchen.
3. Water tanks are to be sanitized with a solution of bleach and water at a recommended disinfectant rate of 50-100 ppm (1 teaspoon 5.25% Bleach per 1 gallon water). Chlorine concentration of the sanitizing solution must be verified to be at least 50-100 ppm before using to disinfect tank. Verify using chlorine test kit. Cleaning is required at the beginning of the season, whenever refilled or at any time the tank has potential for contamination. All interior tank surfaces, gaskets, lids, and spigot openings must come in contact with the sanitizing solution for a minimum period of 1 minute. Open all valves and spigots and allow sanitize solution to drain out.
4. Hoses, external spigots, tank fixtures and threads must be sanitized with a solution of bleach and water at a disinfectant rate of 50-100 ppm (1 teaspoon 5.25% Bleach per 1 gallon water) for a minimum period of 1 minute. Free chlorine concentration must be verified before sanitizing using chlorine test kit. Interior hose surfaces must come in contact with sanitizing solution.
5. After cleaning, the tank will be filled from an approved water source. Fill using only the approved and disinfected hose. All hoses are to be affixed to couplings that may be capped when not in use and shall be isolated from any other water source. Hoses will be dedicated solely to the approved portable tank and will not be used for any other purpose. Hoses must meet FDA standards for potable water. Whenever a new hose connection is made, the couplings are to be disinfected using 50-100 ppm chlorine solution.
6. In order to maintain cleanliness, all couplers will be capped on all lines. The tank will remain closed at all times.
7. A written log is required which documents the required procedures are followed. These records must contain tank cleaning and fill date and the chlorine concentration of sanitizing solution.