

DRINKING WATER SAMPLING PROCEDURES

1. Wash hands thoroughly, do not open sample bottle until you are ready to proceed. Sample results are dependent on proper sampling technique.
2. Sample must be taken from a tap that is representative of the water distribution system, preferably from the sample tap located at or near the water pressure tank. If the pressure tank is not accessible, the sample will be collected from another water tap that is representative of the drinking water system.
3. Water tap must be free of aerators, strainers, hose attachments, mixing type faucets, and purification devices.
4. The **COLD** water tap must be used and the service line cleared before sampling by running the water for at least two minutes, or until the temperature changes.
5. Do **not** touch the inside of the sample bottle or cap.
6. Do **not** rinse sample container (white powder is necessary).
7. Sterile sample containers must be filled to the 100 ml line so sample volume is sufficient to perform all required tests. Leave at least a one-inch air space to facilitate mixing of the sample by shaking.
8. Place bottle and Chain of Custody Form in the mailing packet to send to lab – address below.

The sample collector is responsible for properly packaging and returning the samples to the laboratory for analysis. All samples collected must be received by the laboratory within twenty-four hours. Regular 1st Class U.S Postal Services gets UP samples here overnight and received by us at 8 a.m. the next morning.

The following information must be entered on a Chain of Custody form in indelible ink:

1. Client Name: Name and mailing address and email address to send report and billing
2. Samplers Signature: Name of person taking the sample
3. Sample Location: WSSN and other identification of sample location - use as many lines as necessary in this column to include the following information
 - Sample Source – drinking water, surface water, wastewater, etc.
 - System Owner Name, Collection Site Address
4. Time of Collection
5. Date of Collection
6. Analysis Type Requested: ex. Total coliform – pos/neg, Fecal Coliform - enumerated, etc. (see below)
7. Remarks: Let us know if you want reported directly to the Local Health Dept.- name County
8. Transport/relinquished by information – signature/date/time
9. Keep the pink copy for yourself and send the white and yellow to us with sample.

Analysis Type and Costs for Drinking Water Tests

Coliform (total and e.coli) Drinking Water – positive/negative - \$15

Coliform (total and e.coli) Drinking Water – enumerated - \$15

Fecal Coliforms for Surface/Wastewater - enumerated - \$15

E. coli for Surface/Wastewater - enumerated - \$15

Surface Water Coliform – enumerated - \$15

Nitrate Nitrogen - \$15

Nitrite Nitrogen - \$15

Nitrate/Nitrite as a combo - \$15

Fluoride - \$25

Hardness, Sodium, Iron - \$15

Sulfate - \$12 chloride - \$12

Lead/Copper in drinking water - \$25

Other Metals - \$12/metal