

INFORMATIONAL BACTERIA SAMPLING INSTRUCTIONS



PLEASE READ ALL SAMPLING INSTRUCTIONS COMPLETELY AND CAREFULLY. DO NOT OPEN SAMPLE BOTTLES UNTIL YOU ARE READY TO COLLECT YOUR WATER SAMPLE!



This test kit represents one sampling location. If you require testing on multiple locations you will need to purchase multiple test kits.

Remove the small plastic zippered bag containing: instructions and 3-part form. Set this aside as you will refer to it later in the collection process. Remove the blue gel pack(s) from the Styrofoam cooler and place in the freezer for at least 8 hours before collecting your sample.

You must ship your sample the same day you collect it. Make arrangements with a carrier that can provide guaranteed overnight delivery to our laboratory by 10:30 am the next day. If the sample is not received within 30 hours, your bacteria results will be marked as invalid. **Do not collect on Friday, Saturday, Sunday or the day before a national holiday.** **UPS Return Shipping may be purchased through NTL at a reduced rate by calling 800-458-3330.**

Collect sample from an indoor, cold water tap. If applicable, remove any aerators, strainers, or other devices from the tap. Collect as late in the day as possible (no earlier than 1:00 pm EST preferred).

Wash, rinse and dry hands thoroughly before filling bottle.

Do not open bottle until you are ready to sample. Handle the sterile bottles carefully. Do not touch the opening or inside of the bottle or cap. Hold the cap with the inside facing down. Do not set the cap down.

Fill bottle only once and fill according to the instructions below. Do not empty or rinse the bottle. The white crystal-like substance in the bottle is preservative and must not be discarded.



INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING 125 ML BACTERIA BOTTLE:

1. Return the frozen blue gel ice pack(s) to the cooler.
2. Remove any aerators or strainers from the spigot and disinfect the spigot using alcohol or flame. **If you suspect methane in your water do no use flame.**
3. Run the cold water to a slow, even stream. Let water run for 3-5 minutes to flush thoroughly. Keep the water running and proceed to step 4.
4. Remove the seal from the bottle cap and fill the bottle exactly to the "100 ml" fill line. Replace cap securely. Return your filled bottle to the large bubble bag. Remove the paper strip from the bubble bag to reveal adhesive and seal the bubble bag closed. Return sealed bubble bag to the cooler.
5. Complete the enclosed lab form, **making sure to indicate the collection date and time you sampled**, type of water (treated/untreated) and sample identification which identifies where you collected your sample (i.e., kitchen sink, well head, etc.). Retain a copy of the lab form for your records. Samples received without the time and date of collection indicated will be marked as invalid. Return the completed lab form to the small zippered plastic bag. Seal the zippered bag securely and return to the cooler containing your water sample and ice pack.
6. **Ship your sample via GUARANTEED OVERNIGHT delivery to:**
Testing Location: **National Testing Laboratories, Ltd.**
556 South Mansfield Street
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
7. Please Note: Testing typically takes approximately 3-5 business days from receipt of sample. Results will be emailed upon completion.

If you have any questions regarding this Bacteria Test or any other services we provide, please contact a Technical Service Representatives at 1-800-458-3330 for assistance