

Bottles for Bacteria Analysis

Use sterile, 120 mL, with or without sodium thiosulfate preservative sample bottles aseptic for bacteria analysis (E. Coli, Total Coliforms, Yeast and Mold, Total Aerobic Bacteria and specialty selective culture media). Please fill out all information on the label attached to the bottle: the facility name, location of sample, time and date of sample. The sample ID information should match that listed on the separate Chain of Custody (CoC) form, where appropriate. Sample locations should remain constant for long term evaluation of treatment efficiency.

Sampling Procedure

Avoid areas that are regularly dusty or high levels or airborne particulates. If sampling from a sample port, the sample tap should be disinfected prior to sampling with Isopropyl Alcohol, Bleach, or a flame.

1. Faucets directly connected to cisterns, hot water heaters, or softeners should be avoided
2. Fully open faucet and allow the water to run for 5 to 6 minutes to flush out any static water in the distribution line
 - a. Leaky faucets or taps should be avoided
 - b. Sample taps located close to the ground should be avoided to prevent back splashing
 - c. Threaded or swing taps should be avoided as solids and contaminants can be harbored in those surfaces
 - d. Any attachments on sampling tap should be removed prior to sampling
3. If sampling from a tank; leave the lid on the sample bottle, submerge bottle 6-8" below water surface. Slowly open sample lid under water to allow sample to fill the container. Return lid before lifting sample container out of the water. This prevents collection of debris and contaminants that are suspended on the water surface and may not be representative of the bulk water quality.
4. Fill sample bottle to the top to limit headspace and screw lid on tightly to avoid leakage
5. Refrigerate sample until ready to ship
6. Overnight sample to laboratory same day of sampling with ice pack (if possible)

If using a pre-packaged sample kit, an over-night **shipping label** is included in this package, please be sure to sample the same day of shipping.