



Drinking Water Sample Collection Guidelines

Introduction: Collecting a water sample is a crucial step in assessing water quality, and it requires careful attention to detail. Accurate results depend on proper sampling techniques to prevent contamination. This document provides step-by-step instructions for collecting water samples for bacterial testing.

1. Preparation

- Use the sample container provided by Pollution Control Services.
- Keep the container free from contamination.
- Do not remove the white powder inside or rinse the container.
- Wear gloves or thoroughly wash your hands when collecting the sample.
- Use a water-resistant marker or pen to fill in the provided sample label.

2. Sampling

- Use a faucet that doesn't leak or have attachments.
- Allow water to flow for 5 to 6 minutes before sampling.
- Remove plastic seal and cap from sample container.
- Fill the sample container to the bottom of the neck, then replace the cap.
- Attach the completed sample label onto the sample container.

3. Delivery

- Review and fill out the Chain of Custody form completely.
- Deliver the sample to the laboratory as soon as possible.
- Do not allow the sample to freeze or be exposed to extreme heat.
- It is recommended to transport the sample in an insulated container.
- Ensure the sample arrives at the lab within 30 hours from the time of collection.