

Sampling Instructions for Total Coliform Bacteria

1. Turn on the cold water tap and let water run at full force for at least 3 minutes.
2. Reduce flow of water.
3. Fill sample bottle with water to just above the 100 ml line. Avoid splashing.
4. Replace cap and close securely.
5. Complete form and fill in name, date, and time sampled on bottle.
6. Deliver sample to lab within 30 hours of collection.
7. *Samples will be accepted Monday – Thursday, 8:00am – 4:00 pm.*

Tips for obtaining a clean sample:

- Remove any aerators, screens, hoses, or mechanical devices attached to the faucet.
- Clean faucet with bleach on a rag before running water.
- Use caution when sampling to not touch the inside of the bottle or cap.
- Avoid taking sample from faucets able to swivel, such as a kitchen faucet.
- Keep sample cool until received by the laboratory. Warm or frozen samples will not be accepted.

Failure to follow these instructions may result in a false positive and may necessitate repeat sampling!