

SAMPLING INSTRUCTIONS
for Total Coliform/E.Coli
Presence/Absence test

READ ENTIRE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE SAMPLING

**NOTE: Any CHLORINE contained in sample can result in a false positive
PLEASE insure all CHLORINE is removed from sample prior to collection!!**

Your sample bottle has been commercial prepared pre-sterilized. For accurate testing, it is important to keep it free from contamination. **Do not touch the inside of the bottle with your fingers or faucet.** Do not open bottle before collection. Do not lay lid to bottle on counter while collecting sample. Open bottle only to fill and close immediately after filling.

A chemical tablet or white powder in the bottle - It is supposed to be there, do not try to remove it from the bottle.

1. Select a faucet in the bathroom or kitchen (one that doesn't swivel).
2. Remove any filters (whole house/under sink/attached to tap) and or screens from the faucet including the aerator. Flush any hot water connections for 2 mins and turn off
3. Disinfect the faucet using one of the following options:
 - a. Wipe thoroughly with bleach solution
 - b. Denatured alcohol
 - c. Pour boiling water over the faucet
 - d. Flame with a match or lighter
4. Turn on the cold water only and let it run for at least 5 minutes.
5. Adjust the water to produce a slow steady flow (no splashing).
6. Remove the paper/plastic seal completely from the sample bottle. Open bottle keeping the lid in your hand not laying it down and collect your sample.

Remember; be very careful not to touch the inside of the bottle or lid to the faucet or with your fingers.

7. Be sure to fill bottle as close to the fill line as possible. DO NOT allow the sample to overflow out of bottle. DO NOT pour water out of bottle after collecting.
8. Place cap back on the bottle. Make sure the label doesn't get stuck under the lid before closing the lid.
9. Store in a cool place out of sun and heat.
10. Deliver to the lab within 24 hours.