

Collection of Drinking Water Samples for Coliform Testing

A. Sampling Kit



PHMRL Sampling Kit Contains :

1. Sterile sample bottle (with sodium thiosulphate)
2. Requisition form
3. Zip lock plastic bag
4. Rubber band
5. Pen (not supplied)

B. Fill in Requisition and Bottle Label



Requisition Information Required :

1. Contact information – Health Authority and Water Supplier
2. Date and time of collection
3. Water system information
4. Precise sampling site (exact location)
5. Sender address
6. Tests requested

Sample Bottle Label Information Required :

1. Precise sampling site (exact location)
2. Submitter's information

C. Transport



Transport :

1. Ship samples in cooler with sufficient ice packs to maintain temperature at <math><8^{\circ}\text{C}</math>.
2. Ship samples early in the week by same day or overnight courier.
3. Samples exceeding 30 hours holding time (from collection to testing) will not be tested.

Collection of Drinking Water Samples for Coliform Testing

D. Remove attachment



E. Collect sample



F. Replace bottle cap



How To Collect Samples :

1. Tap without attachments - run water for 2 to 3 minutes before collecting sample.
2. Tap with mixing faucet - remove attachments such as aerators, filters, hoses, screen or splash guard, run hot water for 2 minutes and then cold water for 2 to 3 minutes before sampling.

3. Remove cap of sample container without touching the mouth of the bottle or the inside of the cap.
4. Without rinsing, fill with water sample to 200 mL fill line (marked on the container).

N.B. Collect water sample only from the cold water tap

5. Replace cap of sample container securely (tight).
6. Place requisition inside zip lock plastic bag and wrap it around sample container with rubber band.
7. See Transport instructions on the other side for shipping samples.