

Water Analysis Sampling Instructions

Please read through all directions before proceeding. Plan out your actions to ensure proper sampling.

1. You need to decide if you want to get a raw or treated sample. A raw sample is taken before any treatment. A treated sample is taken after the water has gone through your treatment system. ***Do not sample if you have recently chlorinated your system until the system has been flushed. The system must be run until all traces of chlorine are gone.***
2. Turn the **cold** water on at a flow that is not causing any splashing. Allow the water to run approximately 5 minutes. This will allow that the water is representative of what is in the well and not in the piping of the home.
3. Start with bacteria sampling. ***Do not discard the pill and do not touch the interior of the bottle or cap.*** Fill the bottle to just above the “fill line” indicated on the bottle and firmly snap the lid closed and secure with the locking tab. Next fill your chemistry bottle(s).
4. If you are sampling for Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) and/or Radon it should be last. Slow the flow to half of a pencil-thin stream, and fill each vial until the water forms a crown at the lip (without overflowing). Immediately cap tightly. Invert the vials to check for air bubbles. If a bubble any larger than a pea is present, uncap, top-off, and re-cap the vial. Do not rinse the acid out of the vials before filling them- this acid is needed to preserve the sample.

NOTE: VOC vials are preserved with a few drops of hydrochloric acid, a strong acid (HCl). **USE CAUTION.** Should you come in contact with the acid, flush affected area under running water for a few minutes.

5. Please remember to indicate the date and time of sample collection on the bottle and on the chain of custody. The chain of custody provided should be filled out completely this will ensure that the correct analyses are performed and that the report goes to the correct person.
6. Return the samples to the lab as quickly as possible. If you can not return to the lab immediately after taking samples, they should be refrigerated or stored in a cooler with ice. Samples must be returned within 24 hours of sampling.

Samples may be submitted to the laboratory: **Monday thru Friday 8:00am – 4:00pm**. Any samples received after 4:00 p.m. are considered received on the next business day. Certain analytes have a prescribed hold time. Please call the Laboratory to discuss your needs.

If you are given multiple bottles, fill each completely. These should also come from the same tap, otherwise they will be treated and billed as separate samples.

All payment is due at time of sample receipt, unless prior arrangements have been made.

Standard turnaround time for all analyses is 7-10 business days. Results are available by email. Rush turnarounds may be available at additional cost. Please contact us to discuss your needs.

Sampling services are available on a project by project basis. Contact the laboratory to arrange. Analytical Balance provides appropriate sample containers for you to take your own sample. You may then bring the sample in or send it to us via the postal or other service.

Prices are subject to change without notice.