

Water Sampling Instructions

- 1) Water samples **MUST** be taken in sterile containers provided by the laboratory. Please do not use glass containers.
- 2) Do not touch the inside of the jar or lid because these surfaces are sterile.
- 3) Collect the sample from a point as close to the well as possible. (For best results do not collect a water sample from a point after a water softener.)
- 4) If the faucet used has an aerator on it, remove the aerator before taking the sample.
- 5) Bacteria are sometimes present on the rim of the faucet. To sterilize the faucet prior to sampling, heat it with a propane torch, a lighter or a match for a few seconds, being careful not to damage the faucet.
- 6) Turn on the water and let it run for a minimum of five (5) minutes before collecting the water sample. Do not adjust the flow while the water is running.
- 7) Open the bottle and place it under the slowly flowing water stream. Fill the bottle to within $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of the top of the bottle. Cap the bottle tightly and record the Sample Collection Time/Date on the Information Sheet. Laboratory needs at least 125 ml (about 4 ounces) of water.
- 8) Deliver the sample and the completed Information Sheet form to AgSource Laboratories as soon as possible. Call ahead for hours and drop-off information. Inaccurate results may occur if samples are delayed. Samples held for over 24 hours may be rejected for analysis.



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