

Water Sample Collection

Proper sample collection is essential to obtaining reliable analytical results.

Follow the instructions for the specific type of testing requested.

Water Sample Collection Volumes

- Basic Water Panel (FHA/VA)= 100ml & 500ml
- Advanced Water Panel = 100ml & 2-500ml
- Bacteria test (Coliform, *E.coli* P/A or MPN, HPC) = 100ml

General Instructions

Complete the Chain of Custody with the sample location, collection date, and collection time.

*Before collecting a water sample, flush the line by running the cold water for 5-6 minutes or until the water temperature stabilizes.

Recommendations

Whether you're shipping or dropping off - bacteria samples should arrive at the lab the same day or day after collection.

Avoid shipping samples immediately before weekends or holidays unless delivery and laboratory receipt have been confirmed.

Place a completed Chain of Custody in a waterproof sleeve.

Use packing material to prevent bottle movement and breakage during shipping.

Ship with insulation and an ice pack. Do not place samples directly in loose ice.



After Your Samples Arrive

A sample-receipt notification will be sent to the inbox of the email address listed on the Chain of Custody from reports@assuredbio.com.

Check your spam or junk folder if the notification is not received.

The Water Analysis Report will be emailed when testing and technical review are complete.

Interpreting Results

Compare each analytical result with the reference value identified in the report.

Results apply only to the submitted sample and the conditions present at the time of collection.

Bacteria Sample

Coliform & *E. coli* Presence/Absence
Heterotrophic Plate Count
Most Probable Number
(Advanced Bacteria)

Required volume:

 At least 100ml

Use only the sterile bacteriological bottle supplied by Assured Bio Labs. The bottle contains sodium thiosulfate to neutralize residual chlorine or other oxidizing disinfectants.

1. Select a cold-water faucet that can be sampled without the bottle touching the faucet.
2. Remove the aerator, screen, hose, filter, or other faucet attachment.
3. *Perform water flush if not already completed.
4. Reduce the flow to a slow, steady stream.
5. Wash or sanitize your hands. Disposable gloves are recommended.
6. Open the sterile bottle immediately before collection.
7. Do not rinse the bottle or cap or set the cap down.
8. Do not touch the inside of the bottle or cap, even while wearing gloves.
9. Hold the bottle near the bottom and place it beneath the flowing water without allowing it to touch the faucet.
10. Fill the bottle slightly above the 100ml line while leaving approximately 1 inch of headspace. Do not overfill the bottle.
11. Remove the bottle from the stream and cap immediately.
12. Refrigerate or place the sample in a cooler with ice pack. Do not freeze.

Chemistry Sample

(nitrates, lead, zinc, pH, etc)

Typical sample volume:

500-1000ml

1. Select a cold-water faucet that allows the bottle to be filled without touching the faucet.
2. Remove aerators, screens, hoses, filters, water softeners, purification devices, and other attachments unless the purpose of testing is to evaluate treated water.
3. *Perform water flush if not already completed.
4. Reduce the flow to a slow, steady stream.
5. Check the bottle label before collecting the sample.
6. Fill the bottle to the marked fill line or as directed by the laboratory.
7. Cap the bottle securely.
8. Refrigerate the sample or place it in a cooler with frozen ice packs. Do not freeze.
9. Deliver the sample to Assured Bio Labs as soon as possible.

Water sample collection bottles are supplied by Assured Bio Lab at no additional cost. Call or email the lab to get them shipped directly to you.

