

SAMPLING PROCESS

Below are the instructions on how to collect a sample to submit for bacteria (Coliform) testing:

- 1) A sterile 100 mL bottle containing sodium thiosulfate must be used for collecting the water samples.
- 2) Disinfect the spout where the water comes out from, with either disinfectant such as bleach or a lighter to kill any bacteria that might be present before collecting the sample. Doing this avoids the possibility of contamination which could provide incorrect results of the water being tested.
- 3) After disinfecting the spout, run the water fully for 3-5 minutes to clean out the water lines of water that may have been sitting in the lines to sample fresh water.



- 4) Once the water has run for 3-5 minutes, reduce the pressure of the water to avoid backsplash while collecting the sample and to avoid collecting too many samples.



- 5) Ensure you wash your hands or sanitize if it is possible, to avoid any contamination of the sample. It is not necessary, but it will avoid further contamination that is possible although if careful enough, it should be highly avoidable.

- 6) Remove the plastic from the lid of the bottle carefully and remove the lid without touching the inside of the lid or bottle.



- 7) Fill the water up to the 100 mL mark on the bottle carefully place the cap onto the bottle and tighten the cap.



- 8) If too much water is collected and is above the 100 mL line that is fine as it can be discarded to the 100 mL mark in the laboratory.
- 9) Note down the location, date, and time collected and write it down on the bottle. Keep the sample cool in a cooler with ice during transportation to the laboratory.



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