

Instructions for Coliform/Bacteria Sampling

Please read the following instructions carefully before sampling. Samples may be rejected if all instructions are not followed.

Proper sampling of water is paramount for PIXIS Labs' ability to achieve valid analytical results. To correctly obtain a representative sample, the following steps must be observed when sampling directly from a tap or spigot.

Step One: DO NOT collect samples from taps or spigots, which contain aeration devices or screens. (If necessary, remove the device or screen and continue with step two). For well owners, the sample must be collected from the source prior to any form of treatment, or after injection points where the treatment has been disabled or bypassed. In the event that the well has been shock chlorinated, follow up samples should not be taken until at least five days have elapsed.

1. Thoroughly disinfect the faucet area using bleach or alcohol. Run the water for 5 minutes or until it reaches constant temperature before collecting the sample at a moderate flow rate.
2. The Coliform test sample must be collected in a sealed, sterile bottle. Remove the sterile seal from the bottle and remove the cap. **DO NOT touch** the inside of the bottle or the underside of the cap. Leave the white powder inside the bottle.
3. Hold the sample bottle near the tap or spigot and fill the container between the 100ml and the fill line, leaving a one-inch air space between the surface of the water and the cap. Replace the cap. **NOTE: DO NOT overfill or overflow the bottle.**
4. On the bottle label, fill in the sampler's identification, sample location, and date and time of the collection. Complete the associated paper work or chain of custody, date, and sign.
5. Refrigerate the sample and keep cool on ice during transport. It is recommended to keep sample's temperature at $< 10^{\circ}\text{C}$ or $< 50^{\circ}\text{F}$. The sample must be received as soon as possible within **24 HOURS** of sample collection. The sample may be rejected by the laboratory **if the sample has leaked, was overfilled, and/or is over 30 hours old.**

If you have any questions regarding the sampling procedure, please contact one of our Customer Service Representatives at (503) 254-1794.