



Sampling Procedures for Water Samples

Spray and Irrigation Water Sampling

1. The sampling bottle (see note below) shall be kept unopened until the moment it is to be filled.
2. Remove the cap, taking care to avoid soiling. During sampling, do not handle the cap and neck of the bottle.
3. If the sample is taken from a **tap**, remove the aspirator, open tap fully and allow water to run for 2-3 minutes. The flow should be adjusted to keep from splashing when filling the bottle.
4. Do not touch the inside of the bottle. Rinse the bottle 3 times with the water.
5. Leave air space (approximately 1 inch) in the bottle to allow proper mixing of the water sample.
6. Replace the cap immediately. Tighten cap securely.
7. The volume of sample should be sufficient to carry out all tests required, preferably not less than 100 mL.
8. Samples should be accompanied by complete and accurate identifying and descriptive data.

Biological Sampling

1. The sampling bottle(see note below) shall be kept unopened until the moment it is to be filled.
2. Remove the cap, taking care to avoid soiling. During sampling, do not handle the cap and neck of the bottle.



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3. If the sample is taken from a tap, remove the aspirator, open tap fully and allow water to run for 2-3 minutes. The flow should be adjusted to keep from splashing when filling the bottle.
 4. Do not touch the inside of the bottle. When collecting the sample, hold the bottle near the base of the sampling site and fill without rinsing.
 5. Leave air space (approximately 1 inch) in the bottle to allow proper mixing of the water sample.
 6. Replace the cap immediately. Tighten cap securely.
 7. If the sample is not to be taken to the laboratory immediately, place it in the refrigerator until ready for transport to the laboratory.

If it is known that the results of a microbiological examination will be used in legal action, employ a special messenger to deliver samples within 6 hours and maintain a chain of custody.

In cases of individual potable water samples sent to the laboratory for service, the maximum transport time and temperature storage requirements are seldom realistic. However, the time elapsing between collection and examination should not exceed 30 hours. Time and temperature of these samples will be recorded and considered in the interpretation of data.

8. The volume of sample should be sufficient to carry out all tests required, preferably not less than 100 mL.
9. Samples should be accompanied by complete and accurate identifying and descriptive data. Inadequately identified samples should not be accepted for examination.

BIOLOGICAL SAMPLING NOTE:

Containers intended for the collection of water having residual chlorine or other halogen must have a reducing agent added. This agent neutralizes any residual halogen and prevents continuation of bactericidal action during sample transit. If needed, Waypoint Analytical can provide sterile sampling containers. Please call for more information.

WATER BOTTLE:

A standard 1 pint plastic drinking water bottle can be used or Waypoint Analytical can supply sampling bottles. Be sure to properly identify source, date, and any other identifiers on the bottle to match Water Sampling Form.