

## <u>Laboratory Services</u>

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## SAMPLING INSTRUCTIONS FOR TOTAL COLIFORM

- 1) **Remove** the aerator (if present) on the faucet before sampling. It is a common source of contamination.
- 2) **Sterilize** the surface area around the faucet and inside the spigot. This may be done **with an <u>alcohol solution</u>**. Do not touch the inside of the bottle or cap with fingers or any object.
- 3) Before taking sample, **Run Cold Water** for 3-5 minutes. Avoid splashing
- 4) **Completely Remove** shrink-wrap seal (if present) from sample bottle before sampling.
- 5) **Reduce** flow to a trickle before sampling to avoid splashing.
- Without setting the cap down, carefully unscrew cap and **fill bottle to the 120ml line.** Replace the cap.

\*\* Must fill bottle to the 120ml Fill Line \*\*

\*\* Do not Overfill bottle, Must have 1 inch Headspace\*\*

\*\*Chill samples in a cooler with ice while in transit from sampling location to Laboratory. Do not freeze.

7) If samples must be kept overnight, refrigerate and then deliver samples in a cooler with ice. Do not freeze.

Samples must be received at the Laboratory within 24 hours of collection.

**Samples may be Rejected** if it is filled past the 120ml line and has less than 1 inch of headspace (air in the bottle), it has been more than 24hrs since sampling, sample bottle is cracked or leaking, or sample is frozen.

Effective: May 14, 2019

A surcharge is applied to samples received on Friday or before Holidays.

A surcharge is applied if a report is required within 48 hours of sample delivery.

TotalColiform 2019 Ver 5.7.doc