

RESIDENTIAL DRINKING WATER SAMPLING DIRECTIONS

A sanitary examination or a potability scan will assess the overall condition of the drinking water tested. Each scan fulfills minimum state testing guidelines as well as other target constituents. For a complete listing of parameters, please contact our Quality Service Department toll free at (800) 789-9115. Additional testing is available upon request. Your local health department can advise you as to possible contaminants of concern in your area.

Taking a Water Sample

The source of the private water supply shall be sampled directly or sampled from a cold water faucet supplying water for domestic purposes that is located within the building. If water treatment is provided the sample should be collected prior to any treatment.

1. Before drawing a water sample, first remove any attachment screen, filter, aerator, or purification device from the faucet opening
2. If the well is used on a regular daily basis let the cold water run at full flow for 10 to 15 minutes prior to sampling. If the well has not been used for several days, the cold water should be run for at least 30 minutes. In performing this preparatory operation, you should bear in mind that the objective is to sample water that is freshly drawn from the well
3. Reduce flow to a trickle and fill sample containers as directed
4. Sampling Containers - Two containers are normally provided for sampling purposes as follows:
 - Plastic Half Gallon: fill to the neck with the water sample after allowing the water to run for the required amount of time as described above.
 - 120ml Sterile Plastic Bottle: fill to the 100ml-fill line, this bottle is to be used for the bacterial analysis of the water sample. In order to avoid contaminating the sample, you must be careful not to touch either the inside of the bottle or the inside surface of its cap. Carefully remove the cap and then fill the bottle to just above the 100ml line with a sample of the running water from the faucet. Replace the cap immediately.

Sampling for Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) - Some communities require testing for Volatile Organic Compounds. Ask the local Director of Health whether the drinking water must be tested for the presence of VOCs.

- If sampling for VOCs is required, Spectrum Analytical, Inc will supply two (2) 40-ml amber vials for this purpose. Please use caution, vials contain hydrochloric acid. Do not rinse out vials. Turn tap to a slow flow and fill each vial to overflow. Immediately replace the cap tightly taking care not to trap any air inside the container. If any air bubbles are detected, do not reopen vials once they have been capped in order to minimize volatile loss.

5. Fill out Chain of Custody Document and labels with appropriate information and affix labels to sample containers.
6. Keep sample on ice and transport to laboratory facility as soon as possible. *Please note that some of the analysis must be conducted within 24 hours of sample collection.*

Residential House Sale and/or New Well

The Connecticut General Assembly has established testing requirements for private wells in two situations.

- If a residential property with a private water supply system is sampled within six months of the sale of the property, it must be sampled by a qualified individual and analyzed by an approved laboratory. The results need to be submitted by the laboratory to the local Director of Health
- A newly constructed source of private water supply system must be sampled by a qualified individual and analyzed by an approved laboratory. It must be disinfected and purged of all disinfectants prior to sampling. The results need to be submitted by the laboratory to the local Director of Health.