

## TAP WATER SAMPLING DIRECTIONS FOR LEAD & COPPER

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Metals such as lead and copper can leach from pipes if the water is *aggressive* (dependent on pH, temperature, hardness and other factors). In order to collect a representative sample for lead and copper; please follow these directions carefully.

It is important that you do not use any water (from sink taps, toilets, showers, outside faucets, etc.) for at least six hours before you collect this sample. We are checking the water left stagnant in the pipes leading to the faucet over a 6 to 18 hour period. **Please make sure to allow the water to sit in the pipes for the required timeframe. Only one sample can be taken per sink per day.**

1. Decide which kitchen or bathroom faucet you want to draw your sample from. It is preferable to choose the cold water tap used most often for drinking or cooking. The kitchen faucet is normally used.
2. Decide the time of day you will collect the sample so that you can be sure the water has stood stagnant for at least 6 hours but NO LONGER than 18 hours. For example, if you decide to collect the sample at 6:00 AM, you should not use any water after midnight, or, if you leave for work at 8:00 AM, you may collect the sample when you come home (provided no water is used during the day).
3. Most people sample first thing in the morning. The evening prior to sampling flush the faucet to be tested a 10 to 15 minutes to empty the pipes. Be sure that the last time you used water from the chosen tap, it was running cold. Remove any filtration devices off the faucet until sampling is complete.
4. When you are ready to collect the sample, remove the cap from the bottle, hold the bottle under the faucet, turn on the cold water and IMMEDIATELY and completely fill the bottle to the top. Clean and replace the strainer. The container needs to be filled completely. DO NOT ALLOW ANY WATER TO GO DOWN THE DRAIN BEFORE COLLECTING THE SAMPLE. Replace the cap.
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.

### Care and Delivery of Drinking Water Samples

Samples must be kept cool, below 40°F or 4°C, and transport them to the laboratory facility as soon as possible. If shipping is required, the sample must be sent by overnight delivery service. A cooler is recommended for shipping purposes. Samples must be iced and properly insulated against freezing, excessive heat, and breakage. The requisite fee must be paid (check or VISA or Master Card) at time of sample receipt by Spectrum.