

Instructions for Sampling

Please read and follow instructions for accurate results!!!

Partial Chemistry, Nitrate, Coliform Bacteria, Hardness, Metals, Fluoride:

1. Wash hands thoroughly. Select a clean, cold-water faucet BEFORE treatment devices. A sample may be collected from after treatment if used for drinking.
2. Remove any screens that are on the faucet. The tap may be cleaned with bleach prior to sampling.
3. Let the COLD water run for about 5 minutes. Fill all the bottles that have been provided following steps 4 – 6 below.
4. Completely remove sterility seal from clear bottle. DO NOT RINSE ANY BOTTLES!
5. Remove cap from bottles just prior to filling. Do not set cap on counter. Hold cap in one hand while filling with the other. Slowly fill opaque/white bottles to the neck; fill the clear bottle to **between the marked lines**.
6. DO NOT touch the inside of the bottles or the caps. Keep samples cool (on ice) until delivery to the lab.
7. Submit payment with the samples: cash, check or credit card. Make checks payable to SOS Analytical, Inc.
8. You may ship samples to the laboratory Monday–Thursday. Please use overnight delivery for samples shipped on Thursdays. If hand delivered, samples are accepted Monday–Friday from 8:00am-5:00pm.
9. If shipping samples, please ship on ice via UPS the same day the sample is collected. There is a 30-hour EPA holding time on Coliform samples from the time they are collected. **Please allow 3 business days before inquiring about bacteria results; 5 business days before inquiring about metals results.**

Lead & Copper – First Draw (for Public Water Supplies): **SEE AMENDED INSTRUCTIONS FOR TYPE 1** ****FOR MUNICIPAL SYSTEMS ONLY****

1. Do not intentionally flush the system.
2. The water must stand motionless in the plumbing for at least 6 hours before the sample can be collected. It is important not to use the cold water from any faucets until after the sample is collected.
3. Do not remove the screen or aerator from the faucet before sample collection.
4. First thing in the morning, before using any water from the faucet, fill the 1 liter plastic wide mouth sample bottle to the neck. Deliver to the lab within 14 days. **Allow 5 business days before inquiring about results.**

VOC's:

1. You have been provided with:
 - (2) Two 40ml glass vials containing ascorbic acid powder
 - (1) One 2ml plastic bottle containing hydrochloric acid **** STRONG ACID – USE CAUTION!!! ****
 - (2) Two 40ml glass vials labeled: "Trip Blank – Do Not Open" You will do nothing with these vials.
2. Remove any screens from the faucet and turn on the cold-water source.
3. Fill each vial slowly until approximately 2/3 full.
4. **CAREFULLY** add 2-drops of HCl (provided in the small bottle), to each of the 40ml vials.
5. Continue to slowly fill the large vial until a bulge forms on the top and it is nearly overflowing.
6. Place the cap on the vial then turn it upside down to see if any air bubbles are present in the sample. If air is present, remove the cap and add more water. There must be **NO** air present in the sample.
7. Keep samples cool (on ice) until delivery to the lab. **Please allow 5 business days before inquiring about VOC results.**