Large Drinking Water Test Kit

The bottles in this kit have been prepared specifically for each test. Contact your local health department or ALS - Columbia to determine your testing needs. For best results, please follow these sample collecting instructions.

For All Tests

1. Freeze the ice immediately. **It must be frozen for 24 hours prior to sample collection.**
2. **DO NOT** rinse out the bottles. They may contain traces of chemicals which have been added to preserve your sample. Be very careful not to touch the inside of the cap or the bottle to avoid contaminating the sample.
3. Complete the enclosed forms with your name, address, phone number, and sample description (i.e. well water, tap water from kitchen sink, etc.).
4. If you have a permit number, include it on the enclosed forms.
5. If there are any problems with your samples, we will need to call you, so don’t forget to include your phone number on the chain of custody.

Bacteria Tests

(Use small sample bottle with white lid and label)
(Preservative - Sodium thiosulfate)

1. Remove any strainer, aerator, or other device that may be present in the spigot or faucet.
2. Disinfect the spigot using rubbing alcohol or a dilute bleach solution (¼ cup bleach added to 1 ½ cups water). Allow one minute contact time.
3. Let the water run from the spigot at least five minutes prior to taking your sample.
4. Fill the bottle to the line indicated on the side of the bottle.
5. Pack the bacteria sample with the ice that has been frozen for 24 hours.
6. **Send this sample back so the laboratory receives the samples within 30 hours.**

Cyanide

(Use large sample bottle with green label)
(Preservative - Sodium hydroxide)

1. Allow the water to run for about five minutes.
2. Fill the bottle to the neck and cap tightly.
3. **Send this sample back so the laboratory receives the sample within 30 hours of sampling.**
4. If you have not elected this option, this sample will be used for general chemistry tests.
Metals
(Use large sample bottle with pink label)
(Preservative - Nitric Acid)
1. Collect the sample from a cold water tap that IS NOT served by a water softener.
2. On existing systems: collect your sample after water has sat in the pipes for an extended period of time (overnight).
3. On new systems: collect your sample after you have run the water for at least 10 minutes.
4. Fill the sample bottle to the neck and cap tightly.

Nitrates and General Chemistry
(Use large sample bottle with white label)
1. Allow the water to run for about five minutes.
2. Fill the bottle to the neck and cap tightly.
3. Send this sample back so the laboratory receives the sample within 30 hours of sampling.

Volatile Organics (VOAs) & THMs
(Use small sample bottles with yellow lid and white label)
(Preservative: VOAs - Hydrochloric and Ascorbic acids, THMs - Sodium thiosulfate)
1. Adjust water flow to a small stream.
2. Fill each bottle slowly until the water level is above the lip of the bottle. There must be no air in these samples.
3. Cap tightly, turn vial upside down. If there is an air bubble in the vial, add more water until air bubble is gone, recap and check again.

For more information, scan the QR code or visit
www.alsglobal.com/environmental/services/north-america-environmental-services/usa/drinking-water-testing.aspx