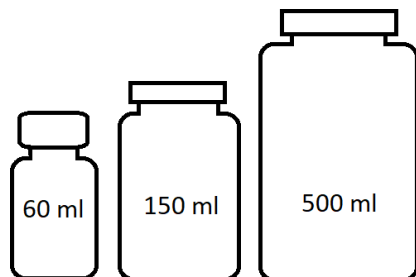


PRIVATE WELL WATER SAMPLE COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

PLEASE READ IN FULL BEFORE COLLECTING SAMPLES
FAILURE TO FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS MAY RESULT IN SAMPLES BEING REJECTED
SAMPLES MUST BE DELIVERED TO THE LABORATORY WITHIN 28 HOURS OF COLLECTION

Sample acceptance times for non-holiday weeks: MONDAY, TUESDAY, & WEDNESDAY 8AM-430PM, THURSDAY 8AM-12PM

Each bottle is used to collect samples for specific tests.
Your samples will only be tested for the laboratory services you have selected and paid for.



- The 60 ml bottle is used to collect a sample for non-metal chemistry testing: nitrate, nitrite, fluoride, chloride, sulfate, sodium, calcium, magnesium, and hardness
- The 150 ml bottle is used to collect a sample for bacteria testing: total coliform and E. Coli
- The 500 ml bottle is used to collect a sample for metals testing: lead, arsenic, iron, and manganese

Tips to avoid sample rejection or needing to re-sample

- If you plan to collect a sample on a week with a holiday, call the lab ahead of time for hours
- For real estate sampling; check with your Realtor on what type of testing you need and who is allowed to collect the sample
- If you have recently disinfected your well, ensure that all disinfectant has been flushed from the system before collecting your sample. **Samples containing disinfectant/chlorine will be rejected.**

Instructions

1. Write the sample name, date, and time on the bottle labels in permanent marker or pen before collecting the sample.
2. Complete the water test request form in full to the best of your ability.
3. If you are testing for lead, use the 500 ml bottle and collect that sample from the cold tap at the kitchen sink that has not been used for six (6) to twelve (12) hours. First thing in the morning works best.
4. To collect a bacteria or non-metal chemistry sample, select a properly functioning and accessible cold water spigot off of the exterior of the house ahead of any water treatment equipment unless specifically directed otherwise or testing for post-treatment hardness. Avoid hydrants and swivel base faucets if possible. Open the faucet and let the water run for ten (10) minutes. Close the faucet and remove any hoses, screw on aerators, screens, or washers.
5. Disinfect the threads of the faucet using the included alcohol wipe and turn the water on to a flow about the width of a pencil.
6. Remove the plastic wrapper on the lid of the bacteria bottle. Being careful not to touch the inside of the cap or bottle, fill the 150 ml bottle to a level between the 100 ml and 120 ml raised lines, and screw the cap on tightly.
7. Similarly fill the smaller 60 ml chemistry bottle to the shoulder and screw the cap on tightly. If you are testing arsenic, iron, and/or manganese, fill the 500 ml bottle to the shoulder and screw the cap on tightly.
8. Place your bottles and completed water test request form in a plastic bag or padded envelope . Return your sample kit **on ice** to Olmsted County Public Health 2100 Campus Dr SE Rochester, MN 55904 within **28 hours of being collected**.

Returning samples via UPS

Locate the UPS drop location you plan to use. Call ahead and ask when the final pickup is for the day. Pack your samples in a box to protect them during shipping. Collect your sample and deliver it to that UPS location before their last pickup. Samples received outside of the required temperature range (0-6 deg Celsius) will be flagged on the final report. Please note that SEMWAL makes no assurances that UPS shipped samples will reach the laboratory within 28 hours. It is your responsibility to make sure your samples reach the laboratory within 28 hours of being collected. Shipping costs will not be refunded if your sample is rejected. During the winter months, samples may freeze overnight on a UPS truck. If a bacteria sample is frozen upon receipt by the lab, it will be rejected and shipping costs will not be refunded.