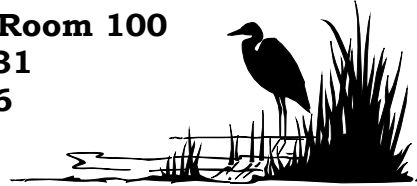


AITKIN COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
209 Second Street NW, Room 100
Aitkin, MN 56431
(218) 927-7266



NOTE!!!

Samples only accepted **Mondays** and **Tuesdays by 3:00 PM**

Foster Care or Daycare Samples only accepted on Tuesdays by 3:00 PM

Samples must be in a **sterile container** and **delivered on ice**

Bacteria must be tested within **30** hours of sampling

Nitrate must be tested within **48** hours of sampling

Payment must be **received with sample** unless you are a realtor with an account with us

Collect sample the day you are bringing it in. Please follow instructions on the back for collecting the water sample. Fill out the following information and return this sheet with the water sample.

Date sample was taken _____

Time Taken _____ AM / PM

Sample collected by _____

Sample Source _____
(ex. kitchen faucet, outdoor tap)

Analysis requested: _____ Coliform Bacteria/E. coli _____ Nitrate Nitrogen

Owner _____ Phone (_____) _____

Property Address _____

City _____, MN Zip Code _____

Email Address _____ (Optional)

Mailing Address _____
(if different) _____

Results to: Property Address Mailing Address Realtor Email Address

Check this box if a copy needs to be sent to Health and Human Services for Foster Care or Daycare

Realtor's Name and Address: _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY Date received: _____ Time received: _____ AM/PM _____

Receiving temperature: _____ °F On ice (circle): YES or NO Receiving Initials _____

Analysis fee: _____ Sampling fee: _____ Paid: _____ Internal Sample No _____

NOTE: If sample DOES NOT meet acceptance criteria then document reason(s) based on conversation with customer or attach documentation.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLECTING DRINKING WATER SAMPLES

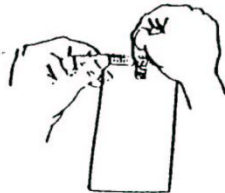
Use only the Whirlpack Bag Aitkin County provides for collecting sample

- \$25 Bacteria water analysis fee (Coliform and E. coli)
- \$25 Nitrate water analysis fee
- \$30 Child Foster Care ONLY for both Bacteria and Nitrates
- \$40 per hour if Aitkin County collects the sample for you

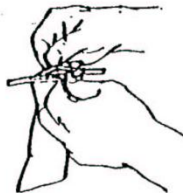
\$40 If both Bacteria & Nitrate are analyzed (\$10 savings)

Nitrite FHA and some lenders may require H₂O testing for nitrite and lead.
Lead Special sampling methods required. Call A.W. Research at 218-829-7974

1. Try to sample from the primary drinking water tap or sampling point closest to the well. Remove the aerator on faucet if present.
2. Sterilize the faucet. Many faucets have plastic parts, heat sterilizing can ruin these types of faucets. Isopropyl rubbing alcohol or a bleach and water solution (approximately one tablespoon of bleach in a gallon of water) can be used to sterilize the faucet. Immerse end of the faucet in sterilizing solution for about one minute or spray sanitizing solution onto end of spigot. Pre-packaged sterile isopropyl alcohol wipes can also be used.
3. If flaming to sterilize faucet, make sure it is metal. If using a candle (don't use matches) then hold the flame under the end of the faucet for about one minute. If using a larger fire source such as a butane torch then sterilize for just a few seconds
4. Turn on just the cold water and let run for 10 – 15 minutes before collecting sample.
4. Tear off the top of the bag along the score line when the water is ready to be collected. Once opened, handle the bag only by the white tabs or the ends of the wire twists. The bag lip should not be touched. Catch the water sample, being careful not to touch the bag to the faucet.



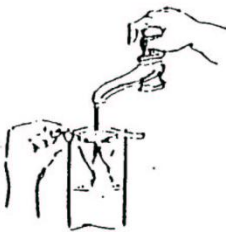
A. Opening:
Tear the top off at the scored line.



B. Separate the wires by pulling the tabs outward.



C. Separate wires further by pushing the ends toward the center of bag.



D. Filling and Closing:
Fill bag 2/3 to 3/4 full as shown.



E. Straighten wires by pulling on the ends of the wire.



F. Whirl the bag 5 complete revolutions and twist the ends of the wire together 2-3 times.

Bring H₂O sample in the same day it is collected. Once collected, sample should be immediately refrigerated or placed on ice for transporting. Sample temperatures greater than 46⁰ F will result in “estimated” values for nitrate. Warmer water temperatures may allow organisms to grow in the water giving a possible inaccurate reading. Sample temps < 28⁰ F will not be accepted.