

Water Sample Instructions for Bacteriological Examination

There are two (2) local labs for water sample testing. The Division of Environmental Health does not perform water sample tests. However, you may pick up sample water bottles for your use at Environmental Health located at 922 Bevins Court in Lakeport. The local labs pick up water samples at the Environmental Health office each Wednesday. Samples must be turned in before noon (12 PM).

Following are the sample instructions and contact information for each lab.

Alpha Analytical Laboratories Inc.
208 Mason Street
Ukiah, CA 95482
Tel: 707-468-0401 Fax: 707-468-5267
Email: clientservices@alpha-labs.com

1. Remove aerator or mesh screen if the faucet has one.
2. Using a clean cloth, swab outside faucet and inside the mouth of the faucet with a solution of ½ bleach and ½ water. Let stand for one minute before proceeding.
3. Turn cold water on and let it run for 3 – 5 minutes.
4. Remove the sanitary seal, then remove the lid from Alpha Analytical sample bottle. Be careful not to touch the inside of the bottle or lid with fingers. **DO NOT** lay the lid down while sampling.
5. Turn the water flow down to a nice slow stream; fill the bottle to the 100ml mark. (Do not rinse out or overfill the bottle; a chemical tablet or powder is present to help insure a valid test.)
6. Replace the lid and tighten immediately. Return the sample to the lab the same day or at least within 20 hours from sampling time.
7. Keep sample cool during delivery to the lab, using an ice chest is always a good idea.
8. **Please be aware that it is our policy that the results of your analyses will be released after we receive payment in full. The cost of Presence / Absence Coliform testing is \$35.00 per sample. Please include a phone number and your mailing address on the form.**

Lake Labs
7267 Marin Street
Nice, CA 95462
Director: Kitty O'Keefe
707-274-3322

1. Please remove this instruction page and fill in sampling information with bottle. Pre-payment of **\$32.00** is required for on-Lake Lab clients.
2. Samples must be received the same day of collection. Keep cool during transport.
3. Do not remove the cap from the bottle until just before filling. Do not touch inside of cap or bottle with fingers. This bottle has been sterilized. There is powder/pill for neutralization of Chlorine up to 3ppm.
4. Use a tap free of aerators and hoses. Source must be cold water source. Sterilize faucet with a flame or chlorine bleach. Allow water to run 3-5 minutes.
5. The lab needs at least @ 120ml of sample (one bottle). Please fill bottle above the 100 ml mark, about 1 cm from top.
6. Do not overfill or rinse out as TSP has been added to the bottle.
7. This sample will be examined for Total and E. Coli Coliform bacteria, according to Standards Methods for Examination of Water and Waste 18th Ed., The test takes 24 hours to run, 4-5 working days for report.
8. Drop off sample at the following: before noon at Environmental Health
Or
7267 Marin St in Nice, Monday through Saturday

ONLY ONE BOTTLE NEEDS TO BE FILLED.

EXPLANATORY NOTE FOR FINISHED TEST

Lake Labs has performed a Total and E. Coli Coliform Bacteria Examination of your water sample. Coliform bacteria is a very general type of bacteria which can exist in the intestines of all warm-blooded animals. There are other sources, such as soil and plant material. Coliform is not considered a diseased organism. It is used as an index organism could be present. A drinking water source should contain **NO Coliform bacteria**. This is shown by a result of **Absent**.

Since the bacterial contamination of water varies with the conditions of the supply such as rainfall, season, demand, etc., the results reported on the slip of paper are only true at the time of sampling.

Lake Labs is only responsible for the results of the samples given for examination. The treatment of your water requires a license-certified water master. For treatment of your water this person must be contacted. This can be done under Water in the yellow pages (look for pump companies) or you local Environmental Health.