



County of Yolo

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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Environmental Health Division
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Instruction for Drinking Water Sampling and Delivery for Private Well, Including Well Final *Total Coliform and Nitrate*

Obtain sampling bottles and lab slips from our office located at the address above. Our hours are Monday-Friday 8:00am-12:00pm and 1:00pm-4:00pm. All sampling bottles must be dropped off before **3:00pm**. Nitrate samples are only accepted on **TUESDAYS**.

DELIVERY OF SAMPLES:

SAMPLES MUST BE DELIVERED WITHIN 6 HOURS OF COLLECTION AND SHOULD BE DELIVERED COLD AND IN A COOLER OR INSULATED CHEST TO ENSURE PROPER RESULTS.

WATER SAMPLING STEPS:

1. Collect water sample from the sampling tap by the well head.
2. Sanitize sampling tap with an alcohol swab prior to taking the sample.
3. Run COLD water at full stream for 1 to 2 minutes. THEN REDUCE WATER FLOW.
4. Collect samples:
 - For total coliform sample, remove plastic seal, hold the lid upside down with one hand and fill bottle to the 100ml line. DO NOT RINSE OUT POWDER.
 - For nitrate, fill bottle to the top.
5. Replace lid and screw it on tightly.
6. Complete label on bottle and fill out the lab slip with your information.

SAMPLE RESULTS:

1. All samples are processed at the Solano-Napa-Yolo-Marin County Public Health Laboratory.
2. Results of samples will be ready usually within 48 hours. Results of samples received on Friday will be ready the following Monday. Nitrate results take longer to process so your results will usually be ready in 72 hours.
3. Results will be mailed to the address provided to the Laboratory but can also be emailed upon request.

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