

COLLECTING WATER SAMPLES

Water Sampling for Laboratory Analysis

- Wash hands before opening any bottles
- Ensure you label the bottle with your name, location and time and date of sampling
- Prepare a clean space for bottles and caps to be placed while sampling
- Open only 1 bottle at a time, taking care not to mix caps as chemicals used for preservation or pre-treatment may contaminate other bottles required for different tests

Sampling from a Tap

- For microbiology samples- tap needs to be sterilised with flame or IPA wipes.
- Turn on tap and let water flow for 2-3 minutes
- If preservative* is present, reduce flow of water then fill bottle to neck, do not over fill
- If no preservative, rinse bottle 3 times to overflowing, prior to filling to brim

Sampling from Tanks, Rivers, Dams etc

- Hold bottle by the base and submerge 10-20cm below the surface with the mouth facing slightly upwards
- If there is a current, the mouth of the bottle should face the current. If there no water movement, move the bottle slowly forward as it fills
- Repeat 3 times (unless preservative* present) emptying the water away from the sampling point
- Fill to brim

Capping and Preservation

- Loosely cap the bottle with original lid (eg Trace Metal caps can contaminate Nutrient bottles)
- Squeeze the bottle gently and tightly cap to expel any air and allow for bottle expansion if freezing.

TEST	BOTTLE	PRESERVATIVE*	TEMPERATURE	NOTES
General Chemistry	500mL Green label	none	chill	
Trace Metals	250mL Red label	Added by lab	Chill	Do not mix lids
Nutrients	250mL Green label	none	FREEZE	
Mercury	125mL Orange label	Yes- do not rinse	chill	
Ferrous Iron	125mL Black label	Yes- do not rinse	chill	24 hour holding time
Sulfide	125mL Yellow label	Yes- do not rinse	chill	
Cyanide	125mL Purple label	Yes- do not rinse	chill	Protect from light
MICRO	200mL white label	Yes- do not rinse	chill	18 hour holding time

Submission to Laboratory

- Submit to the laboratory as soon as possible. Analysis may require testing to begin within 24 hours
- Ensure sample bottles are clearly labelled
- Laboratory requires written contact details, payment details and analysis requested
- Payment is required in advance
- Deliver to Intertek NTEL 55 Export Drive EAST ARM NT 0822
Office Hours 8:30am- 4pm week days only
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