



How to Collect Lead and Copper Drinking Water Samples

- 1. Identify a laboratory that is certified to analyze drinking water samples.**
 - Visit <https://www.colorado.gov/cdphe/dwlab> to find a list of Colorado Certified Safe Drinking Water Laboratories or visit <https://wqcdcompliance.com> for water testing information.
 - Be sure to request a **wide-mouth, one liter sampling bottle.**
- 2. Identify the correct faucet for sample collection:**
 - For samples collected from single-family homes, **always** collect samples from an indoor **bathroom sink or kitchen faucet that is used regularly.**
 - For samples collected from buildings other than single-family homes, (i.e. businesses, schools), **always** collect samples from an indoor **bathroom sink, kitchen faucet, break room sink or other similar sink locations that are used regularly for human consumption.**
 - **Always** collect samples from a cold water faucet.
 - **Always** collect samples from a faucet that is not connected to a water treatment device (e.g., water softener, filter, etc.).
 - **Always** collect samples from an inside faucet.
- 3. Prepare for sample collection.**
 - ***Do not clean or remove aerators prior to or during collection of the tap samples.***
 - ***There must be a minimum of 6 hours during which there is no water used from the tap where the sample will be collected and any taps adjacent or close to that tap.*** Because of this requirement, the best time to collect samples is either early mornings or evenings upon returning home. Do not intentionally flush the water line before the start of the 6 hour period.
- 4. Collect the Sample:**
 - Take the cap off of the bottle.
 - Place the sample bottle under the faucet.
 - Turn on the **cold water faucet**, *filling the bottle at a flow that a consumer would use to fill up a glass of water.*
 - Fill the bottle (**do not overfill**).
 - Tightly cap the sample bottle.
- 5. Complete laboratory-provided paperwork that will accompany the sample(s) (i.e. chain-of-custody form).** *Be sure to include the following information:*
 - The PWS ID, State-Assigned Sample Site ID (e.g. LCR003), site address, and sink location where the sample was collected (i.e., kitchen sink, first-floor bathroom sink, etc.).
 - Make note of any plumbing repairs or replacement that have been performed in the home since the previous sampling event (if applicable).
 - Make note of the presence of an aerator.
 - The date and time that the water was last used.
 - The date and time that the sample was collected.
- 6. Submit sample bottle to laboratory.**
 - Contact the laboratory with questions regarding costs, sample delivery, timing to receive results, and/or information about the results.

*Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.