

Drinking Water - Bacteriology Testing
Napa-Solano-Yolo-Marin-Mendocino County Public Health Laboratory **ELAP NO. 2396**
2201 Courage Drive, Fairfield, CA 94533 **PHONE (707) 784-4410**

WATER BACTERIOLOGY TESTS OFFERED:

1. *Presence-Absence (P/A)* – tests for the presence of total coliforms and *E. coli* in drinking water
2. *Quanti-Tray (Most Probable Number)* – quantifies the total coliforms and *E. coli* in the water sample
3. *Heterotrophic Plate Count* – gives the number of heterotrophic bacteria in the water sample. Is usually done in conjunction with a total coliform and *E. coli* P/A test

*Call for current pricing or visit the Solano County Public Health Laboratory website for additional information. **Friday water testing requires weekend staffing. Therefore, a \$20 additional fee applies to all samples submitted on Fridays.***

SAMPLE COLLECTION: Water samples taken for bacteriological testing must be collected and handled properly to ensure reliability of laboratory results. The following procedures will help you in this regard:

1. **Water samples should be transported to the lab and received at the drop-off window in a container with cold packs or ice. It is strongly advised to deliver the water samples to the laboratory the same day of collection.**
2. Collect water sample from an inside cold water, non-swiveling faucet, if possible.
3. Remove any attachments such as aerators, screens, filters or hoses, and run water at full stream for 1 to 2 minutes. For infrequently used water faucets run water for 5 minutes. **After flush period reduce water flow.**
4. Break plastic seal on the sterile sample bottle provided and remove the lid, being careful to not contaminate the bottle or lid. Leave the powder in the bottle. **Note: samples submitted in a container other than one provided by the laboratory or water monitoring agency will not be tested.**
5. Carefully fill the bottle up to the neck, above the 100 mL line, leaving one inch of air space. Testing requires 100 mL of water. **Note: Samples with less than 100 mL will not be tested and will need to be resubmitted .**
6. Carefully replace cap and screw cap on tightly. **Place water bottle into container with ice or ice packs.**
7. Fill out the bottle label and laboratory form. Complete the laboratory form including the sample location (address), sample site, date and time of collection, collector's name, chlorine level (if applicable), water test requested, and any county departments you would like a copy of the results sent. **Be sure to include a contact phone number so we can notify you of a positive result within 24 hours.**
 - a. If this is a regulated non-community water system (NCWS), fill out the "NCWS" section on the laboratory form and indicate that you would like a copy sent to the "State Office".

DELIVERY OF SAMPLES: Samples should be delivered to the lab the same day of collection. Deliver samples cold, and in a cooler, to ensure proper results. Deliver to one of the following locations during times listed below:

Yolo County Environmental Health
 292 W Beamer St
 Woodland, CA
 530-666-8646
 (M-Th 8:00am to 2:30pm)

Marin Health and Wellness Campus
 3240 Kerner Boulevard
 San Rafael, CA
 415-473-4163 (please call upon arrival)
 (M-F 9:00am-12:00pm & 1:00pm-1:30pm)

Napa-Solano-Yolo-Marin-Mendocino Public Health Laboratory
 2201 Courage Drive
 Fairfield, CA
 707-784-4410
 (M-F 8:00am-12:00pm & 1:00pm-4:30pm)

Napa County Health and Human Services – Public Health
 2751 Napa Valley Corporate Dr
 Napa, CA
 707-253-4270
 (Drop off before 10:00am M-F)

SAMPLE RESULTS: Please allow up to 2 ½ days (60hrs) for reporting of test results. Results will be mailed or emailed to the submitter using the address provided. Submitters will be contacted by phone for positive water samples within 24 hours of the finalized test result. Please ensure the phone number provided is monitored in case direct communication is needed.

****For private wells, it is advised to wait 14 days after chlorination before water should be resampled for testing.***