

Davis County Environmental Health Laboratory

Davis County Environmental Health Laboratory is certified by the State of Utah for the Safe Drinking Water Act for the following methods and analytes:

Standard Methods #9215B Heterotrophic Bacteria
Standard Methods #9223 Total Coliform Bacteria
Standard Methods #45000F-B Fluoride

For a list of laboratories that can perform testing on other analytes, see www.epa.gov/nelac/accreditlabs.html

SAMPLING PROCEDURES FOR BACTERIAL ANALYSIS

An old axiom states that the result of any test can be no better than the sample on which it was performed. Therefore, it is essential that sampling procedures be established and followed to insure that lab data is accurate and representative.

Drinking water samples are collected using a pre-sterilized plastic bottle, containing sodium thiosulfate. These containers are designed to hold a 100 mL (4 oz.) sample. Samples are collected as follows.

DRINKING WATER SAMPLING

The sampling point should be a cold-water tap located indoors if possible.

This tap **should not**:

be leaking	have a swing spout
have an aerator	have a strainer
have a treatment device	be too close to the ground
have a hose attachment	be a yard hydrant

If it is necessary to sanitize the tap using a chlorine or alcohol solution, allow the water to flush the tap after sanitizing for an additional 3-5 minutes.

Sampling Procedure Steps:

1. Let water run 3-5 minutes or until a change in water temperature is felt, indicating that the service line has been cleared.
2. Do not change flow after original setting.
3. Remove the lid carefully from the bottle.

Do not touch inside surfaces from the lid or bottle.

Do not rinse out bag/bottle.

Do not allow the sodium thiosulfate powder to fall out.

4. Place bottle under running water.

Fill to 100 mL fill line, minimum. If the sample is to be analyzed for Heterotrophic bacteria, fill to the 4-ounce fill line, just above the 100-mL fill line, or approximately ¼" above the 100 mL fill line.

5. Cap the bottle immediately.
6. If drinking water samples will not be analyzed immediately, they should be kept at less than 10°C. Total Coliform and E. coli samples must reach the lab and be analyzed within 30 hours from the time of collection. Drinking water samples for HPC analysis must be run within 6 hours from the time of collection.

Samples should be submitted before 3 p.m. Monday-Thursday for Coliform analysis or before 3 p.m. Monday- Wednesday for Heterotrophic plate count, unless prior arrangements are made.

Samples should not be submitted less than 2 days before any legal holiday for Coliform analysis or 3 days before any legal holiday for Heterotrophic plate count, unless prior arrangements are made.

Questions concerning interpretation should be forwarded to the Davis County Environmental Health Laboratory at (801) 451-3296.