



Missoula City-County Health Department - Environmental Health Water Lab
301 W. Alder, Missoula, MT 59802
406-258-4755



Public Water Sample Bacteriological Test Form

Instructions:

-Fill out all fields

-Samples accepted **Monday-Thursdays 8 am – 4 pm ONLY** (See reverse side for complete collection instructions.)

Type of Analysis (please choose one):

___ Total Coliform P/A (BASIC TEST) -- \$18.00

___ Quanti-tray MPN (P/A with a colony count) -- \$22.00

***Please note that an additional **\$5.00** is owed if sample is mailed in a prepaid MCCHD envelope*

Results sent to:

Name

Address

City State Zip

Phone

Bill to:

Name

Address

City State Zip

Copy of Results Sent to:

Name

Address

City State Zip

Email results to: _____

Sample Information:

1. PWSID#: _____ 2. Name of PWS: _____

3. Water Source Location (if different than above): _____

Name Address City/State/Zip County

4. Collection Date: ____/____/____ 5. Collected by: _____ 6. Contact Phone _____

7. Transported By _____ 8. Conditions (ice, ambient, cooler, etc) _____

Lab Sample ID (Lab use)	Facility (DS, well#,etc.)	Point of Collection (site#, kitchen sink, etc.)	Type*	Chlorine Residual	Collection Time (AM or PM)	Result (Lab use)		
						P/A	EC	QT

* RT= Routine RP = Repeat RTFU = Routine Follow Up-5 Samples SP = Special TG = Triggered

DEPARTMENT USE ONLY

Received date/time: _____

Received by: _____

Start date/time: _____

End date/time: _____

Analyst: _____

___ Amount Paid ___ Cash
___ N.C. ___ Check
___ P.B. ___ Debit/Credit
___ Postage Rec'd (if mailed)
___ Initials
Notification: _____ Owner/Operator
Date & Time: _____

INSTRUCTIONS: Read this page carefully before taking the water sample.

1. Remove screen or other attachments from faucet. Clean area with a clean rag soaked with bleach. Run the cold water side for at least two minutes. Then turn the water down to a steady, pencil-sized stream.
2. Without setting the cap down, remove the cap and hold it in your hand. Do not touch inside the cap or bottle rim. Do not rinse out the bottle (it contains sodium thiosulfate which neutralizes small amounts of chlorine, if any, in your water).
3. Under the slow, steady stream of water, fill the sample bottle to at least the 100 mL line which is marked on the side of the bottle. We are unable to run tests on samples that are less than 100 mL, so it is better to over-fill than under-fill your sample bottle. Securely tighten the lid of the bottle.
4. Return the water sample to the lab within 24 hours of filling the bottle. Keep the sample cool & refrigerate if necessary. We cannot accept a frozen sample.
5. Samples are accepted in our office Monday – Thursday from 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM, except on scheduled holidays. Samples are not accepted on Fridays. A calendar of lab days is available in our office and includes recognized holidays when the laboratory is closed and samples are not accepted. Bring samples to the Health Department at 301 W. Alder St., Environmental Health (second floor), Missoula, MT 59802.
6. Fill out the reverse side of this form as completely as possible and submit this form with your water sample. Fill out the label on the water sample bottle also.
7. We require that you pay for the test when you pick up the bottle. Checks should be made out to MCCHD.

It is recommended that all public water systems have at least nine (9) spare sampling bottles on hand for repeat sampling.

About Total Coliform and *E.coli* Bacteria

Total Coliforms are a group of bacteria naturally present in the environment and most are not harmful to human health. However, Total Coliforms are not naturally present in groundwater. The presence of Total Coliforms is used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful bacteria and pathogens may also be present. A positive test for Total Coliforms indicates that the well and water supply require disinfection and further investigation.

E.Coli is one type of Total Coliform bacteria. *E.coli* bacteria, as well as other disease-causing bacteria, are found in the intestines of warm-blooded animals. The presence of *E.coli* in water is a good indication that human or animal fecal materials have contaminated the water supply. Water that tests positive for *E.Coli* is considered unsafe and should not be consumed.