

## **WATER, Test Code 1070-Nitrifying Bacteria**

Nitrates in water can be potential health risk, particularly to infants who have not yet developed a tolerance to nitrates. Aggressive nitrifying bacteria in waters may indicate the latter stages of aerobic degradation of nitrogen-rich matter. This can indicate that the water may have been polluted by nitrogen-rich organics from sources such as compromised septic tanks, sewage systems, industrial and hazardous waste sites and is undergoing an aerobic form of degradation.

Only water collected in sterile containers can be used with this test. **Containers cannot contain preservatives.**

1. Obtain a sterile container from Aerobiology.
2. Collect a 100ml of water from the tap or reservoir in the sterile container making sure the inside of the container is not contaminated by the collector.
3. Keep the water in a cooler and an ice pack for transportation to the laboratory.
4. The water sample **must** reach the laboratory within 24 hours of collection or the sample will be deemed invalid.

### **References:**

BART™ product insert, Droycon Bioconcepts Inc., 2004.

Dillon, H. Kenneth, L. Hung, J. Miller, Field Guide for the Determination of Biological Contaminants in Environmental Samples., 6.2.4: 134-135 (2005).

Eaton, Andrew D., Lenore S. Clesceri, Eugene W. Rice, Arnold E. Greenberg, Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater., 9-21 (2005).