



## Water Sampling Guide

### Water, Legionella Analysis, CDC Method (Includes Serogroup 1 and 2-15), 250 mL, TAT 7-10 Days

Samples may be collected from 250 mL to 1 Liter sterile bottles with sodium thiosulfate for potable waters. All samples bottles are available on our Online store, [aerostore.aerobiology.net](http://aerostore.aerobiology.net). The water sample(s) should be kept at a chilled temperature and **should arrive the next day in the laboratory, but no later than 72 hours after sampling**. Any samples older than 72 hours cannot be processed and must be recollected.

#### Non-Potable Water Systems:

1. Label your bottle with a unique identifier and complete the information on the Chain of custody (COC).
2. Begin to collect water, the bottle should be inverted under the water and moved in a single direction.
3. Be sure not to collect excess sediment in the water samples.
4. Samples that **reach the lab after the 72 hour hold time cannot be processed** and must be recollected.
5. Complete the COC and seal it in a plastic bag, include this in your shipment of samples.
6. Ship samples overnight to the closest lab, include ice packs if possible.

#### Potable Water Systems:

##### Hot Water Systems

Sinks, shower heads, hoses or bottom of hot water tanks are all places samples can be collected. Two samples should be taken when sampling a hot water system: a pre-flush samples and a post-flush samples.

1. Label your bottle with a unique identifier and complete the information on the Chain of custody (COC)
2. Collecting the **pre-flush sample**: turn the hot water tap on and immediately collect the first 250 mLs of water.
3. Collecting the **post-flush sample**: allow the water to run for one full minute or until the water sample is hot, then collect the sample.
4. Samples that **reach the lab after the 72 hour hold time cannot be processed** and must be recollected.
5. Complete the COC and seal it in a plastic bag, include this in your shipment of samples.
6. Ship samples overnight to the closest lab, include ice packs if possible.

##### Cold Water Systems

Drinking fountains, faucets, and shower heads are appropriate outlets to sample and can be collected on the first draw.

1. Label your bottle with a unique identifier and complete the information on the Chain of custody (COC)
2. Turn on the water and immediately collect the first 250 mLs of water.
3. Samples that **reach the lab after the 72 hour hold time cannot be processed** and must be recollected.
4. Complete the COC and seal it in a plastic bag, include this in your shipment of samples.
5. Ship samples overnight to the closest lab, include ice packs if possible.