



**TOWNSHIP OF HARDING
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKING WATER SAMPLES
COLIFORM BACTERIA**

21 Blue Mill Road, P.O. Box 666
New Vernon, New Jersey 07976
(973) 267-8000 Ext 711

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Select a sampling faucet which is clean and in frequent use, discharges downward and provides a smooth uniform flow.
2. Remove any faucet attachments, such as grit screens, strainers, hoses, etc.
3. Flush the cold water faucet thoroughly to remove stagnant water from the supply line, allowing water to run for at least 3- 5 minutes.
4. Adjust flow rate for sampling, a moderate, steady stream is best.
5. With clean hands, open the container by first removing the plastic protective ring and while holding the cap by fingertips, fill the bottle with a constant stream of water until bottle is filled up to the bottle neck, (past the fill line). Leave $\frac{1}{4}$ inch air space and replace cap.

Do not let container or cap touch the faucet or let your fingers touch the lip of the container or come in contact with the water as it fills the container.

6. Turn off faucet, and replace the attachments.
7. Keep cool and deliver to the Health Department as soon as possible. Samples over 24 hours old will not be analyzed. It is best to collect the sample immediately before delivery to the Health Department.
8. Bring a check for \$85.00 made payable to "EurofinsQC Laboratories".

WATER SAMPLES WILL BE ACCEPTED: Wednesday 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM

RESULTS: The water sample will be tested for the presence of coliform bacteria. If there are any coliform present, they will show between 24 and 48 hours from the beginning of the test and the laboratory will call us and we will notify you. If there are no coliform present, expect a written report in about one week.

Coliform bacteria are indicator organisms: they are a group of bacteria that are not necessarily harmful but indicate that other, potentially harmful bacteria may be present. Any amount of coliform in a private well sample is considered unacceptable. If they are present, we will give you instructions on how to disinfect the well water system and will resample.

Harding Township Health Department