



# CHEMRIGHT LABORATORIES, INC.

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## **Sampling Water and Wastewater for Coliform (E-coli or Total) Testing**

### Drinking Water

1. Select the sampling point. Must be a faucet from which water is commonly taken for drinking.
2. Use the water collection containers supplied by CRL. The sample bottle may contain a reducing agent in powder or tablet from which neutralizes residual chlorine if the sample is from a municipal water supply.
3. Flush the line. Run water 3-5 minutes before sampling.
4. Open the sample bottle being careful not to contaminate bottle or lid with hands.
5. Turn down the flow of water and gently fill the bottle past the 100 ml fill line. **DO NOT RINSE BOTTLE.**
6. Screw the lid on immediately and make sure the lid is tight to prevent leakage.
7. Label the sample bottle.
8. Completely fill out the analytical request form. Information must include:
  - a. Date and time sampled.
  - b. Located.
  - c. Collector.
  - d. Sample Name.
  - e. Name and address of submitter to receive report of results. (Type or print legibly).
  - f. Specify the tests needed.
9. Package sample for transport to CRL. If transportation from time of sampling will take more than 1 hour it should be transported on ice, generally within 6 hours of sampling.
10. Overnight or deliver samples to CRL. All samples must be received within 24 hours of collection to be valid for testing. All samples must be received between 8:00am and 3:00pm, Monday through Thursday.

### Environmental and Waste Waters

1. Collect sample in container supplied from CRL according to standard methods for the type of water being sampled.  
Volume of at least 120 ml is required for most tests.
2. Completely fill out the request/report form from the kit. Information must include:
  - a. Tests requested.
  - b. Location, date, time of collection.
  - c. Collector.
  - d. Return address to receive report.
3. Package sample for transport to CRL. Ship in box containing ice.
4. Mail or deliver samples to CRL. All samples must be received within 24 hours of collection to be valid for testing.

### Reporting Drinking Water

1. Turnaround time from time of receipt is 1-2 days.
2. Reports:
  - a. One copy of the final report is mailed to the address that appears on the bracketed area of the form.
  - b. One copy is on file at CRL.
3. Invalid sample reports:
  - a. Too old for testing: Time received at CRL appears on the lab request/report form.
  - b. Insufficient quantity: Less than 100ml.
  - c. Improper container: Not a sterile container.

### Reporting Environmental and Waste Waters

1. Environmental water testing requires from 1-2 days and written results will be mailed within one working day of test completion.
2. Reports:
  - a. A copy of the report is sent to the address that appears on the back of the request form.
  - b. One copy of the report is kept on file at CRL.
3. Invalid sample reports:
  - d. Too old for testing: Time received at CRL appears on the lab request/report form.
  - e. Insufficient quantity: Less than 120ml.
  - f. Improper container: Not a sterile container.

Source: Oregon Department of Human Services