



Canton City Health Department

Sample collection and drop off instructions:

- Select an appropriate sampling tap such as a faucet, petcock or small valve. Avoid taps with a leaky stem or a swivel joint.
- Prior to collection, remove the aerator (screen at the end of the faucet) since it may harbor bacteria.
- Prior to collection in the distribution system place all carbon filters, sediment filters and water softeners on bypass.
- Flush the sample tap for approximately one minute then close valve.
- It is recommended to disinfect the nozzle for two minutes with a sanitizing solution (Sanitizing Solution: Add one ounce of liquid bleach per one gallon of water or one tablespoon per half gallon of water.) using either a spray bottle to saturate the opening or a plastic bag to squeeze the solution into the faucet. Use a fresh solution each time.
- Open the tap fully and flush tap for approximately 3 to 5 minutes (until a constant temperature is detected), then reduce flow enough to allow sample bottles to be filled without splashing.
- If a water system chlorinator is installed, verify water is within the expected concentration range for chlorine using an approved testing kit/device.
- Ensuring the lid and bottle remain clean and are not placed on surfaces or otherwise contaminated (Aseptically) fill the sample bottles. **Note:** Be sure to completely remove any plastic seal from the cap prior to filling the sample bottle and **only** use bottles supplied by the testing laboratory.
- **Do not** allow the sample bottle to overflow as this will wash out the included sodium thiosulfate. If the sample bottle overflows or water splashes out, discard the bottle and collect another sample. Do not overfill the bottle, only fill to just above the indicated mark; one inch of “head space” is needed for testing.
- Immediately recap the sample bottle tightly and return with completed Submission Form to the laboratory for testing within 24 hours.
- Regular testing is performed at the Canton City Health Department Laboratory Monday through Thursday from 08:00 am to 3:30 pm, excluding holidays. For times outside of normal hours, call for availability.
- Samples may be dropped off in the Vital Statistics Department at the Canton City Health Department located at 420 Market Ave North, Canton OH 44702.

For additional questions regarding water sampling, call or email the staff at the Canton City Health Department Laboratory. Chenning@cantonhealth.org 330.438.4671.