



Coliform Bacteria Sample Locations

DISTRIBUTION SAMPLING LOCATION

Distribution system water is representative of the water quality customers receive. Collect the sample from an approved sample site. Sample site plans for public water systems are developed and reviewed during sanitary surveys. If you need assistance identifying an acceptable sample location, contact your field representative for additional information. The monitoring schedule for coliform bacteria distribution sampling may be monthly, quarterly or annual. A “D - Distribution” sample is collected from a faucet after the pressure tank and treatment equipment, if present.



Sample types “C - Check”, “R - Repeat”, and “A - Additional Routine” are also collected from distribution sample faucet sites.

RAW WATER SAMPLE LOCATION

Raw water is representative of the water the well is producing. Quarterly “W - raw” water samples are required for water systems with microbiological treatment devices. A “W - raw” sample is collected from a faucet prior to the pressure tank or directly at the pressure tank. The faucet is located prior to all treatment devices. Systems with a buried pressure tank, pitless receiver tank, or an above ground discharge unit installed must have a raw sampling faucet installed immediately following the water piping point of entry into the building.



View of the Center Section of the Public Bacteriological Analysis Sampling Slip

Sample Source (location): <input type="checkbox"/> D - Distribution System <input type="checkbox"/> W - Well/Source	Sample Type (check only one) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D - Routine Distribution <input type="checkbox"/> C* - Check: Same location as Positive "D" Sample <input type="checkbox"/> R* - Repeat: Within 5 connects of Positive "D" Sample <input type="checkbox"/> A - Additional Routine (month following positive "D") *IF THE SAMPLE TYPE IS "C" or "R": "D" Positive Sample Date: ___/___/___ "D" Positive Sample ID: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> N - New Construction <input type="checkbox"/> I - Investigation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W - (Raw) Water WI Unique Well No: _____ Entry Point ID: _____
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TRIGGERED SOURCE SAMPLE LOCATION

A “T - Triggered Source Water” sample is representative of the well/source water. This sample type is required when an initial coliform sample is found to contain coliform bacteria. A “T - Triggered Source Water” sample is collected from a faucet prior to or directly at the pressure tank. The faucet is located prior to all treatment devices. Systems with a buried pressure tank, pitless receiver tank, or an above ground discharge unit must have a source sampling faucet installed immediately following the water piping point of entry into a building.

View of the Center Section of the Public GWR Source Bacteriological Analysis Sampling Slip

Sample Source (location): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W - Well (before any treatment)	Sample Type (check one only): <input type="checkbox"/> T - Triggered Source Water sample following Total Coliform-positive Compliance sample WI Unique Well No: _____ EP/Source ID: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> R - Repeat Source Water sample following E Coli-positive Triggered Source Water sample WI Unique Well No: _____ EP/Source ID: _____
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Characteristics of good sampling sites:

- Located in an accessible location
- Sample site should be clean
- Faucet is not leaking
- Metal faucet (faucet can be flamed for disinfection)
- Flushed regularly
- Has ample space to put a bucket/sample bottle under it or a drain to flush the faucet
- Has a downturned spout
- Stationary faucets are better than swivel faucets
- Shorter faucets are better than long necked faucets
- Cold water faucets are preferred over faucets with mixing valves
- Smooth ended faucets are preferable
- Faucet with all attachments removed (i.e. backflow protection devices, gaskets, aerators, splitters)

The department recommends installing dedicated smooth end sampling faucets if concerns exist that the existing sample sites do not provide reliable water samples.

For more information regarding Transient Non-community Public Drinking Water, please visit our website <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/DrinkingWater/TNownerOperator.html> or contact the DNR Service Center Desk for assistance at (888) 936-7463