



Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Lead and Copper Program Homeowner Tap Sample Collection Procedures

Greetings and thank you for your participation in this important drinking water program!

We are providing you a sample bottle to collect a drinking water sample as part of your public water system monitoring program to determine the lead and copper levels in your tap water. This sampling effort is required by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and your public water system, and is being accomplished through the cooperation of homeowners and residents.

**You must collect samples by the due date arranged by your public water system representative.
Please carefully follow the sample instructions below.**

Collect samples from an **inside** tap that has not been used for a **minimum of 6 hours**. Because of this requirement, the best time to collect samples is either early in the morning or in the evening upon returning from work. Be sure to use taps that have been in regular use by your household for the past few months.

1. Prior arrangements will be made with the customer to coordinate the sample collection event. Dates will be set for sample kit delivery and pick-up by water department staff.

2. There must be a **minimum of 6 hours** during which there is no water used from the inside tap. The sample is taken from and any taps adjacent or close to that tap. The water department recommends that either early mornings or evenings upon returning home are the best sampling times to ensure that the necessary stagnant water conditions exist.

3. A **kitchen or bathroom cold-water faucet** is to be used for sampling. If you have water softeners on your kitchen taps, collect your sample from the bathroom tap that is not attached to a water softener, if possible. **Do not remove the aerator prior to sampling.** Place the opened sample bottle below the faucet and gently open the cold water tap. Fill the sample bottle to the line marked "1000-ml" and turn off the water.



4. Tightly cap the sample bottle and place in the sample kit provided. Please review the sample kit label at this time to ensure that all information contain on the label is correct.

5. IF ANY PLUMBING REPAIRS OR REPLACEMENT HAS BEEN DONE IN THE HOME SINCE THE PREVIOUS SAMPLING EVENT, NOTE THIS INFORMATION ON THE LABEL AS PROVIDED. ALSO IF YOUR SAMPLE WAS COLLECTED FROM A TAP WITH A WATER SOFTENER, NOTE THIS ALSO.

6. Place the sample kit outside of the residence in the location of the kit's delivery so that public water system staff may pick up the sample kit.



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7. Results from this monitoring effort will be provided to participating customers when reports are generated for the State. A house that is in exceedance is over 0.015 mg/L for lead and over 1.3 mg/L for copper. Your water system provider will help you with a re-sample if your results come back over one or both of these levels.

Call _____ at _____ if you have questions regarding these instructions.
(public water system representative)

Homeowner – complete and attach this to sample bottle for water system provider

TO BE COMPLETED BY RESIDENT

LCR _____

Sample Location: _____
(sample address)

Water was last used: Time _____ Date _____

Sample was collected: Time _____ Date _____

Which inside sink was used: Kitchen Bathroom Water Fountain Other _____

I have read the above directions and I have taken a tap sample in accordance with these directions.

Signature

Date