

Testing for Lead in Drinking Water

Nebraska Pre-Schools, Elementary Schools, and Non-Home Childcare Facilities

Fall 2020 – Winter 2021 Sampling Event

Thank you for participating in our Lead Sampling Event! Below are the sample instructions to assist you with collecting a water sample to test for lead at your school or childcare facility. If you have further questions, please contact your local health department for assistance.

1. Please watch our sampling tutorial at <https://youtu.be/3MokmSf1ypw>. This video will provide an overview of what to do from the time you receive your sample kit through the return of the kit to the laboratory.
2. **Develop a sampling plan in advance.** To ensure that we protect children in your school/facility please think about which fountains/faucets in a school or childcare facility should be prioritized based on a number of factors, such as where students/children are receiving their drinking water, faucets used in food prep areas and faucets or piping that you suspect may contain lead. You may request up to 15 sample kits from your local health department.
 - It is recommended that either early mornings or evenings are the best sampling times to collect a water sample to ensure that the necessary stagnant water conditions exist. **There must be a minimum of 8 hours, but no more than 18 hours, during which there is no water used from nearby taps or from the tap the water sample is collected.**
 - If a sample is being collected at a faucet in food prep area, only collect samples from the cold-water tap.
 - Do not remove the aerator from the faucet prior to sampling.
3. **When you are ready to collect the sample:**
 - 1) Open the tap and collect the first water to flow from the cold water tap by placing the opened sample bottle below the faucet. Do not touch (contaminate) the inside lip or cap of the bottle.
 - 2) Fill the sample bottle completely, to the neck of the bottle, and turn off the water.
 - 3) Tightly cap the sample bottle but be sure not to over tighten the lid.
 - 4) Place two barcode labels from your sample submission form on your sample lid and two on the container. Proper labeling of the sample bottle is necessary for the laboratory to accurately process the sample.
 - 5) Put the sample bottle in the provided bag and secure it with a zip tie and place in the sample box provided.
4. **Complete the Sample Submission Form.** Use a ball point pen and be sure to include the following:
 - a) Sample location. **School or Childcare Facility Name and street address, and the specific location sampled** ((Example: fountain/first floor/kindergarten area or food prep area/faucet). There is a maximum of 20 characters allowed.; and
 - b) Date and time the sample was collected; and
 - c) Name of Sample Collector.Please review the sample submission form at this time to ensure that all information is correct and place it in the sample kit. ***Samples received without ALL of the above information may be rejected.***
5. **Mail or deliver sample bottles and sample submission forms** to the State Environmental Health Laboratory in Lincoln (If you are mailing, please use the enclosed Business Reply label provided and place it over the original receiving label). It is recommended, for cost purposes, that multiple bottles are shipped together in one box. **Water samples must arrive at the laboratory no later than two weeks following collection.** If received after two week the samples will be rejected by the laboratory and analysis of additional samples cannot be paid for as part of this sampling event.

USPS Mailing Address

Nebraska Health and Human Services,
Public Health Environmental Laboratory
3701 S 14th St
PO Box 22790
Lincoln, NE 68542-2790

If dropping off samples in person:

Nebraska Public Health Environmental Laboratory
3701 S 14th St
Lincoln, NE 68502
402-471-3935

6. Results from this sample collection will be provided to the State of Nebraska Drinking Water Division and your Local Health Department who will notify you of the sample results.

(Lab Submission form)

**Department of Health and Human Services System
Nebraska Public Health Environmental Laboratory**
3701 South 14th Street, Lincoln, NE 68542 (402)471-2122

Barcode #

Laboratory # Sample #

Laboratory Request For: Lead, ICPMS, 200.8.TOTAL

Reason for Sample Request: Private lead

Collected by: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____ am/pm

Sample Site Address/POE: _____ Daytime Phone #: _____

Residual Chlorine: _____ Free-or- _____ Total (required only with Routine coliform samples)

Account#

PLEASE NOTE: Collected by, date, time, daytime phone number must be filled out completely. (Please Print)

Barcode

Barcode

Barcode

Barcode

Barcode

Barcode

Barcode

Barcode

Client's address

This is the return label
but use business reply label
for this project

PERISHABLE

**Nebraska Public Health
Environmental Laboratory**
3701 South 14th Street
P.O. Box 22790
Lincoln, NE 68542
25-51-01

PERISHABLE

To: **Nebraska Public Health
Environmental Laboratory**
3701 South 14th Street
P.O. Box 22790
Lincoln, NE 68542

To: Client's Address

TIME SENSITIVE