How to Use your Water Testing Kit for
Bacteria & Non-metals (Nitrate, Fluoride, & pH)

Your kit includes:
(1) WHITE label bottle if you are testing well water **OR**
(1) PINK label bottle if you are testing city water for bacteria only

How to collect your water sample:

1   Choose a faucet.
- Choose a cold-water faucet. Do NOT use an outside faucet.
- If you are testing well water (drinking water), using the kitchen sink will test both the well & household plumbing.
- Remove all parts from the end of the faucet, like aerator screens or water filters.

2   (Optional) Sterilize the faucet.
- For best BACTERIA results, sterilize the faucet with a bleach solution or isopropyl alcohol solution before sampling. Soak the end of the faucet in a solution of 1/2 cup bleach & 4 1/2 cups water, or isopropyl alcohol for 30 seconds.
- Do NOT touch the tap after sterilizing.

> Previously unsafe water samples that have been chlorinated should be pumped until they are free of chlorine before sampling.

3   Collect your water sample.
- Run cold water for at least 2 minutes at a medium flow. Do NOT touch or turn off the tap until the sample has been collected.
- Take the cap off the sample bottle. Put the cap on a clean surface, open side up. Do NOT touch the lip of the bottle or the inside of the cap.
- Fill bottle to the fill line (on bottle label).
- Screw the cap on tight. Be careful not to touch the lip of the bottle or inside of the cap. Make sure that the sticker tab on the bottle does not go under the lid.

4   Fill out form and return water sample to us!
- Fill out the water sample testing form.
- Refrigerate sample or keep it cool (don't freeze) until you drop off.
- Return your sample during the times listed below.

Where to drop off your water sample:

Hours: Monday-Thursday (no Fridays), 8am-4pm
*Varies around holidays

Location: Eau Claire City-County Health Department
720 Second Ave. (ground floor)
Eau Claire WI, 54703

Questions?

Call: (715) 839-2870

Email: ECHDlab@eauclairecounty.gov

Eau Claire City-County
Health Department