

## **PRAIRIE RESEARCH INSTITUTE**

Illinois State Water Survey  
2204 Griffith Drive  
Champaign, IL 61820

### **SAMPLE COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS**

This sample collection kit is to accommodate your request for a mineral analysis of your **untreated** water. The kit consists of a large and a small bottle, a data sheet, an ice pack, and a return address label. Please follow the instructions carefully and in the order given to receive accurate and meaningful testing results.

- 1) Freeze the ice pack prior to sample collection. This will help to preserve the water samples during transit.
- 2) Open the tap where you normally obtain your untreated water, and allow the water to run until it feels as cold as it will get (several minutes; at least 5). This clears the plumbing of stagnant water so a sample representative of the true water quality can be obtained.
- 3) While the water is flowing, **fill both the large and the small bottles** to the brim. Both bottles must be filled from the same tap because they represent 1 sample in the laboratory. Samples must be submitted only in the containers provided by the laboratory to be accepted.
- 4) Complete the data sheet as thoroughly as possible. Information that we obtain from you will be used to increase our knowledge of Illinois water quality and may help to diagnose possible problems with your water. If you are not sure of the well's location, please do your best to give us a complete mailing address (for the property with the well). It may also be helpful to mark the location on a printed map. Public Land Survey System (grid, with townships, ranges, and sections) location information can be obtained from your well contractor or it may be found on the deed for the property. Plat maps available at libraries, Farm Bureaus, Cooperative Extension offices, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, or here at the Water Survey can also be consulted. Feel free to call us if you have trouble finding this data.
- 5) Return the foam cooler, samples, frozen ice pack, and completed information sheet. Samples may be sent using the return address label or returned in person to room 312 at the Water Survey. Samples are received in the laboratory Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM. For a map and more information, see the reverse side of this page.

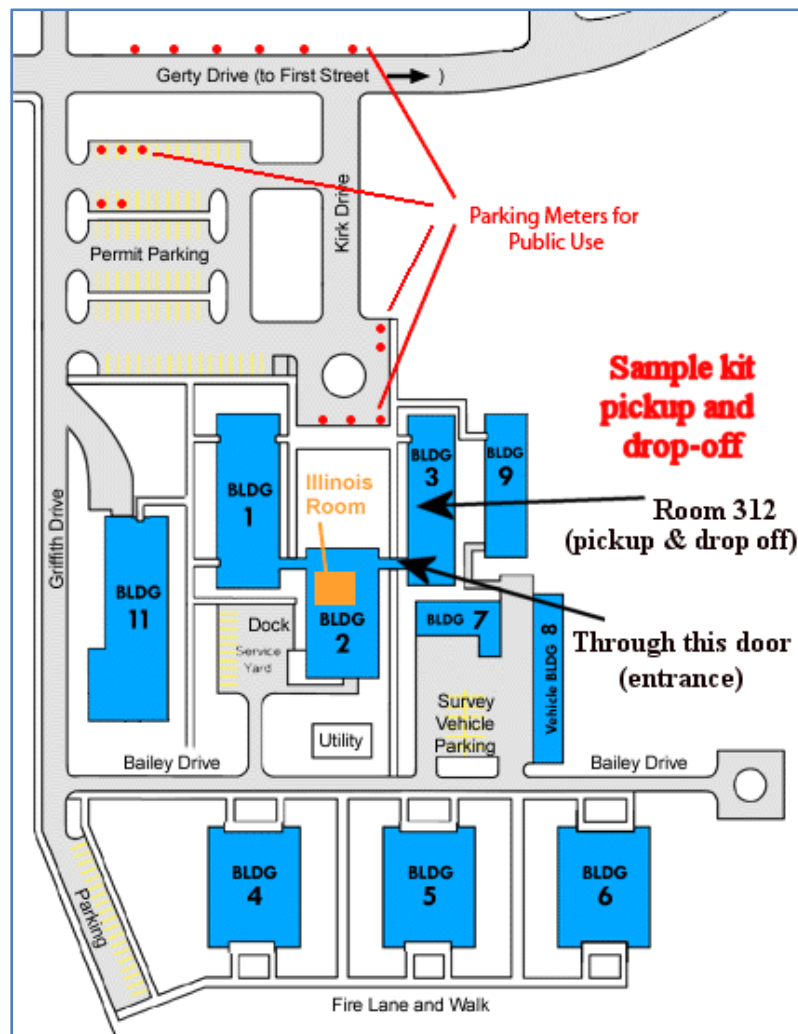
The time required for the laboratory to complete the water testing depends upon many factors, including the type of testing being performed, the number of samples already in the laboratory at the time that you submit your samples, unforeseen instrumentation maintenance or failure, etc. Typically, you will receive a copy of the analysis and a report within about 6 weeks after your water samples arrive in the laboratory. However, this time period may be shorter or longer as explained above. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at 217/300-7420.

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### SAMPLE COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS (page 2, sample drop-off location/map)

Samples may be dropped off at our office in Champaign, Illinois. The Water Survey's general address is 2204 Griffith Drive, but the laboratory and offices are along Kirk Drive. The specific location for sample receipt is Building 3 (2208 South Kirk Drive), room 312. See the map below:



Parking is available at metered spaces, with general locations marked on the map. Parking in un-metered spaces in the main lot is restricted to vehicles displaying a proper University of Illinois parking permit (enforced Monday through Friday, 6:00 am - 5:00 pm).