

SAMPLE COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS – LEAD TESTING

This sample collection kit contains supplies for collecting your water and submitting it to the Illinois State Water Survey for analysis of lead. For samples that are not being tested for lead, use the general (not for lead) set of instructions.

There should be two bottles for lead testing- one labeled “Unflushed” and the other labeled “Flushed.”

- Samples must be submitted in the bottles provided by our lab to be accepted.
- The kit should also contain an information sheet, an ice pack, a return address label and a “Chain-Of-Custody” (COC) form.
- The COC form will be mostly completed, but you will need to enter information there as described on the form.

Other Tips:

- Freeze the ice pack prior to sample collection. This will help to preserve the water samples during transit.
- When filling a bottle, fill to the neck of the bottle or above.
- Allow the water to sit unused overnight (at least 8 hours) in the plumbing. First thing in the morning, before the water is used, fill the bottle marked "unflushed" from the tap where you commonly draw your drinking water. This is the water that is likely to contain the most lead from being in contact with the plumbing.
- Then allow the water to run from the same tap until it feels as cold as it will get, usually 5 minutes or more. After the flushing time, while the water is still flowing, fill the bottle marked "flushed."
- Complete the information sheet as thoroughly as possible. Also provide a complete mailing address for the property with the well. It may also be helpful to mark the location on a printed map.
- Return the cooler, samples, frozen ice pack, COC form and completed information sheet. Samples may be sent using the return address label or returned in person to Dock B at the Water Survey. Samples are received in the laboratory Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM. For a map and more information, see the reverse side of this page.

Typically, you will receive a copy of the analysis and a report within about 6 weeks after your water samples arrive in the laboratory. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at 217/300-7420.

Samples may be dropped off at our facility in Champaign, Illinois. Our address is:

Illinois State Water Survey
2204 Griffith Drive
Champaign, IL 61820

The specific location for sample receipt is Building 2, Dock B. Follow Griffith Drive to Bailey Drive to Dock B. Leave the sample inside if possible or on Dock B if you are unable to enter the building.

