



Homeowner Water Testing

Water samples need to get to the lab within 24 hours.

You are welcome to bring your own water samples in to our office for testing. Specific sampling procedures are required to ensure accurate results. Call or visit our office first to get the appropriate sampling bottles and to verify pick-up hours. At present Microbac picks up samples Monday through Friday at around 1PM. For questions about specific test types or sampling requirements, or for test results, please call Microbac Laboratories directly at 570.888.0169. We use Benchmark Analytics for all of our Pennsylvania water testing services.

Sampling Procedures for Coliform/E. Coli

- Use a container provided by the lab, available at our office. The bottle should be sterile and contain a tablet of sodium thiosulfate to eliminate residual chlorine.
- Select a tap that is free of screens or remove the screen and any rubber gasket prior to sampling.
- Wipe the inside and outside of the spout with bleach, alcohol swab, or sterilize the spout with a match flame if a metal type.
- Bypass any water filtration system. Let the cold water run for 2-3 minutes to clear the pipe.
- Reduce flow to prevent splashing.
- Carefully open the sample bottle, making sure not to touch the inside of the bottle, the rim, or the interior of the lid.
- Fill the bottle close to the top, close the lid tightly, and deliver samples with payment to our drop off as soon as possible, preferably the day of the sampling.
- Record all required information on the Chain of Custody form and on the bottle.