

SAMPLING INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE MICROBIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF DRINKING WATER

*****PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE SAMPLING*****

- **Preparing your faucet:**

Remove any aerator screens from the faucet.

New or dormant well: If the well is new, or has been unused for some time, run the hot water for 15 minutes, then run the cold water for approximately 1 hour; more if possible.

Active well: For an active well, run hot water for 2 minutes, then cold water for 5 minutes.

- **Collect sample from cold water tap as described below:**

- **Preparing the sterile bottle:**

Carefully open the sterile bottle provided, without touching the inside of the cap or the mouth area of the bottle.

There is a chemical inside the water sample bottle. *Do not touch or remove this chemical.* KEEP SAMPLE BOTTLE OUT OF THE REACH OF CHILDREN.

Carefully fill the bottle with cold water, without splashing, to the line indicated on the bottle. Cap immediately.

- **Preparing sample for delivery to RPC:**

PRINT the requested information on the upper portion of the enclosed Registration Form. This completed signed form must accompany the sample bottle.

PRINT your name on the label provided and attach it to the side of the bottle.

Deliver sample to RPC **within 24 hours** of collection. Keep **chilled** until delivered. If necessary for maintaining chill temperature while in transit, pack the bottle in a plastic bag with ice and secure it to prevent leakage of melting ice.

If you are shipping your sample, ship the package with the Registration Form to RPC via the most rapid method available. To maintain chill temperature, pack the bottle in a plastic bag with ice and secure it to prevent leakage of melting ice. If you are sending your sample by bus (prepaid), please phone RPC (506.452.1368) in advance to inform laboratory staff of the time of arrival of the sample in Fredericton. Laboratory hours are 8:15am to 4:30pm.

- **Fee for microbiological testing:**

The fee for water sample testing is **\$40.00 per sample (HST included)**. An additional \$5.00 is charged for transportation of samples from the Fredericton Bus Depot to RPC's laboratories for analysis when sample is shipped by bus.

Cash, cheque or debit for the full amount must accompany your sample.

- **Test results:**

The results of water samples accepted prior to 4:00 p.m. Monday to Thursday will be available the following day **after 10:00 am****. The results of water samples accepted on Friday will be available on Monday morning **after 10:00 a.m.** There are no RUSH samples or results as the testing process **takes 18 to 24**** hours. (****May take longer if confirmatory testing is required****)

Results will be faxed, mailed or made available for pick up at the front desk reception area, according to your choice as indicated on the Water Sample Registration Form.