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To promote and protect the health and well-being of Kings County residents through education, prevention, and intervention.



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## **RECOMMENDED PROCEDURES FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLE COLLECTION**

1. Our office will **ONLY** accept the bottles provided from our office which contain a sterilized chemical agent. We will not accept any other container or bottled water. **Water samples are accepted Monday – Thursday from 8am-4pm, excluding certain Holiday weeks.**
2. Take sample from clean outside hose bibb. Mixed taps (hot and cold water) should not be used as sampling points.
3. Select a sampling tap which is not leaking around the outside of the faucet. Do not collect samples from fire hydrants. Never collect a sample through a hose. The location of the tap should be relatively free from dust-borne contamination. Taps should also be selected at points where a representative water sample can be obtained.
4. Remove any faucet files or strainers.
5. Run water for **AT LEAST** one minute to clear lines. If system has been recently chlorinated to disinfect well be sure to flush system until all chlorine is removed from system.
6. Do not allow your fingers or any other object to come in contact with either the cap or the lip of the bottle. Be sure that the bottle is held so that no water which contacts your hands runs into the bottle.
7. See that the samples are refrigerated and delivered to the laboratory within the same day of sample collection, otherwise the results may not be accurate.
8. Water samples are **ONLY** taken on **Monday through Thursday from 8am-4pm.** If there is a holiday you will be instructed by the clerical staff on which day the laboratory will be accepting water samples.
9. The **COST** for Water Samples is: \$20 per test

**NOTE: If the sample is incorrectly taken, it is highly likely that the water will test positive and you will have to resample the water at an additional cost to you.**