



ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT CABINET
DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DIVISION OF WATER
300 SOWER BOULEVARD
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601

Lead and Copper Tap Water Sampling Instructions

For Tier 1 and Tier 2 Sites with Lead Service Lines (LSL)

Per National Primary Drinking Water Regulation: 40 CFR §141.86(b)

Why You Are Receiving This Kit

Your home was selected for lead and copper sampling under the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) because it has a lead service line. This testing helps ensure the safety of your drinking water and supports your water system's compliance with federal regulations.

What You Need to Do

Fill 5 1-liter bottles:

- **First Liter** – captures water from your home's faucet and interior plumbing.
- **Second-Fourth Liter** – captures water from your home's interior plumbing. We will not be sampling these liters.
- **Fifth Liter** – captures water from the lead service line.

Follow these instructions carefully to ensure valid results.

Before Sampling – Important Preparation

- Do **not** use any water in your home (e.g., drinking, cooking, washing, flushing toilets) **for at least 6 hours** before collecting your sample
- Do **not** remove or clean the faucet aerator.
- Do **not** run or flush the water before sampling
- Choose a time when the water hasn't been used, **like first thing in the morning or after returning home from work**

Step-by-Step Sampling Instructions

Step 1: Choose the Right Faucet

- Use a **kitchen or bathroom cold-water tap** that is regularly used for drinking or cooking.
- Do **not** use an outdoor faucet, laundry sink, or a tap with a filter attached.
- Choose a faucet without any filter or filtration system. Try to avoid faucets with a single handle that combines cold and hot water if possible.

Step 2: Label and Prepare the Bottles

- You have been provided **five 1-liter, wide-mouth bottles** labeled **1 through 5**. Remove the lids and set them out in order next to the sink to be sampled.
- Write the following on bottles 1 and 5:
 - Your **name and address**
 - **Date and time** of sample collection

Step 3: Collect the Samples

1. After the 6-hour stagnation period, prepare to **turn on the cold water tap**.
2. **Immediately fill Bottle 1** with the **first liter of water** that comes out of the tap. Attempt to catch the first water coming out of the tap.
3. **Without turning off the water**, continue filling **Bottles 2, 3, 4, and 5 in order**.
 - o Do not stop or pause the water flow between bottles.
4. Immediately **cap bottles 1 and 5 after filling**.



Step 4: Fill out the Sample Form

Complete the **chain-of-custody form**.

Include:

- Your contact information
- Date and time of collection
- Your signature confirming no water was used for 6+ hours prior to sampling

Step 5: Return the Samples

- Contact your water provider for return instructions or to schedule a pickup.

Reminders & What to Avoid

- ✖ Do not use hot water when sampling
- ✖ Do not collect from a filtered tap or refrigerator dispenser
- ✖ Do not discard or delay returning the samples
- ✖ Do not use a faucet that is rarely used — choose one used regularly for drinking/cooking

Questions?

[Water System Name]

📞 Phone: [Insert Phone Number]

✉ Email: [Insert Email]

🌐 Website: [Insert URL]

Tap Sampling Chain of Custody for Lead and Copper

These samples are being collected to determine lead and copper levels in drinking water. Our water system is required to do this monitoring by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Kentucky Division of Water under the Lead and Copper Rule. The sampling is done in collaboration between the public water system and customers like you.

To ensure accurate results, **samples must be taken from water that has remained unused in the plumbing for at least 6 hours**. Early mornings or evenings after returning home are the best times for collection.

By signing, the customer acknowledges and confirms that they have followed the following instructions:

- Did not use any water at the collection tap (or nearby taps) for at least 6 hours before sampling.
- Used a cold water tap in a kitchen or bathroom that is used regularly for drinking.
- If the kitchen faucet is connected to a water softener or filter, collected water instead from a bathroom tap that is not connected to any treatment devices or filters.
- Did not remove the faucet aerator before collecting the sample.

Step-by-Step Collection Instructions

1. Water system staff will coordinate a time with you for delivery and pickup of the sample kit.
2. Avoid using water at the chosen tap for at least 6 hours before collecting your sample.
3. You have been provided five (5) one-liter bottles labeled 1 through 5.
 - Open bottle #1 and place it under the cold water faucet.
 - Turn on the cold water as you normally would to fill a glass.
 - Without turning off or adjusting the flow, fill bottles 2, 3, 4, and 5 in order.
4. Tightly cap each bottle. Place all bottles back into the provided sample kit. Review the label on the sample kit to confirm your information is correct.
5. Leave the sample kit in the same location it was delivered so staff can retrieve it.
6. The water system must report sample results to customers within 30 days of receiving results. If high lead or copper levels are found, you will be notified within 1–2 business days after system learns of the tap monitoring results. Please note that it may take several weeks before the water system receives the results from the lab.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY RESIDENT

Water was last used: Time _____ Date _____

Sample was collected: Time _____ Date _____

Sample Location & faucet (e.g., Bathroom sink): _____

Has any plumbing work been done in your home since last sampling event: _____

I have read the above directions and have taken a tap sample in accordance with these directions.

Resident Signature: _____ Date: _____