



7940 Memorial Drive Plain City, OH 614-873-4654

## Cyanobacteria Screening Sampling Instructions

Note: referenced from the OEPA for sampling guidance

A minimum of 200 mL raw sample should be collected in a glass or polyethylene terephthalate glycol (PETG) container. Fill the container to the shoulder. Do not add any preservative.

Collect sample from a true raw water source, prior to any chemical addition, representative of water going into the treatment plant. Collect only one raw water sample per treatment plant (sample may represent blended source waters)

Collect sample at the same time as the total microcystins raw sample. Consult your monitoring schedule for the specific weeks that your biweekly cyanobacteria screening samples are required to be collected.

Do not touch the inside of the bottle lip. Do not touch the inside of the lid. If a spill occurs, the cooler must be cleaned thoroughly with soap and water and wiped out with a decontamination solution before returning samples to the cooler.

Samples must be protected from sunlight and cooled on ice at 0-4 °C immediately after collection and maintained at 0-4 °C until analysis.

Use good judgement on how much ice to pack in sample coolers so samples arrive at the lab at 0-4 °C depending on weather conditions. Do not use "blue ice" packs instead of ice as these do not maintain proper temperature. Do not freeze samples.

Sample submission form must include: public water system name, public water system ID, LT2 sample monitoring point, sample collector's name and phone number, sample collection date and time.

If sampling at the LT2 locations is not possible, contact your district office HAB coordinator to determine an appropriate alternative sampling location.

Water systems will be notified by phone in case of broken sample container or lab accident.

Do not write on sample container lids. This space is reserved for the lab number.

Do not submit samples with broken lids.

**Samples must be delivered to the lab as soon as possible, preferably within 24 hours of collection.**  
**Samples accepted on Monday – Friday. Samples must arrive before noon on Friday.**  
**In case of an emergency, please contact our office.**

If shipping directly, ship overnight on the day of collection, in disposable coolers.