



8235 Estates Parkway Plain City, OH 614-873-4654

General Instructions for Collection of Lead & Copper Samples

Revised by OEPA – March 2023

**Top Reason for Sample Rejection is Insufficient Volume
Please fill the sample container to the RED 1000ml line.
Make sure your residents are aware of this request.**

Please follow these steps when collecting Lead & Copper samples.

1. There must be a minimum of **6 hours** during which there is no water used from the tap where the sample will be collected, and any taps adjacent or close to that tap. Either early mornings or evenings, are the best sampling times to ensure that the necessary stagnant water conditions exist. Do not intentionally flush the water line before the start of the 6-hour period.

2. Use a kitchen or bathroom cold-water faucet for sampling. If there is a water softener on the kitchen tap, collect your sample from the bathroom tap that is not attached to the water softener, if possible. If there is a point of use filter on the kitchen tap, use a non-treated kitchen tap or collect your sample from the bathroom tap. Do not remove the aerator prior to sampling. Place the opened sample bottle below the faucet, and open the cold water tap as you would, to fill a glass of water. **Fill the sample bottle to the red line**, marked for 1000 ml, and turn off the water. ** Please fill the sample container to the 1000 ml/red line. This is the amount required for analysis.

3. Tightly cap the sample bottle. Label sample bottle with analysis request sheet number. Review the analysis request sheet, to ensure that all pertinent information has been provided.

4. If Nitric Acid vials were provided for preservation, add the contents of one vial per – one liter sample container. Wear the gloves provided and safety glasses for your protection when adding the contents of the vial to the sampler container. **RECORD THE DATE AND TIME THAT THE ACID VIAL WAS ADDED TO THE CONTAINER ON THE AR SHEET IN THE ‘OFFICE USE ONLY’ AREA.**

*Instructions and information, for the collection of Lead & Copper samples, can be found at: <https://dam.assets.ohio.gov/image/upload/epa.ohio.gov/Portals/28/documents/pws/OperatorCollection-LeadCopperSample.pdf>. This website includes public education materials.

IF YOU ARE SUBMITTING MORE THAN 5 LEAD & COPPER SAMPLES, VIA A MASI COURIER, PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE AT: 614-873-4654. Thank you.