

The University of Georgia
College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
Cooperative Extension

WATER ANALYSIS – Total Coliform and *Escherichia coli* in Drinking Water

Samples are accepted for analysis on Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and the fee for analysis is \$35.00, including a next day shipping label. If shipping is not needed, the fee is \$25.00 for the laboratory test. Please make checks out to UGA-FEW Lab.

Samples must be accepted for analysis within 24 hours of the collection time. Therefore, plan ahead by pre-selecting a day and time to collect your sample that will allow for shipping or travel time.

If you have shock chlorinated your well you must wait until the chlorine has dissipated before collecting sample.

Completely fill out the information requested on the opposite side of the form. Information designated by an asterisk (*) is required in order for sample to be accepted.

Select an inside faucet that is clean, not leaking.

Remove any faucet attachments such as filters, aerators, screens, splashguards or water-saver valves.

Sanitize the faucet inside and out by dipping the faucet neck into undiluted chlorine bleach (do not use color-safe bleach).

Open tap fully and flush the faucet and pipes by running water for 3 minutes. If sampling from a faucet that mixes hot and cold water, run hot water for 3 minutes, then cold water for 3 minutes. Do not turn off the water, but reduce the flow to avoid splashing.

Uncap the sample bottle without touching the inside of the cap or bottle, fill the bottle above the 100 mL line, but not completely full and recap. Please note that the white substance in the bottle is a de-chlorinating agent. Fill the bottle only once; do not rinse.

Place sample in the same box, seal sample box, affix UPS shipping label and call UPS at 1-800-742-5877 to determine your local pick-up/drop off place and time for "Next Day Air" packages, or hand deliver to the Ag Services Lab, 2300 College Station Road, Athens.