

SAMPLE PACKAGING and BOTTLE REQUIREMENTS

- Samples should be packed standing upright in insulated containers (eskis). The container lid should be taped on so it does not come loose in transit.
- Ensure samples cannot fall or move around– add extra padding if necessary after sufficient ice packs have been put in place. If possible chill any warm samples prior to packing. Boxes can be used but these often get damaged in transit.
- Ensure each sample bottle is correctly labelled and the esky/container is labelled externally with the lab and building name, address, contact person and phone number.
- Paperwork detailing customer contact information and analytical requirements should be sealed in a plastic bag and forwarded with samples or emailed to the lab.

The Water Laboratory can provide customers with appropriate sample bottles, containers and labels.

Test	Bottle requirements	Sample requirements	Storage and preservation	Maximum Holding time
Chemical / Physical Analysis				
General Phys/Chem- standard suite –potable or waste	1 L plastic	No air gap	Iced or chilled to 4°C	48 hours
Additional tests – specialist package	500 mL plastic	No air gap	Iced or chilled to 4°C	48 hours
Fluoride - only	250 mL plastic	No air gap	No storage requirements	28 days
Iron & Manganese - only	250 mL plastic	No air gap	Iced or chilled to 4°C	48 hours
Chlorine - only	500 mL plastic	No air gap	Transfer to laboratory as soon as possible	15 minutes read on site where possible
Colour/Turbidity/UVabs- only	500 mL plastic	No air gap	Iced or chilled to 4°C	2 days
Major Ions - only	500 mL plastic	No air gap	Iced or chilled to 4°C	7 days
BOD - only	500 mL plastic	No air gap	Iced or chilled to 4°C (Frozen)	48 hrs (1 week)
Nutrients – macro – only- Ammonium, Phosphorus, oxides of Nitrogen	500 mL plastic	No air gap	Iced or chilled to 4°C	<48 hrs
Suspended and volatile solids	500 mL plastic	n/a	Iced or chilled to 4°C	7 days
Chlorophyll	1 L plastic (kept in dark or covered)	Air gap	Iced or chilled to 4°C	24 hrs
Microbiological Analysis				
Total Coliforms, <i>E-coli</i> , Total Plate Count (TPC)	250mL sterile bottle dosed with Sodium Thiosulphate	Air gap	Refrigerated to less than 10°C	< 24 hrs
Enterococci	250mL sterile bottle dosed with Sodium Thiosulphate	Air gap	Refrigerated to less than 10°C	< 6 hrs
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	500mL sterile bottle dosed with Sodium Thiosulphate	Air gap	Refrigerated to less than 10°C	< 24 hrs
<i>Naegleria fowleri</i> ¹	600mL sterile bottle dosed with Sodium Thiosulphate	Air gap	Refrigerated to less than 10°C	See AWQC

¹ Testing by AWQC