



Department of Health and Human Services
Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention
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Drinking Water Program

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLECTING COMPLIANCE WATER SAMPLES FOR Nitrates or Nitrites

1. Collect sample at the sample point preprinted on the sample form. These samples must be collected after all water treatment and before the water enters the distribution system. Call the DWP office if you are not sure where to collect the sample.
2. Remove any screen, hoses and aerators from end of faucet.
3. Run COLD water for 3 to 5 minutes to make sure water has not been sitting for a long time in pipes or tanks and is fresh from the well.
4. Turn the flow of the water down so that it does not splash when you collect the sample.
5. Uncap bottle and fill to shoulder with water. Screw the cap on tightly.
6. Fill out the required information on sample form. **SIGN THE FORM!** The sample will not be processed unless the form has a signature!
7. Return bottle with completed paperwork to lab.

SAMPLE MUST ARRIVE AT LAB WITHIN 48 HOURS OF COLLECTION!

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS....PLEASE CALL THE MAINE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM
AT (207) 287-2070 OR YOUR LABORATORY**