



# ASHLAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

630 SANBORN AVENUE • ASHLAND, WISCONSIN 54806

Phone: (715) 682-7004 • Fax: (715) 682-7924

## Nitrate Sampling Instructions

1. Nitrate sample is the small squared bottle.
2. Bottle contains acid to preserve the sample. **Use caution.**
3. Wash hands prior to and after sampling.
4. Sample should be taken from the sampling tap located at the pressure tank.
5. Run water for 5 minutes elsewhere in the house; kitchen, laundry sink or other tap so that fresh water from the well has gotten to the pressure tank, and thus the sampling tap.
6. Run at least a small amount of water from the sample tap prior to drawing the sample.
7. Remove cap from bottle, placing it upside down on a clean surface
8. Fill bottle to bottom of the neck and recap.
9. The nitrate sample must be kept cold after sampling and during delivery to the health department.

Call Ashland County Public Health at 715-682-7004 with any questions.



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Terry Barningham, Director

### WATER SAMPLING INSTRUCTIONS

**\*\*Samples Must Be Analyzed Within 24 Hours of Collection\*\***

1. Choose an indoor faucet (or tap) from kitchen or hand-wash sink.
2. Avoid plastic, swing, goose-neck, leaky, chrome and outside faucets.
3. Remove any faucet aerator, gasket or screen.
4. Sterilize the faucet using a propane or butane torch. Hold the flame beneath the faucet opening for 20 seconds. Move the flame continuously to prevent damage to the faucet. Plastic or chrome faucets will melt when heated.
5. Run the cold water at medium force (clear stream) for at least 5 minutes before collecting sample. Do not change the flow rate or wash or wipe the tap before collecting the sample.
6. Write name on the side of the bottle.
7. Remove the security seal, and then remove the sample bottle cap without touching the inside of the cap or bottle. Hold onto the cap while sampling.
8. Fill bottle to at least the 100ml fill line. Do not over fill. Replace cap securely.
9. Turn off water and replace aerator. **Complete filling out lab test request form.**
10. Store sample in refrigerator, or in a cooler with ice or ice packs.
11. Return sample to the Ashland County Health & Human Services Department on Monday – Thursday before 4:30 pm. We do not accept samples on Fridays.