

Tennessee Technological University
Center for the Management, Utilization and Protection of Water Resources Environmental
Quality Laboratory

Box 5033 • Cookeville, TN 38505-0001 • (931) 372-3538

Web Site: <https://www.tntech.edu/research/centersandfacilities/wrc/lab/index.php>

INSTRUCTIONS FOR BACTERIAL SAMPLING

IMPORTANT: Samples for bacterial analysis must be analyzed within six hours of collection. Bacterial samples are accepted Monday through Thursday, 8:00am - 3:00pm, in Prescott Hall, Room 426. **No samples will be accepted on Fridays.** Contact Phillip Burr with any questions at (931) 372-3538.

You can purchase a bottle of drinking water from any store. The standard size is usually around 16.9oz (500mL) of water. You will simply pour out all of the drinking water and refill it with your sample at the time of sampling. Special care must be taken when collecting a sample for microbial analysis. This analysis is very sensitive to contamination and interference, such as airborne molds and bacteria. The container is certified by the producer to be sterile and should not be opened until the sample is to be taken.

When the sample is taken from a sink, the aerator screen on the faucet should be removed prior to sampling if possible. Turn the faucet on and let it run for about thirty seconds. Open the drinking water bottle, pour out the contents, and while keeping your hands as much out of the way as possible, hold the container under the water stream and fill it. Re-cap the bottle.

This container **MUST BE** transported to the lab **on ice** as soon as possible after collection. **This sample cannot be sent through the mail or other express delivery.**

Directions to the Water Center Laboratory: 1020 Stadium Dr. Cookeville, TN

From Interstate 40, take Exit 286 and go north on Willow Avenue for 2.8 miles. Turn **RIGHT** (at Pizza Hut) onto West 7th Street. Continue a short distance (0.2 miles) and take the **second LEFT** onto **Stadium Drive**. At the second stop sign, a parking spot for our customers will be immediately on your left, in the corner of the lot. There is a sign designating the spot for Water Center Visitors. Prescott Hall is diagonally across the intersection. The Water Center lab sample receiving area is on the 4th Floor, Room 426.

