

Well Water Testing Procedure

The Cheyenne-Laramie County Health Department offers bacteriological analysis of potable (suitable for drinking) water. The department charges a fee of \$10.00 to test for the presence of Total Coliform and E-Coli bacteria. Water is considered unsafe to drink when E-Coli or Coliform bacteria are present.

It is recommended that domestic wells be tested at least yearly to verify safe drinking water. Water samples to be analyzed for bacteriological content must be collected in specially prepared bottles obtained from the Cheyenne-Laramie County Health Department. Each bottle is sterilized and contains a powder preservative. The laboratory analysis is performed by the State of Wyoming Public Health Lab

Sample bottles are available to the public at the Cheyenne-Laramie County Health Department at 100 Central Ave in Cheyenne from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Proper sample collection is an important step in obtaining accurate sample results. Water samples should **not** be taken from a swing arm faucet, a contaminated faucet, or a leaky faucet that allows water to flow over the outside of the spout.

****Collect the sample and return the sample to this department by 3:00 PM on the same day.****

Procedure

1. Select a faucet and remove the aerator and screen from the faucet.
2. Open the faucet and allow the water to run freely to flush the line for 3-4 minutes.
3. Reduce the flow to permit filling the bottle without splashing and continue to let it flow for an additional 2 minutes. Do not open the bottle until you collect the sample.
4. Remove the paper seal. Uncap the sample bottle by holding the bottle near the base and twisting off the lid with your fingers. Do not touch the inside of the sample bottle. Do not rinse the bottle.
5. Fill the container to "100 ML" line.
6. Replace the cap immediately and twist it back on tight so it will not leak.
7. Do not write on the bottle or the outer container.
8. Samples should be stored and transported in a cool and dark container such as an ice-packed cooler.

**** Return the sample to the Health Department by 3:00 PM the same day that it is collected. ****

Samples must be collected and submitted to the Office on **Monday thru Wednesday by 3:00 PM or on Thursady by 12:00 Noon.**

RESULTS: If the sample is unacceptable you will be contacted by phone. Please provide a daytime phone number when you return the sample. All Sample results will be mailed to the addressee in about 7-10 days.