



DRAGON ANALYTICAL LABORATORY



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Drinking Water, Soil, Hazardous Waste, NPDES Permitting, Microbiology, Mobile Laboratory

NITRATE SAMPLING INSTRUCTIONS FOR DRINKING WATER

IMPORTANT: Read all instructions prior to sampling!

General Information

This is a sampling procedure for nitrates in drinking water. Drinking water samples must be collected in containers using the sampling techniques described below. Samples should be received by Dragon Analytical Laboratory, Inc. within 24 hours of sampling.

Supplies

1. Sample bottles and labels
2. Chain-of-Custody (COC) form and Ziploc bag

Sampling Instructions

1. Water taps used should be free of aerators, strainers, hose attachments, mixing type faucets, and purification devices. Cold water taps should be used.
2. The service line must be cleaned before sampling by maintaining a steady flow with tap wide open for at least five minutes (until steady water temperature is achieved). Using the plastic bottle:
 - a. Reduce the water flow so the bottle can be filled without splashing;
 - b. Lift (or unscrew) up on lid of bottle.
 - c. Fill bottle half full, recap bottle, shake, and then empty the bottle. Perform this action twice.
 - d. Fill the bottle to the shoulder of the bottle.
 - e. Secure lid of the bottle.
3. Dry the bottle and fill out a label completely with a permanent marker (such as a Sharpie) and place a completed label on the bottle.
4. Fill out the Chain-of-Custody (COC) form.
5. Place samples in ice along with the COC, and return to Dragon Analytical Laboratory, Inc., as soon as possible.

Store the samples on ice, but do not let them freeze.