



# DRAGON ANALYTICAL LABORATORY



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

## TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANE (TTHM) SAMPLING INSTRUCTIONS

**IMPORTANT: Read all instructions prior to sampling!**

### General Information

TTHM analysis are generally required on all public and recommended on most private water supplies. Dragon Analytical Laboratory, Inc. will send you 3 x 40mL VOAs vials for each sampling location. The TTHM vials will contain a small amount of sodium thiosulfate or ascorbic acid to quench any residual chlorine in the sample. Please do not rinse the vials or lose the sodium thiosulfate/ascorbic acid.

### Supplies

1. Chemical resistant safety goggles, not safety glasses or prescription glasses. **Remove contact lens before beginning process.**
2. Three sample vials in a bubble bag (supplied)
3. Chain-of-Custody (COC) form (supplied).

### Sampling Instructions

1. TTHM samples must be taken at a cold tap, with all screens filters, aerators, *etc.* removed. Let the water run long enough to clear all standing water from the lines (usually 5 to 15 minutes).

2. Reduce water flow, if possible, to a stream about the thickness of a pencil. Hold the vial at an angle and position the vial under the edge of the stream of water so that the water flows gently into the vial along the inner sidewall. When the vial is nearly full, tilt the vial to the vertical position to fill it completely, forming a meniscus (the curved upper surface of a liquid formed by surface tension) at the top of the vial. Avoid overflowing the vial too much because this could wash out the preservative.



3. Carefully replace the caps on the clear vials and tighten with care. A valid sample should contain **no entrapped air bubbles**. Rinse off the outside of each vial and dry. Place the three clear sample vials into bubble bag. Fill out the sample label completely with a permanent marker (such as a Sharpie)
4. Fill out the Chain-of-Custody (COC) form.
5. Put the samples into the bubble bag along with the COCs and place in a cooler with ice and return to Dragon Analytical Laboratory, Inc. as soon as possible.

**Store the samples on ice but do not let them freeze**