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*California State Certified Laboratory No.2153*

## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKING SAMPLES TO BE ANALYZED FOR BACTERIA**

1. Sample should be taken from a faucet or hosebib that is closest to the well or water source. Or, another site at your choosing (example: kitchen sink).
2. Remove hoses, screens or filters from faucet.
3. Disinfect outside and inside of the faucet opening with bleach (example: clorox) or rubbing alcohol.
4. Turn cold water faucet on and let run 2-3 minutes.
5. Remove plastic seal from bacteria sample bottle and open carefully *prior* to taking sample. **DO NOT TOUCH LIP OR INSIDE OF BOTTLE WITH HANDS OR OTHER FOREIGN MATERIAL.**
6. Carefully fill sample bottle to 100-ml line (close to top of bottle). Do not overfill or rinse out bottle, as there is a preservative (dechlorinating solution) contained in the bottle. It is also important to obtain at least 100-mls, as the test is based on this volume.
7. Once the sample is obtained it should be transported to the lab as soon as possible. If it is anticipated that there will be a lapse of more than 1-hour, keep sample cold (on ice) and transport to lab within 24-hours of collection.

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Bacteria samples need to be at the laboratory within 6 to 8 hours from sampling, or at the latest within 24-hours of collection Monday through Thursday. Friday acceptance of samples will incur weekend surcharges.