

**Attention: Use these instructions and discard all previous versions.**

# **SAMPLING INSTRUCTIONS** for LEAD and COPPER COLLECTION

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*Thank you for your participation in this important drinking water requirement!*

These samples are being collected to determine the lead and copper levels in your tap water. This sampling effort is required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the State of North Dakota under the Lead and Copper Rule. Please follow these instructions closely.

- Collect samples from a tap that has not been used for at least 6 hours. Either early mornings or evenings upon returning from work are often the best times for collecting a sample.
- Collect the sample from a kitchen or bathroom cold water tap that has been in normal general use for drinking water consumption prior to the minimum 6-hour stagnation time.
- **DO NOT** use a tap which is attached to a water softener, filter, or other point-of-use device.
- **DO NOT** remove the aerator screen from the faucet before sampling.

1. Collect the **first water** that comes out of the tap.
  - DO NOT rinse the sample container or run any water before collecting the sample.
  - Remove the lid and place the opened and expanded sample container below the faucet and open the cold water tap as you would do to fill a glass of water.
  - Fill the container to the top and securely replace the lid.
2. Provide the following information for the sample:
  - Address and/or description of the site sampled
  - Faucet location (kitchen or bathroom)
  - Your name
  - Date of collection
  - Time of collection
  - Also note if any plumbing repairs or replacement has been done in the home since the previous sample collection.
3. Have the sample and sample information ready to be picked up or dropped off as instructed by your public water system.
4. The public water system must get the sample to the lab **within 14 days** of collection.

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Thank you for your participation. The public water system will provide you the results from this sampling as soon as practical but no later than 30 days after the results are received. Should you have any questions, please contact your public water system at \_\_\_\_\_.