

Analytical Laboratories, Inc.
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Inorganics Sampling Instructions

Holding Times:

Many analytes have a short holding time (less than 48 hours). Try to plan accordingly for the samples to be dropped off at the laboratory the same day as sampling or ship via overnight delivery. Contact Analytical Laboratories if you have questions or concerns about the holding time for a specific analyte.

Sample Volume:

A 250 mL plastic sample bottle is typically adequate sample volume for most inorganic testing. However if multiple analysis is expected, a 500 mL or 1 liter bottle may be necessary. It is best to check with the laboratory and receive correct bottles ahead of time.

NOTE: If this is not a possibility, most tests can be collected in a clean plastic or glass container may be substituted as long as the bottle and cap have been rinsed over 3 times with the sample water.

The following analytes require very specific sample bottles and/or volume. It is strongly recommended to contact the lab and be provided appropriate containers for the following testing:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) | Cyanide (CN) |
| Total Suspended Solids (TSS) | Oil and Grease |
| Hydrogen Sulfide (H ₂ S) | Bromate (BrO ₃) |
| Dissolved Oxygen (DO) | Chlorite (ClO ₂) |

Sample Collection:

1. Select the faucet or tap that is of interest. This can be where a specific issue is observed, your primary drinking source (i.e. kitchen sink), the tap closest to the well, or the bathtub.
2. Turn the water on and allow it to run for 2-3 minutes. Typically once the water temperature has stabilized, this is an indication of adequate flushing.
3. Adjust the flow so the sample can be collected with very little to no splashing.
4. If the sample container does not contain a preservative, rinse the sample container and the cap 3 times with the sample water before filling the bottle to within 1 inch of the top. If the bottle contains a preservative (it will be marked at the bottom of the analytical laboratories bottle label), be sure not to rinse or overfill the bottle.
5. Store the sample in a cooler at $\leq 4^{\circ}\text{C}$ ($\leq 39.2^{\circ}\text{F}$).