

**SUGGESTED DIRECTIONS for HOMEOWNER LEAD & COPPER**  
**TAP SAMPLE COLLECTION**

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. EPA and the Montana DEQ. It is being accomplished through the cooperation of homeowners and residents.

Collect samples from a tap that has not been used for at least 6 hours (i.e. no water use during this period). Due to this requirement, either early mornings or evenings upon returning from work are the best times for collecting samples. The collection procedure is described in more detail below.

1. Prior arrangements will be made with the customer to coordinate the sampling event. Dates will be set for sample kit delivery and pick-up by the water system staff.
2. A minimum 6 hour period during which there is no water use throughout the house must be achieved prior to sampling. The best time to take a sample is either early in the morning, after the water has been sitting in the pipes overnight, or in the evening after returning from work, when water has been sitting in the pipes all day. Try not to sample from taps that have had water sitting stagnant for more than 18 hours. Do not intentionally flush the water line before the start of the 6 hour period.
3. A kitchen or bathroom **cold** water faucet is to be used for sampling. **Do not use an outdoor faucet for sampling.** If you have water softeners on your kitchen taps, collect your sample from the bathroom tap that is not attached to a water softener, or a point of use filter, if possible. Do not remove the aerator prior to sampling Place the open sample bottle below the faucet and open the cold water tap as if you were filling a glass of water. Catch the first drop that comes out of the faucet. Fill the sample bottle to the line marked "1000 ml" and turn off the water.
4. Tightly cap the sample bottle and place it in the sample kit provided. Please review the sample kit label at this time to ensure that all information contained on the label is correct.
5. If any plumbing work (repairs or replacement) has been done in the home since the previous sampling event, note this information on the label as provided. Also note if the sample was collected from a tap with a water softener.
6. Place the sample kit outside of the residence in the location of the kit's delivery so that the water system staff may pick up the sample kit.
7. The system operator will provide any results from this sampling effort to participating customers.

Call MT DEQ at 444-4400 if you have any questions regarding these instructions.

**TO BE COMPLETED BY RESIDENT**

Water was last used:	Time _____	Date _____
Sample was collected:	Time _____	Date _____
Sample was collected from (circle one)	Kitchen Sink	Bathroom Sink
I have read the above directions and have taken a tap sample in accordance with these directions.		
_____ Signature		_____ Date