WATER SAMPLING INSTRUCTIONS FOR MICROBIOLOGY & GENERAL CHEMISTRY

The instructions below must be followed when collecting a sample for microbiology or general chemistry. The lab will provide additional bottles for general chemistry analysis.

These instructions are not applicable for the sampling of drinking water in Ontario. Please contact your Project Manager for sampling instructions on drinking water in Ontario.

**Standard Contents**
- Sampling bottles
- Chain of Custody form

**Items Needed**
- Nitrile gloves
- Ice
- 2% chlorine solution or isopropyl alcohol

**Questions?**
Contact the laboratory at 1-800-563-6266

1. If sampling from a tap, remove any aerators, hose attachments, filters or strainers.
2. Apply a 2% chlorine solution or isopropyl alcohol to the inside and outside of the spout.

3. Wash your hands with hot water and soap to ensure that your nitrile gloves are clean.
4. Record your sample ID, sampling date and time on the sampling bottle label.
5. Allow cold water to run freely for 2–5 minutes.
6. Remove the sample bottle cap and hold it inside up. Do not contaminate the inner surface of the cap or bottle.

7. Fill the sampling bottle with cold water up to its shoulder, allowing enough headspace to shake the sample. If there is any preservative, do not flush it out.
8. Carefully seal the sampling bottle.
9. Complete a Chain of Custody form in its entirety. If completing an eCOC, sign and date a custody tracking form upon delivery.
10. Sample temperature should be kept below 10°C (but not frozen) during storage and transportation. Deliver to the laboratory as soon as possible.