

# BUCKS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH WATER SAMPLE PROCEDURE

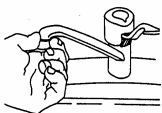
## TO ALL PURCHASERS OF SAMPLE KITS FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER ANALYSIS:

This bacteriological water test is supplied by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) and is provided at **cost** by the Bucks County Department of Health as a service to Bucks County Residents.

The PA DEP Laboratory in Harrisburg will analyze the sample of water you collect for **Bacteriological Contamination (Coliform Organisms) ONLY**. The results will be mailed directly to you at the address you provide on the laboratory slip. The sample **will not** be analyzed for any chemical contaminants or parameters. Neither the PA DEP nor the Bucks County Department of Health provides routine chemical analysis of water from private sources. If you wish to have a chemical analysis performed on your water, we suggest that you contact a DEP certified private laboratory for this service. These laboratories are listed in the yellow pages of the telephone book, and can be found on the DEP web site ([www.dep.state.pa.us](http://www.dep.state.pa.us)).

**DIRECTIONS FOR COLLECTING SAMPLE** *Take the water sample the same day you intend to deliver the sample to the Health Department.*

1. Remove the aerator from an indoor, leak-free, cold water faucet. If testing for bacteria, flame the end of the faucet with a match. (First confirm the faucet is metal).
2. Let the water run for 5 minutes to bring in water that has not been in contact with household plumbing.
3. Reduce the water flow until the stream is about 1/4 inch in diameter.
4. Fill the specially prepared laboratory container. Do not let anything touch the inside of the cap or container. Do **NOT** rinse the container or fill to overflowing. (The lab has added a chemical to the bottle specifically for this test.)
5. Close the container and return to the **Bucks County Department of Health, Neshaminy Manor Center, Health Building, Route 611 and Almshouse Rd., Doylestown, PA 18901** or the **Bucks County Government Services Center, 515 S. West End Boulevard, Quakertown, PA 18951**, with the completed lab slip, filling in the address, location sample was drawn from, hour, date and the type of water supply, etc. Maintain the gold copy for your receipt.
6. The courier service operates **DOYLESTOWN, MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY ONLY.** **QUAKERTOWN, TUESDAY & THURSDAY ONLY.** Water samples will not be accepted on Fridays or two days before a holiday. Water samples must be received in either the Doylestown or Quakertown Office before 3:00 PM on the day that the sample is taken.
7. If you should have any questions, please contact the Bucks County Health Department at Doylestown 215-345-3336. or Quakertown 215-536-6500



STEP 1



STEP 2



STEP 3



STEP 4



STEP 5

**DIRECTIONS FOR DISINFECTING YOUR WELL ARE AVAILABLE IF YOUR RESULTS ARE POSITIVE FOR COLIFORM BACTERIA.**