

Garden State Laboratories, Inc.

Bacteriological and Chemical Testing



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Main Lab
410 Hillside Avenue
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NJDEP Lab Cert. #20044

Mathew Klein, M.S., Founder (1916-1996)
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Jersey Shore Lab
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Collecting Your Own Samples – Lakes & Rivers

- 1) Sanitize your storage and transportation equipment using diluted bleach solution before collecting any bacteria samples.
- 2) Before each sample is collected, sanitize your hands using an alcohol hand sanitizer (Ex. Purell).
- 3) Samples shall be collected at a water depth equal to the sampler's waist. If the depth of a river/stream does not reach the sampler's waist, the sample must be collected equidistant between both shores.
- 4) Hold your "thio bottle" with your pinky and ring fingers on the **bottom** of the bottle, making sure to keep your hand away from the mouth of the bottle.
- 5) Only unseal your bottle immediately prior to collecting your sample. Do not touch the inside of the bottle or inside of the cap after opening the bottle.
- 6) Hold the bottle at a 45-degree angle with the mouth pointed down towards the water.
- 7) Collect the sample using a forward sweeping motion down to a depth of approximately 18 inches (The sampler's elbow).
- 8) The thio bottle should be filled to above the 100ml measurement line. Close the bottle after you have collected the sample.
- 9) Apply a label to the bottle with the source identification, date and time of the sample. Make sure the bottle is clearly labeled for the TYPE of sample.
- 10) Fill out a Sampling Form with the date, time of sample collection, type of analysis to be performed, and name of the person performing the sample collection.
- 11) Place the collected sample in a cooler with ice packs for transportation. Do not freeze the samples.
- 12) Samples must be received at the laboratory within six hours after the sample was collected.
 - 12a) Samples delivered to the Sparta Office must be received before 2:00PM. We recommend against sampling before 11:00AM due to the transportation time from Sparta to the Hillside laboratory.