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WATER SAMPLING INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOP Package

- 1) **Lead Sample: Kitchen or Bathroom Sink** The largest bottle (1 L plastic) is for lead testing. Fill it with water from a cold-water faucet that has been stagnant in the pipes for a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 12 hours with absolutely no water usage. Usually this means collecting the sample first thing in the morning or after returning home for the day. Do not run water before filling sample bottle.
- 2) **Well Water samples (500 mL plastic bottle and 120 mL bacteria bottle)** should be collected as close to the well head as possible, or before any water treatment systems.
- 3) Use a sterile sample bottle (small, clear bottle enclosed in a white, screw top canister) from the lab. Make sure the seal is removed completely from the neck of the bottle. **Please fill the bottle to just above the fill line.** The fill line is the top line marked 120mL. A second, non-sterile lab bottle (500 mL milky white plastic bottle) will be provided for the inorganics. Fill this bottle to the shoulder.
- 4) If at all possible, **do not** collect well samples from faucets that swivel between sinks. If the faucet has an aerator screen, take the aerator off before sampling.
- 5) Sanitize the opening of the faucet using a propane torch or by thorough cleansing with rubbing alcohol. Apply the alcohol using tweezers and cotton balls. Liberally cleanse both inside and outside of the faucet opening, wait a couple of minutes, and then turn on the water slowly to flush out the alcohol and collect the sample. There is no set length of time to run the water, but run it long enough to be certain that the water you are sampling is fresh from the well. (If the house is occupied and water is being used each day, you should not have to run the water more than a minute or so.)
- 6) When collecting the sample, keep the lid far enough away to insure that splatters from the ground or the bottom of the sink do not reach the underside of the lid. Fill the coliform bottle first and then fill the second small bottle.
- 7) The sample **must** be returned to the laboratory **within 24 hours** of collection in order for results to be certified. The corresponding form included with the bottle **must** be filled out or an attached Chain of Custody.
- 8) **The sample must be received at the laboratory showing evidence of chilling per Oregon Drinking Water Program. The sample should be transported in a cooler, with ice or its equivalent. Coliform samples cannot be accepted above 35 °C (95 °F). The sample will be rejected if it does not show evidence of cooling.**
- 9) Samples can be dropped off Monday through Friday 8:00am – 4:00 pm.
- 10) Testing can take up to 7-10 business days. Your results will be mailed and faxed or e-mailed (if number/e-mail is provided).