



Eastern Analytical, Inc.

professional laboratory and drilling services

EAI#

Residential Water Analysis for Private Wells Chain of Custody

Person Requesting Analysis

Name: _____

Address: _____ City, State & Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Sample Location Information ☐ (Check here if same address as above)

Street Address: _____ City, State & Zip: _____

Special comments about the sample: _____

EAI will send a final electronic report to your e-mail address. If an e-mail address is not provided, a hard copy of your report will be mailed to the above address within 30 days.

Date of Sample Collection: _____ Time of Sample Collection: _____

PLEASE FILL ALL CONTAINERS PROVIDED TO THE TOP

(Sample Instructions included)

Please check a drinking water analysis package:

___ **NHDES Well Water Test for Home Buyers \$155** (Bacteria, pH, NO₃, NO₂, Cl, F, As, Cu, Pb, Fe, Mn, Na, U, Hardness, Radon)

___ **Basic Package \$75** (Bacteria, pH, Cl, NO₃, As, Fe, Mn)

___ **NHHHS: Licensing Requirement-Food Establishment \$40** (Bacteria, pH, NO₃, NO₂)

___ **FHA \$70 (Dependent upon lender: (Bacteria, NO₃, NO₂, Pb preflush)**

___ **Stagnant Lead-Copper (Requires 1-Liter unpreserved plastic container)**

Eastern Analytical, Inc. has a minimum billing of \$40.

Individual analyses (see minimum billing)

___ \$20 Bacteria only (Total Coliform & E.coli) ___ \$20 Nitrate ___ \$60 MTBE ___ \$45 Radon

___ \$12 per Single Metal: list _____ ___ \$20 Nitrite ___ \$120 VOC

___ Other _____

EAI accepts residential samples Monday through Thursday ONLY. Normal turnaround time for data is 5-7 business days. If results are needed in less than 5 business days, laboratory approval must be prearranged and RUSH surcharges are applicable.

Payment is due when samples are dropped off. We accept cash, check, Visa, and MasterCard.

Paid \$_____ by Cash or Check#_____, Visa or MasterCard (circle one) Date_____

Collected by: _____

Relinquished by Signature: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____

Received by: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____ Temp _____ Ice (Y/N)



Read All Instructions Prior to Collection

Residential Drinking Water Sample Collection Instructions

Recommended steps prior to collection:

If the home has been vacant for any length of time allow the water to run for 1 hour to allow the well to be flushed well, prior to collecting the sample from an indoor faucet per instructions below.

If the well has been disinfected, be sure all chlorine has been thoroughly flushed prior to collecting the sample from an indoor faucet per instructions below.

Sample Collection Steps:

**Note: FILL ALL SAMPLE CONTAINERS COMPLETELY TO THE TOP
DO NOT RINSE THE CONTAINERS BEFORE FILLING**

- 1) Select a regularly used kitchen or bathroom water faucet to collect the sample(s). To reduce the possibility of sample contamination, do not use spray hose, single stem or swivel faucet fixtures.
- 2) Remove aerator screen and cap from the faucet.
- 3) Wipe down the kitchen faucet rim with a lint free cloth dampened with bleach and water. Wait 1-2 minutes.
- 4) Turn on the **cold** water line and run for 5 minutes until noticeable temperature change is stable. Reduce flow to slow steady stream to eliminate splashing and air bubbles.
- 5) See specific collection instructions on Page 2. **READ CAREFULLY PRIOR TO COLLECTING SAMPLES.**
- 6) Fill out **DATE** and **TIME** of collection on all the sample **container labels** using waterproof ink.
- 7) Complete the **Chain of Custody** document.
- 8) Refrigerate sample(s) to keep cool.
- 9) Return sample(s) **WITHIN 24 HOURS OF THE TIME OF SAMPLE COLLECTION** to Eastern Analytical, Inc. located at 100 Industrial Way, Concord, NH 03301



Sample Collection Instructions (continued):

Bacteria - Starting with the Sterile bacteria container, (transparent container with powder in it), carefully lift the container lid. Avoid touching the inner surface of the lid or container to minimize potential contamination. Fill container completely to the top and carefully secure the lid.

Write the Date and Time of collection on container label using waterproof ink.

Metals, Minerals and Anions – Fill the remaining two plastic sample containers completely to the top. Avoid touching the inner surface of the lid or container to minimize potential contamination. Fill container completely to the top and carefully secure the lid.

Write the Date and Time of collection on container label using waterproof ink.

Radon – *(Samples will be collected in the two square glass containers in bubble pack. Both containers must be completely filled and be free of any bubbles. Use one of the methods.)*

Method 1: Lower the water flow. Hold the first of the two Radon containers under running water and allow it to overflow. After a few seconds, and while the water continues to flow into the bottle, securely cap the bottle. Repeat for the second container.

Method 2: Run the water into a bucket or bowl at a medium flow rate, and allow it to overflow for at least five minutes. Insert the first radon container in a vertical position into the bucket/bowl and allow the water to fill from the top of the container while keeping the bottle under water. Repeat for second Radon container.

Check for air bubbles in containers: Once sample bottles are filled and the cap secured, flip the containers over and tap lightly. If bubbles are present, repeat sample collection procedure.

Write the Date and Time of collection on both container labels using waterproof ink.

Non-Routine Sample Collection Instructions:

*****Please Note*** – *VOC and Stagnant Lead & Copper containers are provided separately. Please request these containers prior to sampling***

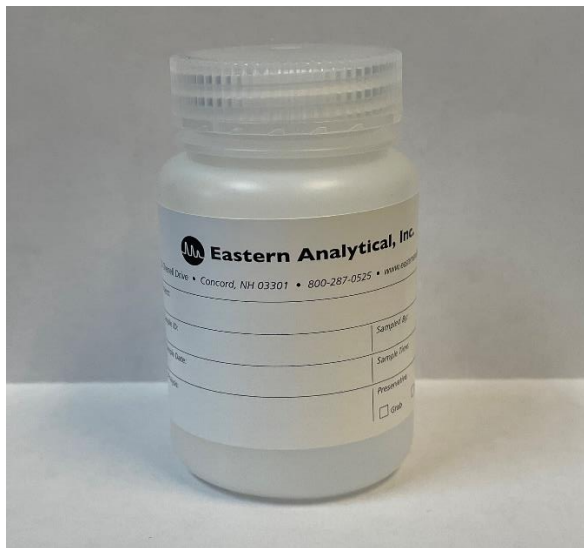
Stagnant Lead & Copper – *(If plumbing corrosion is of concern and you are testing for Lead and Copper, the sample must be collected after the water has not run for a minimum 6-10 hours. A separate 1 Liter container is needed for a first draw sample.)* Fill the 1 Liter plastic sample container first thing in the morning prior to running the water.

Write the Date and Time of collection on container label using waterproof ink.

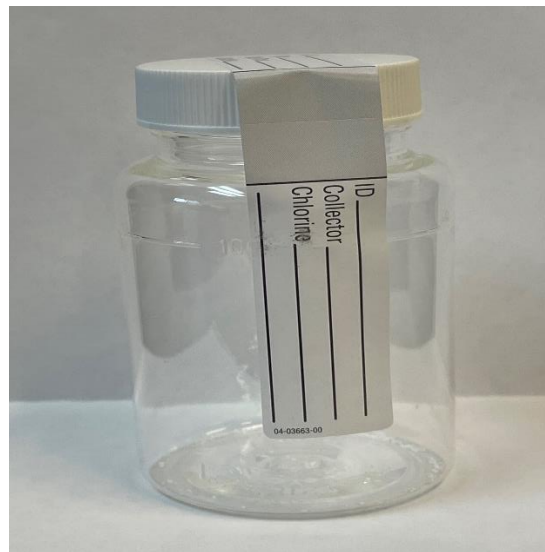
Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC/MtBE) – *(Caution - Wear gloves when collecting sample(s). Samples will be collected in the two glass vials preserved with Hydrochloric Acid in bubble pack. Both containers must be completely filled and be free of any air bubbles. Use caution when handling containers and collecting sample.)* Lower the water flow. Angle one of the sample vials and have the water pour along the side of the vial. Fill with as little agitation as possible. Fill so the water is slightly overflowing (create an inverted meniscus). Screw the cap on tightly and avoid spillage. Invert the vial upside down and tap lightly. If air bubbles are present, gently reopen the vial (do not empty contents) slowly add more water until it is slightly overflowing (create an inverted meniscus) and screw the cap on tightly. Check for air bubbles. If no air bubbles, fill second vial using the same procedure.

Write the Date and Time of collection on both vial labels using waterproof ink.

Residential Water Analysis Container “Cheat Sheet” – Fill All Containers to the Top



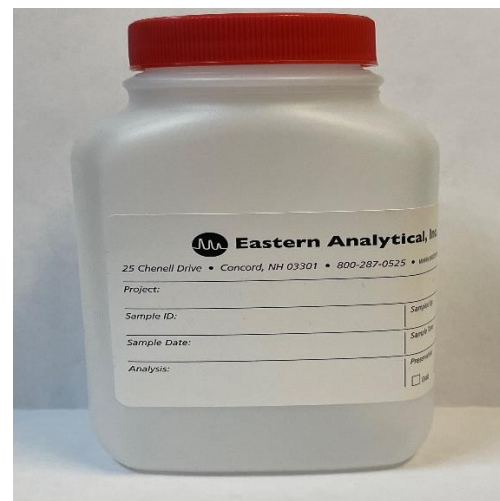
Metals (As, Cu, Pb, Fe, Mn, Na, U, Hardness)



Bacteria (Total Coliform & E. Coli)



Radon (Fill completely with no headspace/air bubbles)



pH, Nitrate, Nitrite, Chloride, Fluoride



WHY **TEST?**

TEST YOUR WELL WATER

Unhealthy levels of contaminants are common in many private wells in New Hampshire. Some of these contaminants have been linked to cancer and other diseases. Most have no taste, smell or color. It is important to periodically test well water to ensure it is safe to drink.

MORE **INFORMATION**

For information about testing your well water, treatment options or accredited laboratories in New Hampshire, visit the [NHDES website](#).

Go to the A to Z List and select "Private Well Testing" or "Water Well Testing."

NHDES Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau
29 Hazen Drive; PO Box 95
Concord, NH 03302-0095
(603) 271-2513
dwgbinfo@des.nh.gov



Public Health Lab
Container Request Form



NHDES-Accredited Labs

This brochure was produced in partnership:



www.des.nh.gov



www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/lab/index.htm

WHAT'S IN YOUR **WATER?**



HOW TO TEST

- 1. **Order a kit** from an **accredited laboratory** to sample your water. The New Hampshire Public Health Lab has an online **container request form**, as do some other labs.
- 2. **Follow the instructions** included in the kit to sample your well water and send back the water sample(s) immediately to the lab.
- 3. **Review the report from the lab.** Any contaminants that may affect your health or your home appliances will be highlighted.

HOW TO TREAT

If the lab report indicates there is a contaminant in your well water in amounts greater than state or federal health standards or recommended action levels, you should take steps to fix it.

Using NHDES’ **Be Well Informed** web tool, you can enter results from your lab report and get recommendations for appropriate treatment options, if needed.

NHDES also has **fact sheets** on its website covering all common water quality problems and their solutions. Before making a decision, consult a water treatment professional.

WHEN TO TEST

NHDES recommends that prospective homebuyers test the water in a home with a private well before purchase.

Water quality in properly located and constructed wells is generally stable, and if a change is going to occur, it occurs slowly. Thus, **NHDES recommends standard and radiological analysis testing every three to five years**. Bacteria and nitrate are exceptions; **you should test for them every year**.

The following conditions would call for more frequent testing:

- Heavily developed areas with land uses that handle hazardous chemicals.
- Recent well construction activities or repairs. NHDES recommends testing for bacteria after any well repair or pump or plumbing modification, but only after thorough flushing of the pipes.
- High levels of contaminants found in earlier testing.
- Noticeable changes in the water, such as a change in taste, smell or appearance after a heavy rain, or an unexplained change in a previously trouble-free well.

WHAT TO TEST FOR

STANDARD ANALYSIS

This covers the most common contaminants. Some of these pose health concerns while others only affect taste and/or smell. Find **water quality standards** on the NHDES **Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau** website.

Arsenic	Bacteria	Chloride
Copper	Fluoride	Hardness
Iron	Lead	Manganese
Nitrate/Nitrite	pH	Sodium
	Uranium*	

*Uranium is part of both the standard and radiological analysis packages at the State of NH Lab.

VOCs

MtBE, benzene, and industrial solvents are the most common volatile organic compounds (VOCs). MtBE and benzene are found in gasoline, and MtBE has been detected even in remote areas.

RADIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

Rocks in New Hampshire contain naturally-occurring radioactive elements that dissolve easily in water. Radiological analysis includes tests for uranium, analytical gross alpha and radon.

A radon air test is also advisable since the greatest exposure risk is through inhaling air with elevated concentrations of radon gas. Radon test kits are available from the **National Radon Program Services** and at home improvement stores.

ADDITIONAL TESTS

Tests for pesticides, herbicides or other synthetic organic compounds (SOCs) may be a good idea if your water has elevated nitrite or nitrate concentrations, or if significant amounts of pesticide have been applied near your well.

Learn about per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs), which have recently been found in New Hampshire’s water, on the **NH PFAS Investigation** webpage.

