



Fecal Coliform Sample Collection – SOP

1. The laboratories will provide autoclaved sample bottles.
2. Sample bottles will be labeled prior to sampling.

Sample Bottle Label

Station: Depth:

Date:

Time:

Initials:

Sample Type:

Remarks:

The station, date, and time fields should be labeled on the sample bottle.

3. Surface grab samples will be collected at each station using the sample bottles provided by the laboratories. In cases where laboratory sample bottles are too large to be fully submersed in the stream, a smaller pre-cleaned bottle will be used to transfer the sample into the larger container.
4. Avoid contaminating the samples by not allowing the sample water to come in contact with anything before it is placed in the bottle. Be careful not to bring the rims or caps of the sample bottles into contact with anything. Samples will be taken with a sample stick to avoid causing upstream disturbance prior to and during sampling.
5. Sample bottles will be filled with sample until the sample reaches between an inch to an inch and a half of the top of the sample bottle.
6. Once full, sample bottles will be capped and placed in a cooler with ice to maintain a temperature of 4°C.
7. Fecal coliform samples will be delivered to BAL Laboratories within 6 hours of collection.
8. For QA/QC purposes, duplicate fecal coliform samples will be randomly collected at 10% of the sampling stations (3 stations per sampling event).