

TAP/WELL WATER TESTING

We can only test water if it is collected in bottles supplied by the Health Department Water Quality Department, AND the paperwork is filled out completely (Sample Test Request/Chain of Custody). **DELIVER THE SAMPLE TO THE LAB WITHIN 30 HOURS AFTER COLLECTION.** All samples must be received in the lab by 4 pm, Monday-Thursday, and by noon on Friday, with an exception of anion samples in by noon on Thursday/not accepted on Friday.

ATTENTION: mortgage companies may not accept samples taken by realtors or homeowners.

DIRECTIONS FOR SAMPLING TAP/WELL WATER

1. A non-toxic preservative (Sodium thiosulfate) has been added to the bottle and may appear as a white crystal or drop of water. **DO NOT wash or rinse it out.** Sample bottles may be used for up to one year if the cap is left on.
2. Drinking water samples shall be taken from a **cold water tap**, such as a faucet, petcock or small valve. Do not take samples from a fire or yard hydrant or a drinking fountain. Kitchen sinks, threaded hose bibs, and spigots with screens or aerators are poor sampling points and should be used only if better sampling points are not available. Water that is sampled should not go through water softeners, filtration units, etc.
3. Allow the water to run freely for **at least five minutes** to flush out pipes and fixtures.
4. Remove cap from bottle, being careful not to touch the insides of the cap or bottle. **DO NOT** lay cap down or put it in your pocket. Hold the bottle near the bottom.
5. Reduce the flow of the water in tap or spigot to a steady stream about the size of a pencil. **Fill the bottle to the shoulder, leaving an air space of about one inch from the top of the bottle.** Replace cap, using same care as before.
6. If more than one sampling point is submitted, place a number on the bottle label and that same number on a separate Sample Test Request/Chain of Custody form. A separate form must be made out for each sampling point.
7. Place the bottle with your water sample in a cooler with ice. The sample should be kept on ice until it is submitted to the lab.



Test results are mailed to the address provided within 10 business days. To have test results delivered via email, please provide an email address on the form.

FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE CALL Water Quality and Hazardous Materials Management at 317.221.2147.

Water Quality and Hazardous Materials Management
3901 Meadows Drive, 2nd Floor Indianapolis, IN 46205

Visit marionhealth.org for more FAQs