

## How to collect a water sample for W33 GA Certification for Drinking Water Providers + UPS Shipping Label = \$153

We recommend all W33 water samples be collected from the **first draw** water out of the kitchen faucet or from the faucet used most often for your business operation. Use 1 Liter (quart) plastic container supplied with test kit. Please follow these basic protocols when collecting the water sample:

1. A first draw water sample will be collected (after a minimum of **6** hours, but not more than **12**-hour period) during which time there was no water usage prior to the sampling. The GA-EPD recommends that either early morning or evening upon returning home are the best sampling times to ensure that the necessary stagnant water conditions exist.
2. Use cold-water faucet most frequently used with your business operation. If the primary concern is contamination of the well head, draw the water from as near the well head as possible.
3. Place the clean sample container below the faucet and gently open the cold water tap.
4. Completely fill sample bottle.
5. Complete submission form and be sure to **document the date and time of collection**. The lab cannot test the sample without this information.
6. **Take collection package with water sample, (remember to include testing submission form), to UPS for shipping. Samples can only be shipped Mon- Wed. Collected samples need to be with UPS by 4PM in order to go out for overnight air delivery.**

**Sample must be collected and shipped on the same day, and can only be shipped Mon-Wed due to 24 hour lab processing requirements. Please follow the above directions when collecting a W33 GA Certification for Drinking Water Providers test sample.**

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**For Microbiology testing (i.e. Bacteria & E. Coli – W35) if required along with W33 test. This is a separate test kit from the W33. *Test kit is purchased for an additional \$50.* Sample must be collected and shipped on the same day, and can only be shipped Mon-Wed due to 24-hour lab processing requirements. This sample can be shipped in same box as the W33 so long as samples are drawn on the same day. Please follow the below basic protocols when collecting an E. coli test sample:**

- Select an inside faucet that is clean and not leaking.
- Remove any faucet attachments such as filters, aerators, screens, splashguards, or water-saver valves.
- Sanitize the faucet inside and out by dipping the faucet neck into undiluted chlorine bleach (do not use color-safe bleach).
- Open tap fully and flush the faucet and pipes by running water for 3 minutes. If sampling from a faucet that mixes hot and cold water, run hot water for 3 minutes, then cold water for 3 minutes. Do not turn off the water, but reduce the flow to avoid splashing.
- Uncap the sample bottle (clear bottle with powder or may have water droplets) without touching the inside of the cap or bottle, fill the bottle above the 100 mL line, but not completely full and recap. Please note that the white substance/water droplets in the bottle is a dechlorinating agent, which is essential. Fill the bottle only once; do not rinse.
- **Complete submission form and be sure to document the date and time of collection. The lab cannot test the sample without this information. Take collection package with water sample, (remember to include testing submission form), to UPS for shipping. Samples can only be shipped Mon- Wed. Collected samples need to be with UPS by 4PM in order to go out for overnight air delivery.**

To view video on collection procedure: [Camden County Testing Services Webpage](#) (or search for our website UGA Extension Camden County)