

# Lead Sampling Instructions

HOW TO COLLECT A VALID WATER SAMPLE FOR ACCURATE RESULTS.

## ABOUT LEAD

The water we provide to homes and businesses is lead-free, but lead can get into the water as it moves through customer-owned water service lines and plumbing fixtures that contain lead.

**To obtain a valid water sample, please read the instructions fully before you begin.**

## HOW THE TEST WORKS

A valid water sample will capture water that has passed through the plumbing that services your unit. It is important to first allow the water to sit undisturbed in the pipes for at least six hours.

### 1 Timing is Everything

Before collecting the water sample, review the time requirements and plan accordingly.

- For accurate results, water must sit completely undisturbed in the pipes for at least six hours. Do not use any water during this time, including for drinking and flushing toilets. Don't forget to turn off ice makers, dishwashers or washing machines.
- The sample must be mailed to the lab within 48 hours of sample collection.

To return your samples, place the kit in your mailbox or drop it off at your nearest United States Postal Service. You may also arrange a pickup at [USPS.com/pickup](https://www.usps.com/pickup) or call 1-800-275-8777.

### 2 Sampling Location

Choose one location to collect the sample.

- Choose a cold water faucet in either a bathroom or the kitchen.
- Choose a faucet that does not have a water filter and is not connected to a home water treatment system, such as a softener.
- Be sure that the collection bottle will fit under the chosen faucet.

### 3 Begin Sample Collection

This will be the first time you use any water in your home after the six-hour waiting period.

- Remove the lid of the bottle.
- Place the bottle under the faucet.

### 4 Fill Bottle

- Turn on the **cold water** and adjust the flow for normal use.
- Fill bottle to the top shoulder of the bottle. Do not allow it to overflow.



Do not use water in the home for 6 hours.



Turn water on and immediately fill the bottle.

### 5 Close and Seal

- Replace lid and tighten securely.
- Place the included tamper seal over the cap of the bottle.

### 6 Complete the Chain of Custody Card

- Completely fill out the area labeled "To Be Filled Out By Resident".
- Please be sure to circle where your sample was collected and indicate the date and time of collection, otherwise the sample is invalid and cannot be processed.
- Confirm that your telephone number is correct. If it is not, please update.

### 7 Shipping

- Place the bottle and Chain of Custody Card into the box.
- Place the return shipping label on the top of the original mailing label.
- Mail your sample within 48 hours of collection. To return your sample, place the kit in your mailbox or drop it off at your nearest United States Postal Service. You may also arrange a pickup at [USPS.com/pickup](https://www.usps.com/pickup) or call 1-800-275-8777.

Lead sampling collection is complete. You may now use water normally.

## → WHAT'S NEXT

The lab will receive the sample and test it. Results will be mailed to your home. Please allow at least four weeks to receive results.

If you have any questions, please call 303-893-2444 for assistance, or visit [denverwater.org/Lead](https://denverwater.org/Lead).