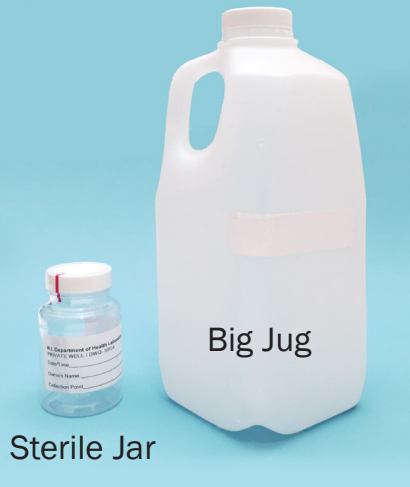


Annual Test Kit



Annual Test Kit Instructions for Private Well Water

● This kit will test for:

- Nitrate
- Nitrite
- Color
- Chloride
- Turbidity (cloudy water)
- Coliform bacteria
- Sodium

① Get ready to test your water

Step 1: Have on hand:

- ✓ A ballpoint pen or pen with ink that will not smear if wet.
- ✓ A cooler with ice or plastic ice bricks to bring water samples to the lab. If you use regular ice, seal it tightly in a plastic bag.
- ✓ Fresh household bleach, not perfumed. If you already have a bottle, check when it expires. If the date has passed, get a new bottle.
- ✓ A small household container wide enough to hold a cup of liquid under your tap, such as a measuring cup or clean food container.
- ✓ Protective gloves, like the kind you might wear to wash dishes.

Step 2: Choose a day to test. Collect the sample the morning of delivery. The lab accepts samples Monday - Thursday between 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.

Step 3: Take the 2 containers you will use out of the bag. Make sure you have a Big Jug and a Sterile Jar.

Step 4: Read all instructions before you take water samples. Use the pictures to guide you.

Step 5: Choose ONE water tap to sample — one that is used often for drinking or cooking water. This is most likely a kitchen tap.

Step 6: Fill out the labels on the jug and jar as shown in the example. Please PRINT so the lab can read the label. Use an ink pen that will not smear or “run” if wet.

Step 7: Slowly turn the cold water on to get a steady pencil-size stream of water from the faucet. Let the water run for 5 minutes before collecting the sample.

Sample Label

Date/Time: 3/23/2016 4:35pm
Owners Name: Jane and John Doe
Collection Point: Kitchen Tap

over »

Questions?

Contact: Program Specialist, Private Well Program, Rhode Island Department of Health

Email: DOH.RIDWQ@health.ri.gov **Tel:** 401-222-6867. Ask to be connected to the Private Well Program.





Filling the Big Jug



Soaking the tap with the bleach solution



Filling the Sterile Jar

② Collect your 1st water sample in the Big Jug

Step 1: Unscrew the jug cap. Hold the jug in one hand and the cap in the other. Do not touch the inside of the cap.

Step 2: Fill the jug with cold water. Do not let the rim or neck of the jug touch the tap. And, do not let the jug overflow.

Step 3: Replace the jug cap and **turn off** the water.

③ Collect your 2nd water sample in the Sterile Jar

Step 1: Sterilize the tap with bleach. Here's how:

- Put on the protective gloves.
- Mix one cap of fresh bleach with about one cup of water in the small household container that fits under your tap.
- Hold the container under the tap — so the tap soaks in the solution for 2 minutes.

Step 2: Again, slowly turn the cold water on to get a steady pencil-size stream of water from the faucet. Let the water run for 5 minutes before collecting the sample.

Step 3: Remove the jar from its packaging. Unscrew the jar cap. Hold the jar in one hand and the cap in the other. Do not touch the inside of the cap or the inside of the jar.

Step 4: Fill the jar with cold water up to the 100 ml marked line. Do not let the rim or neck of the jar touch the tap. And, do not let the jar overflow.

Step 5: Replace the jar cap and **turn off** the water.

④ Finish up

- **Pour the bleach solution down the drain.** It will not hurt a septic system.
- **Recheck the labels on the jug and jar.** Make sure you have filled them out so they're clear and complete.
- **Put the jug and jar in your refrigerator** until you take them to the lab. Remember, you need to drop them off the same day they were collected.
- **Fill out the Lab Order Form.** Write a check or money order made out to "The General Treasurer, State of RI" for the total amount of all the water tests you request. This Annual Test Kit costs \$95.00. If you are doing other tests in addition, find the prices on the Order Form. Add all costs and show the total at the bottom.
- **Drop off your water samples with the Order Form and payment.** Place the jug and jar in your cooler with ice to transport them to the lab. Remember to seal regular ice in a plastic bag so it won't leak water into the cooler.

Questions?

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