

AVOCET

1500 North State Street  
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Bellingham, WA 98225  
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HOURS OF OPERATION

MONDAY - THURSDAY  
8am–5pm  
FRIDAY  
8am–4pm

WEB

www.avocetlab.com  
lab@avocetle.com

The American Avocet is a small shore bird that makes its home along the marshes, beaches and shallow lakes of the mid-west and the Pacific Coast of North America.



Known for being highly sensitive to changes in the environment, the Avocet is protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918.

For more information on drinking water quality and testing, visit the DOH website:

www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw

## WATER SAMPLE COLLECTION

COLIFORM BACTERIA SAMPLES



Use an inside faucet such as a bath faucet. Avoid swivel taps & kitchen taps, as they can harbor bacteria. \*\*Outdoor faucets may require additional precautions.

1. Remove attachments from faucet such as aerators, screens.
2. Turn on COLD WATER, and let it run 5 minutes.
3. Turn water down so that stream is the width of a pencil.
4. Hold bottle near bottom and unscrew the cap. Avoid touching the edge of the cap, and splashing. DO NOT TOUCH INSIDE of cap or bottle.
5. Fill water to the 100mL line and do not overflow. DO NOT RINSE bottle before taking the sample. The bottle contains white powder that is needed for the analysis.
6. Replace the lid as soon as filled. Keep sample in the refrigerator until it is returned to the lab.
7. BACTERIA SAMPLES MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN 24 HOURS OF COLLECTION.

NITRATE/INORGANIC SAMPLES



If you received a cube shaped container, please INFLATE by blowing into the opening.

1. If sampling from an inside residence, remove all attachments and/or filters from the faucet. Turn on COLD WATER. Do not sample from a hose or hot water faucet.
2. If you are testing for lead, copper, or other metals from your plumbing, take the sample (s) first thing in the morning WITHOUT running the water first. Water should have been standing for between 6-12 hours. Sample from where you draw most of your drinking water.
3. If you are testing for nitrate or most other inorganics, sample directly from a point that represents the source—after treatment, prior to entry to the distribution system.
4. Make sure cap is secured tightly. Label containers with name, date or other identifier. Keep sample refrigerated or on ice until returned to the lab.
5. NITRATE SAMPLES MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN 24 HOURS OF COLLECTION.

## COMMON DRINKING WATER TESTS

MICROBIOLOGY

- Total Coliform/E. Coli (presence/absence) \$20
- Total & E.Coli (multiple tube/membrane filter) \$24
- Iron Related Bacteria \$30
- Sulfate Reducing Bacteria \$30

METALS/INORGANICS

- Arsenic \$22
- Chloride \$20
- Copper \$22
- Iron \$22
- Hardness \$24
- Lead \$22
- Manganese \$22
- Nitrate/Nitrite \$30

WHATCOM COUNTY  
PRIMARY PARAMETERS

Arsenic, Barium, Cadmium, Chromium, Fluoride, Lead, Mercury, Nitrate, Selenium, Silver, Sodium, Turbidity \$170