

# Water Quality Parameter Drinking Water Sample Sites - Community Public Water Systems

**Sample tap selection guide:** Entry point and distribution sampling occurs for water systems that perform water quality parameter sampling. Proper site selection and approval is needed to ensure proper sample location and accurate and representative results are obtained by water systems. All samples must be taken at:

- State-approved or State-accepted locations. **If one of your locations is not in use, contact [Health.Community.LeadandCopper@state.mn.us](mailto:Health.Community.LeadandCopper@state.mn.us) for direction.**

**Entry Point Samples:** Ensure system is collecting the entry point sampling after the water has reached appropriate equilibrium. Sampling too close to the chemical injector may result in inaccurate results. Recommendations to ensure appropriate sampling include performing one of the following:

- Be sure to have installed an entry point sample tap post the treatment plant at a distance that allows for adequate mixing. Typically, 10X the pipe diameter with a pipe bend can be adequate.
  - Typically running a line back into the well house/treatment plant from the buried discharge line as a designated entry point tap (best for new builds or modifications).
- Installing stagnate mixer at the discharge pipe before the sample tap. There should be sufficient distance between the mixer and the tap.
- Sample from the first/nearest customer/facility from the treatment plant and have that represent that the entry point sample for WQPs entry point sampling only.

Note: Orthophosphate and silica reach equilibrium much faster than pH adjustment does.

**Distribution Samples:** These sample locations should be similar to the bacteriological (Total Coliform/E.coli) sample sites and must meet the following for approval:

- **DO NOT** collect from sample site locations after point of entry or point of use device such as a water softener, filter, or end use treatment device.
- **DO NOT** sample from the same sites used for lead and copper sampling.
- Use the same approved sites each quarter and every quarter.
- Sample as close to the water meter in the building as possible to obtain the water quality of the distribution system and not the water quality of the building used.
- The chain of custody (COC) should indicate the actual address used for sampling in the sample point location. If not, please request approval to have the site location added to your sample plan so this appears in the future. The old generic site ID for WQP, such as D-001, D-002 should not be used. Requests can be submitted to: [Health.Community.LeadandCopper@state.mn.us](mailto:Health.Community.LeadandCopper@state.mn.us) for updates to the sites approved on the COC.

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- In general, represent different areas in the distribution system by:
  - Dividing your system into segments based on number of required sites and choose sites from within each area.
  - Using sites in different pressure zones or hydrologic areas.
  - Using sites supplied by different finished water sources and storage tanks.

Rule required sampling numbers is identified by the following table:

**Rule Required Sampling Numbers**

System size (number of people served)	Minimum number of sites for water quality parameters (Standard Monitoring)	Minimum number of sites for water quality parameters (Reduced Monitoring)
>100,000	25	10
10,0001-100,000	10	7
3,301-10,000	3	3
501-3,300	2	2
101-500	1	1
100	1	1

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*To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-4700.*