

**LEAD & COPPER**  
**SUGGESTED DIRECTIONS FOR SCHOOL OR BUSINESS  
TAP SAMPLE COLLECTION**

These samples are being collected to determine the lead and copper levels in your tap water. This sampling effort is required by the U.S. EPA and the Montana DEQ. It is being accomplished through the cooperation of public water system operators.

A sample is to be collected after water has been sitting in the pipes for an extended period of time (i.e. no water use during this period). Due to this requirement, early mornings are often the best times for collecting samples. The collection procedure is described in more detail below.

1. A minimum of 6 hours before the sample collection, flush the cold water faucet until water temperature changes.
2. A minimum 6 hour period during which there is no water use throughout the building must be achieved prior to sampling. Early mornings are the best sampling times to ensure that the necessary stagnant water conditions exist. Try not to sample from taps that have had water sitting stagnant for more than 18 hours.
3. A kitchen or bathroom cold water faucet is to be used for sampling. Place the open sample bottle below the faucet and gently open the cold water tap. Fill the sample bottle to the line marked "1000 ml" and turn off the water.
4. Tightly cap the sample bottle and place it in the sample kit provided. Please review the sample kit label at this time to ensure that all information contained on the label is correct.
5. If any plumbing work (repairs or replacement) has been done in the building since the previous sampling event, report this information on the DEQ change of sampling location form.

Call **Lead and Copper Rule Manager** at **444-3967** if you have any questions regarding these instructions.