

Radium 226/228 and Gross Alpha

SAMPLE COLLECTION PROCEDURE

Reference Method EPA 903.0/904.0 and EPA 900.0

Read instructions carefully

Samples may be rejected if All instructions are not followed

Samples must arrive at the laboratory within 5 days of collection

- **Sample bottle/preservative:**
 - 4 L LDPE Cubitainer, Unpreserved
- **Sampling locations:**
 - First sample tap following treatment (treated water).
- **Shipping/sample hold time:**
 - Ship immediately. The sample must arrive at the laboratory within 5 days of collection.

Sample collection procedure:

1. Attach the pre-printed label to the bottle. If you do not have a pre-printed label, write the following information, using a ballpoint or permanent pen, on the generic bottle label: PWSID, PWS Name, and Location ID.
2. Remove any attachments from the sample tap.
3. Turn on the cold water tap and run for 4 to 5 minutes, or until the water temperature has stabilized, whichever is longer.
 - a. If there is only one faucet handle, make sure it is in the cold water position.
4. Reduce the flow of the water so the stream is steady and the width of a pencil.
5. Remove cubitainer cap. Do not touch the underside of the cap or the inside of the cubitainer.
6. Place cap on a clean, dry surface.
7. Begin filling the container, while pulling the sides apart.
8. Fill cubitainer to the shoulder. **DO NOT** overfill the container.
9. Cap cubitainer securely.
10. Replace any attachments that were removed from the faucet or sample tap.

Complete Chain-of-Custody form using ballpoint or permanent pen:

1. Name of the sample collector.

2. Date and Time collected (include a.m. or p.m.).
3. Field Number (if applicable).
4. Put your signature on the “Relinquished By” line, including date and time. The date and time are when the sample is put in the return mailer and sealed. If samples pass hands prior to packaging, both parties must sign, date, and time. The first party would put down the date and time of the transfer, and the second party would put down the date and time the sample is packaged.

Shipping and handling:

1. If dropping off at the laboratory a physical hand-off is required.
2. Prepare package for shipping.
 - a. Place the bottle, with pre-printed label attached, in the mailing container.
 - b. Place completed Chain-of-Custody in the provided zip-lock bag and ship with the bottle(s) in the shipping container.
3. Ship to the Public Health Laboratory:

Courier Service (Spee-Dee, UPS, FedEx, etc.)

Minnesota Department of Health
Public Health Laboratory
Environmental Sample Receiving
601 Robert Street North
Saint Paul, MN 55155-2531

U.S. Postal Service – 1st Class

Minnesota Department of Health
Public Health Laboratory
Environmental Sample Receiving
P.O. Box 64899
Saint Paul, MN 55164-0899

If you have questions, call 651-201-4700, or email health.drinkingwater@state.mn.us

Minnesota Department of Health
Drinking Water Protection
651-201-4700
health.drinkingwater@state.mn.us
www.health.state.mn.us

March 2021

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