

Collecting a drinking water sample for fluoride analysis

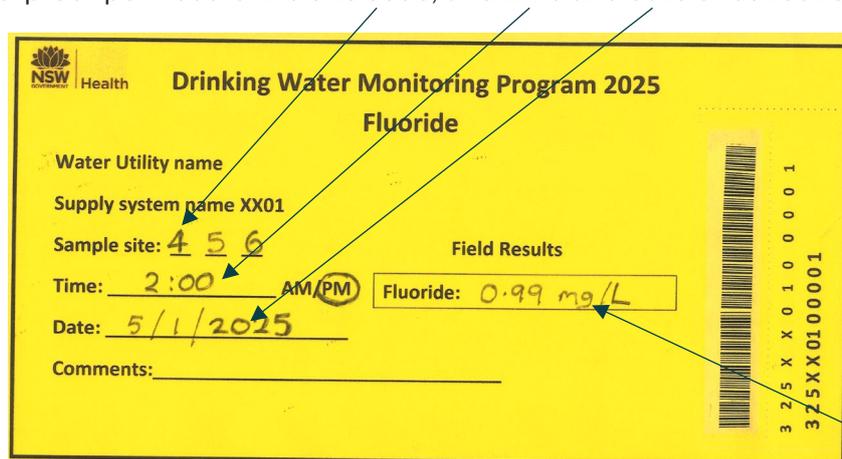
NSW Health Drinking Water Monitoring Program

Sample Container

- Use a new high-density polyethylene (HDPE) 250 mL screw capped container.
Note: The container must be clean and free from contaminants.

Label

- Use a yellow label with a barcode beginning with 3.
- Select a label for the correct supply system, current year and sample type.
- Using a waterproof pen record the site code, and time and date of collection on the label.



NSW Health Drinking Water Monitoring Program 2025
Fluoride

Water Utility name
Supply system name XX01
Sample site: 456
Time: 2:00 AM/PM
Date: 5/1/2025
Comments:

Field Results
Fluoride: 0.99 mg/L

325XX0100001

- Conduct a fluoride test on a separate sample and record the fluoride field result on the label.
- Ensuring the outside surface of the container is completely dry, place the label evenly around the sample container (not on the lid) so that the entire barcode can be scanned at the laboratory.

Precautions When Taking the Sample

- Keep the container closed until the sample is to be taken.
- Remove the lid only long enough to collect the sample.

Collecting the Sample

- Flush the lines for at least 3 minutes before collecting the sample.
- Fill the container to the brim.

Transporting Samples to the Laboratory

- Pack the sample into an insulated cooler with sufficient freezer bricks to keep the sample cool ($\leq 6^{\circ}\text{C}$) during transportation.

- Attach a copy of the Forensic and Analytical Science Service (FASS) address label to the insulated cooler.
- Send/deliver the samples to FASS as soon as possible.

URGENT WATER CHEMISTRY SAMPLES
Delivery Address Forensic & Analytical Science Service 480 Weeroona Road LIDCOMBE NSW 2141
<small>After hours telephone number: 0413 984 105</small>
FRAGILE

- Note: If consigning fluoride samples in the same insulated cooler as microbiology samples, send/deliver the samples to the NSWHP Westmead – Microbiology Laboratory.

URGENT WATER MICROBIOLOGY & CHEMISTRY SAMPLES
Delivery Address NSW Health Pathology Westmead – Microbiology Central Specimen Reception (CSR) Level 2, Block I, Institute Road WESTMEAD NSW 2145
<small>After hours numbers: 0419 215 490 (Microbiology) & 0413 984 105 (Chemistry)</small>
FRAGILE