

## Environmental Monitoring: Water Microbial/ Bioburden Testing and pH Testing

Water testing indicates if animals have been exposed to unwanted pathogens harbored in their drinking water. Charles River recommends quarterly testing of your public water source, water post-filtration (or other decontaminating process), and individual rooms at the sink and Lixit® level.

We are here to help you. For facility specific recommendations, please contact us.

We provide:

- Submission forms
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-recommended sterile containers with sodium thiosulphate tablets to neutralize bactericidal substances such as chlorine
- Cold packs for swabs (please freeze packs prior to use)
- Shipping container to return samples

**NOTE:** Samples must be received and tested within 24 hours from the time of collection. Same day or next morning shipping to our Wilmington, MA facility is required for water testing.

### Microbial/Bioburden Sample Collection

Two 100 mL samples are needed for each collection location. Label all containers with the sample identification, date and time of collection. **Do not use container if the arrow or locking tab was broken before opening.**

When testing faucets, remove the screen and any attached tubing prior to sampling. Allow the cold water to run for at least three minutes prior to collection.

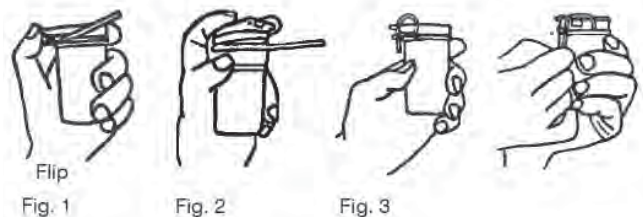
To collect the specimens, open the supplied containers by pushing up on the cap where indicated (Fig 1). Fill the container up to the EPA fill line (100 mL). Close the container by pressing the cap from the hinge side until it securely snaps shut (Fig 2). Put the tie through the

round hole and pull through until it clicks into the groove (Fig 3). Ship the samples back on frozen cold packs in the shipping container provided. Please include the completed submission form.

### pH Testing Sample Collection

When testing faucets, remove the screen and any attached tubing prior to sampling. Allow the water to run for at least three minutes prior to testing. Where appropriate, sample the cold water.

Collect 25 mL of water from each sample location for each type of test. Label all containers with the sample identification, date and time of collection. Ship the samples back on frozen cold packs in the shipping container provided. Please include the completed submission form.



Send samples and submission forms in the shipping crates provided, with frozen cold packs, to:

Charles River  
Attn: Microbiology Laboratory  
251 Ballardvale Street  
Wilmington, MA 01887

Please contact us at 1.877.CRIVER1 (1.877.274.8371) or [askcharlesriver@crl.com](mailto:askcharlesriver@crl.com) with any questions regarding sample submission.