

Water Sampling Protocol

Changes to sampling Procedure:

DO NOT sample when ill or within quarantine (14-day for COVID-19) or isolation (3-days since last symptoms), check temp prior to sampling. We are mandating that samplers **only sample with members of their household** and you **must wear a face mask when sampling**.

Supplies

- Masks (reusable or disposable) – not provided
- Hand sanitizer – not provided
- Clean sampling bottles
- Site Sheets/clipboard
- Sharpies
- Disposable nitrile gloves
- Paper towels
- Cooler for samples
- Trash bag
- Dipper/Bucket with bag to cover
- YSI

TO BEGIN:

- Never go sampling alone- Only sample with a member of your household.
- You both **MUST** wear gloves and a face mask.
- When wearing gloves do not touch your face and be cautious of what you are touching so you do not contaminate the sample.

1. Put on a mask before leaving your vehicle.
2. Get out sampling materials: site sheet, dipper/bucket, YSI, and sample bottle(s).
3. Put on a single pair of disposable nitrile gloves.

The WATER SAMPLER should take the dipper or bucket, sample bottle(s), and YSI. The DATA RECORDER should take the site sheet, marker, and clipboard. Although the data recorder is not coming into contact with the stream, since you are handling materials you should wear gloves.

WATER SAMPLER

4. Go to the sampling site, place the YSI probe into middle or flowing portion of the stream, fully submerged, and avoid placing it in sediment. Allow the probe to stabilize and tell your partner what to record for temperature (°C) and conductivity (uS/cm) on the site sheet after 1-2 minutes.
5. When using the dipper or bucket rinse it with site water 3 times. Dump “used” water downstream on the side of the stream or grass to avoid mixing sediment into the water column.
6. Using the water from the dipper or bucket:
 - a) fill bottle $\frac{1}{3}$ full then cap, shake and empty,
 - b) rinse bottle 3 times, and
 - c) on the 4th begin filling the bottle all the way, leaving minimal airspace and cap tightly.

***Be cautious of where you are placing the cap, you do not want to contaminate the sample*.**

- If using a sampling pole, re-cover the end with a baggy
- If using a bucket, place back inside plastic bag provided

7. Bring sampling equipment back to your vehicle with your partner.

DATA RECORDER

8. While one partner is collecting the water sample the other should be recording data.
9. Start by writing weather, time, and observational data while your partner is collecting the water sample and YSI data.
10. Place the water sample into the cooler with icepacks/ice. Place YSI and dipper/bucket in trunk. Take off gloves and place in bag labelled “TRASH”
11. Enter your car and sanitize your hands and remove your mask.
12. Follow these steps at all sites.
13. Return the water samples to the Bard Community Science Lab (Bard Water Lab) as soon as possible after collection. This is important for ensuring optimal data and reliable results.

At Sample Drop-Off:

- Call Lindsey when you arrive: 845-206-8883
- Leave all gear outside of Rose.
- You will see signage hanging on the door of the building indicating where to leave gear. Lindsey will come and collect the gear.