

# Vermont Department of Health Laboratory



Vermont Department of Health

# How to find a certified drinking water laboratory

## DRINKING WATER LABORATORY CERTIFICATION

The Vermont Department of Health certifies laboratories analyzing drinking water as per Vermont Statute 18 V.S.A § 501b. Applicant laboratories need to be accredited by a National Environmental Laboratory Accrediting Program (NELAP) recognized Accrediting Authority to National Environmental Laboratory Accrediting Conference (NELAC) standards before the department will consider issuing a Department of Health drinking water certification to the laboratory. Changes to Vermont Statute 18 V.S.A § 501b, Certification of Laboratories, effective January 1, 2013, require certification for laboratories that perform testing on Vermont private drinking water samples in addition to samples for monitoring under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SWDA).

Laboratories are also required to "...submit the results of groundwater analyses to the Department of Health and the Agency of Natural Resources in a format required by the Department of Health." Find more information about required format on our [Drinking Water page](#) Resources for Certified Drinking Water Laboratories.

A completed application for certification includes:

- Appropriate fees
- Laboratory's current NELAC accreditation
- Scope and onsite report with the laboratory corrective action responses
- Acceptable Proficiency Testing results

### ✓ [LEARN MORE about Vermont Drinking Water Laboratory Certification](#)

---

- [Map](#) of Certified Drinking Water Laboratories
- [List](#) of Laboratories Certified for Drinking Water Analysis
- [List](#) of Laboratories Certified to Test for Radium in Drinking Water
- [Chart](#) of Laboratories Certified to Test for Radiochemical Analytes in Drinking Water
- [Application](#) for Vermont Drinking Water Laboratory Certification

<http://www.healthvermont.gov/public-health-laboratory/laboratory-certification-or-approval/drinking-water-laboratory>

# Kits to Purchase

- Kit A
- Lead  
(First Draw)
- Kit C
- Kit RA
- Odor
- pH



# How to Sample Water Properly

- Sampling instructions provided with each kit.
- Helpful video for Kit A, C, and RA available on the website.  
<http://www.healthvermont.gov/water>
- Fill out each Water Sample Collection Information Form
  - ▣ Critical Information:
    - Date and Time of Collection
    - Well Tag ID
- Label the bottles so they can be matched with the correct form.

# Holding Time Requirements

- Some tests require **expedited return** after sampling:
  - ▣ Kit A – 30 hours
  - ▣ pH, odor – 24 hours
  - ▣ Kit C, Kit RA – 48 hours
- Drop samples off at the lab or St. Albans district office.
- Ship samples **overnight**.
- **Do Not** Ship on a Friday
- If using USPS (Regular post office), ship to P.O. Box
  - ▣ PO Box 1125, Burlington, VT 05402-1125
- If using UPS or Fed Ex, ship to physical address
  - ▣ 359 South Park Drive, Colchester, VT 05446

# Cooling Requirements: 6°C

- Some tests require **cooling** after sampling:
  - ▣ Kit C – larger plastic bottle
  - ▣ Odor – amber glass bottle
  - ▣ Samples  $> 6^{\circ}\text{C}$  will be noted on the report
- All bottles will fit into one cooler
- Some ice packs provided
- Additional ice in plastic bags recommended
- Place Water Sample collection information form in another plastic bag to prevent degradation of paper.

