

WATER, Test Code 1010-Potable, Total Coliforms/E. Coli

Colisure® presence/absence test medium allows for simultaneous testing of drinking water for the presence or absence of total coliform bacteria and *Escherichia coli*. Colisure can detect these bacteria at 1 cfu/ml within 24 hours even with as many as 2 million heterotrophic bacteria per 100 ml present.

We do not except samples on Fridays due to the 24-hour test period and the laboratory is not open on the weekends.

1. Obtain a sterile container from Aerobiology.
2. Collect a 100 ml of water from the tap or reservoir in the sterile container making sure the inside of the container is not contaminated by the collector.
3. Keep the water in a cooler and an ice pack for transportation to the laboratory.
4. The water sample **must** reach the laboratory within 24 hours of collection or the sample will be deemed invalid.

References:

Dillon, H. Kenneth, L. Hung, J. Miller, Field Guide for the Determination of Biological Contaminants in Environmental Samples., 6.2.4: 134-135 (2005).

Eaton, Andrew D., Lenore S. Clesceri, Eugene W. Rice, Arnold E. Greenberg, Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater., 9-21 (2005).

Federal Register, Part II, December 5, 1994, Environmental Protection Agency, 40 CFR Parts 141 and 143, Analytical Methods for Regulating Drinking Water Contaminants: Final Rule, 141.21 (f)(3).