

## **Sampling of drinking water for microbiological and chemical analysis**

### **1. Containers**

Microbiological analyses: Use clean, inhibitor-free, sterile and dry containers, min. 250 mL. Fill the sample container to the brim and seal it tightly immediately. If you do not have a sterile bottle available, you can use an unopened bottle of tasteless mineral water that was emptied immediately before sampling. Special containers with added thiosulphate are required for analyses of bath water. You can collect these containers and sterile sample containers from INTERLABOR free of charge on request.

Chemical routine program: Use plastic bottles (also from INTERLABOR or PET). We need approx. 1 L of sample material.

Please note that for other chemical analyses such as TOC, PAH or PCB, special sample containers such as amber glass bottles with glass stoppers must be used. It is best to ask us about this in each case.

### **2. Sampling**

Microbiological analyses: The inside of the cap and the rim of the sample containers must not be touched with hands or objects!

When taking samples of tap water, remove rubber or plastic hoses and possibly flame the tap. Then let the water run fully open until the temperature is constant, i.e. for approx. 5 - 10 minutes, and do not adjust the tap again before taking the sample. Fill the sample container to the brim and immediately close it tightly.

Chemical analyses: If metal residues are suspected from the pipes, the sample must be taken in the morning before water has flowed through the pipes (standing water). You can fill the water directly without a pre-run.

### **3. Transport**

Keep samples to be analyzed for microbiological parameters cool and bring them to INTERLABOR as soon as possible. We should analyse them within 24 hours after sample collection. If sent by post, samples must be posted in good time by overnight express.

### **4. Packaging**

The sample containers must be packed in an impact-resistant manner.

We recommend that you cool samples to be analyzed for microbiological parameters during transport (max. 5 °C). You can ensure this, for example, with the aid of cooling elements, which can be collected from INTERLABOR free of charge on request (place the cooling elements in your freezer for 24 hours before use). However, the samples must not be frozen.

### **5. Sample reception INTERLABOR**

Microbiological examinations: Mon - Fri. 7:30 - 12:00h and 13:30 - **15:00h**

Chemical examinations: Mon - Fri. 7:30 - 12:00h and 13:30 - 17:00h.

Other times by prior arrangement only.

**From 5 samples a sample announcement is necessary**