

# Mycobacteria Water Collection/Shipping Guidelines



**Sample:** Potable and non-potable water collected in sterile bottles.

**Method:** Sample concentration and plating to selective media.

**Collection:** Free sterile screw-cap bottles are available from U.S. Micro-Solutions, call 724-853-4047.

**For collection of water from heater/cooler units, see Heater/Cooler Water Culture Guidelines.**

## Potable Water:

1. Turn on hot water and immediately collect 100 mL in a sterile plastic bottle.
2. Fasten lid tightly.
3. Keep sample cool ( $\leq 17^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) prior to shipping.

## Nonpotable Water:

1. Collect 100 mL in a sterile plastic bottle.
2. Fasten lid tightly.
3. Keep sample cool ( $\leq 17^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) prior to shipping.

## **Shipping:**

1. Clearly label each sample with a Sample Number and complete the Chain of Custody (COC).
2. Place samples in Ziploc bags and pack in a box with an insulated foam liner and ice pack.
3. Insert the completed COC form into a plastic sleeve or Ziploc bag and place in box.
4. Ship samples Monday through Friday for receipt within 24 hours of collection.
  - ▲ *If necessary, samples may be refrigerated (4-8°C) overnight prior to shipping.*