



# COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

(888)722-4234 • RIVCOEH.ORG

## Laboratories For Water Quality Analysis

(Laboratories located in Riverside, Orange, San Bernardino, Los Angeles, and San Diego Counties)

Water tank testing is required as part of the annual inspection/permitting process for a Mobile Food Facility operating with freshwater tanks in Riverside County. A copy of test results utilizing a quanti-tray method, **to confirm the absence of both Total Coliform and E. Coli bacteria**, from an accredited laboratory must be provided to this Department before your permit may be obtained. Should the water sample from the water tank test positive for Total Coliform or E. Coli bacteria, a proper disinfection of the tank must be conducted and a repeat sample must be collected until the result shows the absence of bacteria. All tests must be done within 60 days of the final inspection for the initial or any renewal of permits.

**Our Department will not permit any Mobile Food Facility with a quanti-tray test showing positive/presence of Total Coliform or E. Coli bacteria.**

### Associated Laboratories

806 N. Batavia St., Orange CA 92868  
(714) 771-6900

Clinical Laboratory of San Bernardino, Inc  
21881 Barton Road, Grand Terrace, CA 92313  
(909) 825-7693

Alpha Analytical Laboratories, Inc.  
2722 Loker Avenue W Ste B, Carlsbad, CA 92010  
(760) 930-2555

Eurofins Eaton Analytical, LLC  
750 Royal Oaks Dr. Ste 100, Monrovia CA 91016-3629  
(626) 386-1100

ALS - Truesdail Laboratories, Inc  
14201 Franklin Avenue, Tustin CA 92780-7008  
(714) 730-6239

Coachella Valley Water District  
75525 Hovley Lane, Ste. E, Palm Desert, CA 92211  
(760) 398-2651

*\*This list may not be complete and Riverside County does not endorse any particular company.  
Scan the QR code to see a list of accredited laboratories.*





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### Collecting Water Samples

Collect samples from cold-water faucets on or in the mobile food facility, such as the handsink or 3-compartment sink. Wash your hands prior to collecting the sample. If you use a tap with a screen or aeration device, remove these before taking your sample. Ensure that sources of contamination such as insects, cobwebs, dust, rain, snow, etc. are not present when taking the samples, the faucet must be clean. Do not obtain samples from taps that leak around the valve stem and allow water to flow over the outside of the tap. This leakage could be a significant source of external contamination of the sample. Faucets must be high enough to put the bottle underneath the spigot without contacting the mouth of the container with the faucet.

#### What You'll Need for Sampling:

- Brush
- Disinfectant
- Cooler with Ice Packs
- Sample bottle
- Label/Pen

#### Taking The Sample:

1. Scrub the outside and inside of the tap with a plastic-bristled brush to loosen any attached debris.
2. Open the faucet and thoroughly flush the line for at least two to five minutes and then turn the tap off. The longer the water runs, the better the chance of flushing out bacteria that may be in the plumbing.
3. Swab the tap with a disinfectant such as bleach and wait for one to two minutes.
4. Reduce the flow until the water leaving the tap has a continuous, gentle flow without any turbulence.
5. Do not rinse the bottle prior to taking the sample. The powder in the bottle, if present is sodium thiosulfate, which inactivates any chlorine-based disinfectant. Be sure this substance stays in the bottle.
6. Remove the cap from the sample bottle and keep it in your hand facing down. Do not touch the inside of the cap or the bottle's inner surface. These actions can contaminate the sample.
7. Carefully place the sample bottle under the running water. Fill the bottle to the fill-line; do not overfill the sample bottle or allow the water to splash.
8. Quickly replace the cap on the bottle and label the sample clearly. Place samples in a cooler with cold packs. If ice is used, at no time should the sample container be immersed or submerged in the ice or melted ice water. The sample must be delivered to the laboratory within 24 hours from the time of collection.