



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Public Health

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Public Health

TO: Environmental Health Sample Collectors

FROM: Cindy Price, Manager
Environmental Sciences Unit

DATE: April 5, 2019

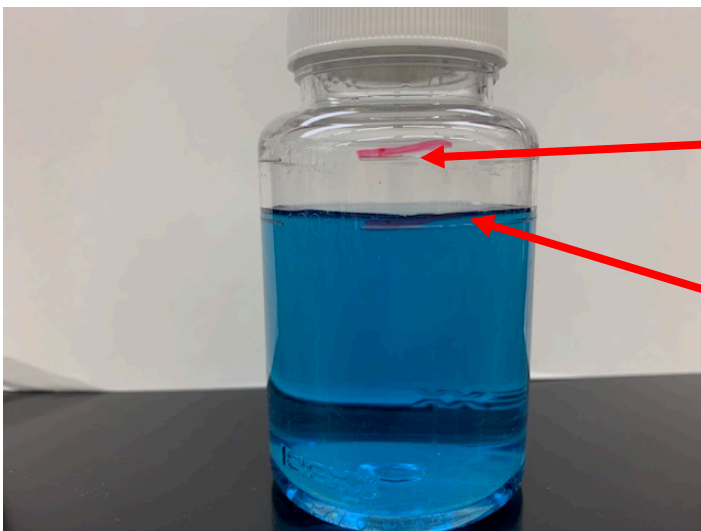
RE: Bacteriological Sample Collection

In mid-2018 the Environmental Sciences Microbiology Laboratory purchased larger 150-mL sample collection bottles in order to have the EPA-required 1-inch space above the sample level to properly shake the water sample and reagent material. EPA does not allow the laboratory to pour off any excess above the 100-mL mark but requires that this be aseptically removed using sterile pipettes or a 100-mL volume transferred to a new sample container.

The laboratory has observed that many sample collectors are filling the bottle above the 120-mL mark. We ask that you please collect to, or just slightly above the first line on the bottle which is the required 100-mL sample volume. Every effort is made to prevent cross-contamination of a sample, but multiple manipulations can lead to unnecessary exposure of your sample to the environment.

Please pass along this information to all those in your department who collect bacteriological samples.

Thank you



Please do not fill to or above this line.

100-mL volume.

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH • STATE LABORATORY OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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