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 access 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.