

## Instructions for Coliform/Bacteria Sampling

Proper sampling of water is paramount for Pyxis Laboratories' ability to achieve valid analytical results. To correctly obtain a representative sample, the following steps must be observed when sampling directly from a tap or spigot.

- **Step One: DO NOT** collect samples from taps or spigots which contain aeration devices or screens. (If necessary, remove the device or screen and continue with step two.)
- **Step Two:** Thoroughly disinfect the faucet area using flame or Isopropanol, and flush the source for 5 minutes at a moderate flow rate until it reaches a constant temperature.
- **Step Three:** Remove the sterile seal from the bottle and remove the cap. (**DO NOT** touch the inside of the bottle or the underside of the cap. Leave the white powder inside the bottle.)
- **Step Four:** Hold the sample bottle near the tap or spigot and fill the container between the 100ml line and the fill-line, leaving a one-inch air space between the surface of the water and the cap. Replace the cap. (**NOTE: DO NOT overfill.**)
- **Step Five:** Refrigerate the sample and keep cool on ice during transport. The sample **SHOULD** be received by the laboratory at < 10 °C within **24 HOURS** after the sampling event. **The sample may be rejected or the data will be flagged as not meeting EPA or NELAC standards if the sample is not preserved properly, has leaked, and/or is over 30 hours old.**