



Water Line Bacteria Testing

The City of Hutchinson requires bacteriological sampling on any new water pipe installed with a diameter of 1 ½" or larger. Sampling is required on all approved water pipe materials. The water will remain off from the city's water distribution system until the water department receives confirmed results, from a certified laboratory, the water samples are absent of bacteria coliform. The results can be submitted to the water department staff through email or a physical paper copy. A list of labs certified to test bacteria coliform can be found through the Minnesota Department of Health at [Accredited Labs in Minnesota Accepting Samples from Private Well Owners \(state.mn.us\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/labs/certified/privatewells/).

The City of Hutchinson follows the ANSI/AWWA C651-14 standard for water line disinfection. Please see below for some bullet points within this standard:

- Water within the pipe must have free chlorine residual of 0.2 PPM – 1.3 PPM at the time of sampling.
- Bacteriological testing
 - Option A: Take an initial sample and then resample again after a minimum of 16 hours. Both sets of samples must pass for the water line to be approved for release.
 - Option B: After flushing, let it sit for a minimum of 16 hours without any water use. Two samples are required a minimum of 15 min apart while the sampling taps are left running. Both sets of samples must pass for the water line to be approved for release.
- For new mains, sets of samples shall be collected every 1,200 ft of the new water main, plus one set from the end of the line and at least one from each branch greater than one pipe length.

Please feel free to contact the water department with any questions.

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