

Bacteriological Sample Tap Procedures



Sampling Taps



Definition – Water Tap

Tap - any faucet, spigot, or other outlet connected to the public water system, regardless of whether the faucet is connected directly to the water system main or is connected to the plumbing of a business or residence that obtains water from the public water system.

Approved Sample Taps

Smooth-Nozzle

12 inches minimum from any surface

No standing water in faucet exposed to atmosphere

Draw water directly from the mains (water lines)

Keep Your Distance



At least 12"





Smooth nozzle. Easy to control flow.



Keep it Covered

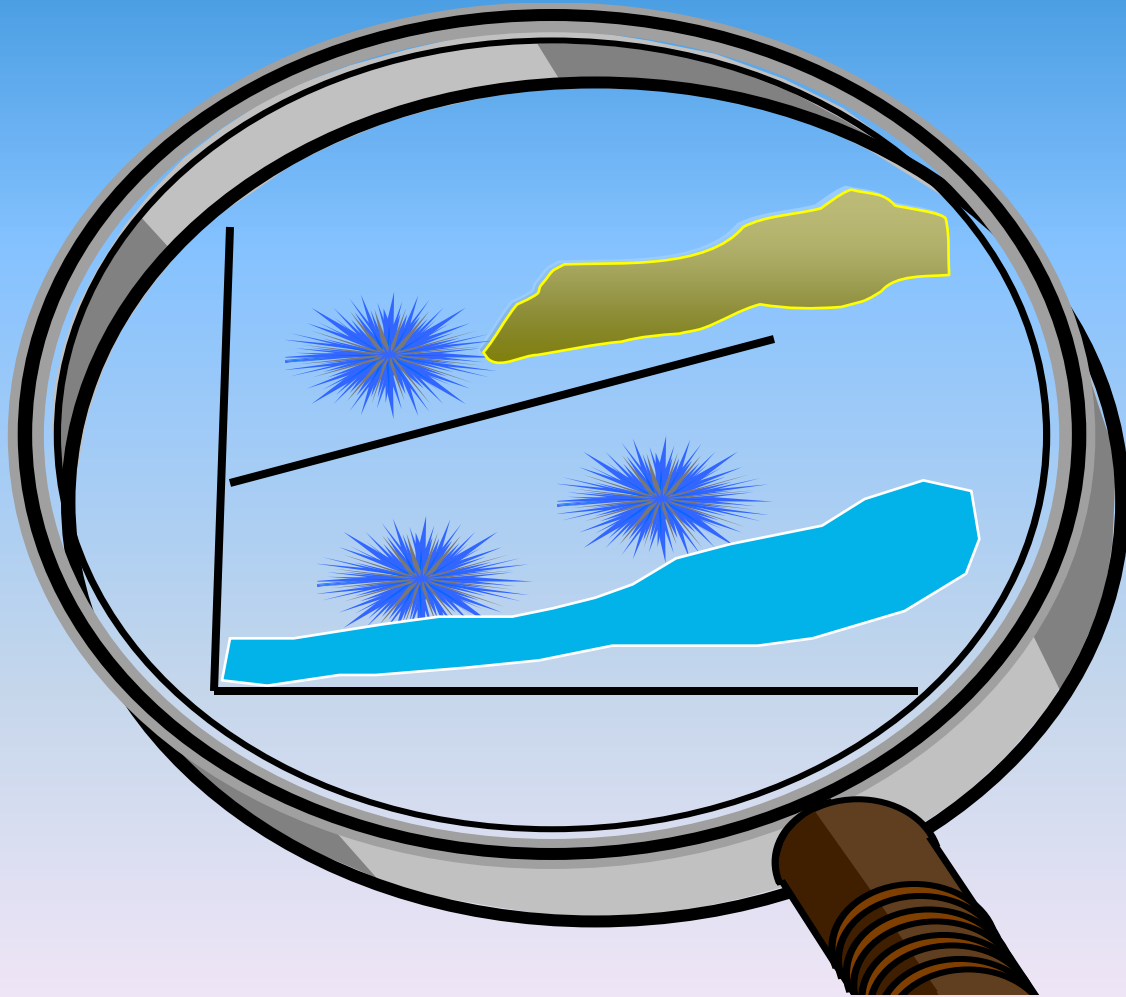
Animals & Insects are attracted to water





Nozzle pointed up. Threaded end. Not an approved sample tap!

No Threaded Sample Taps





Smooth nozzle.



Unapproved Sample Taps

Swing-neck tap

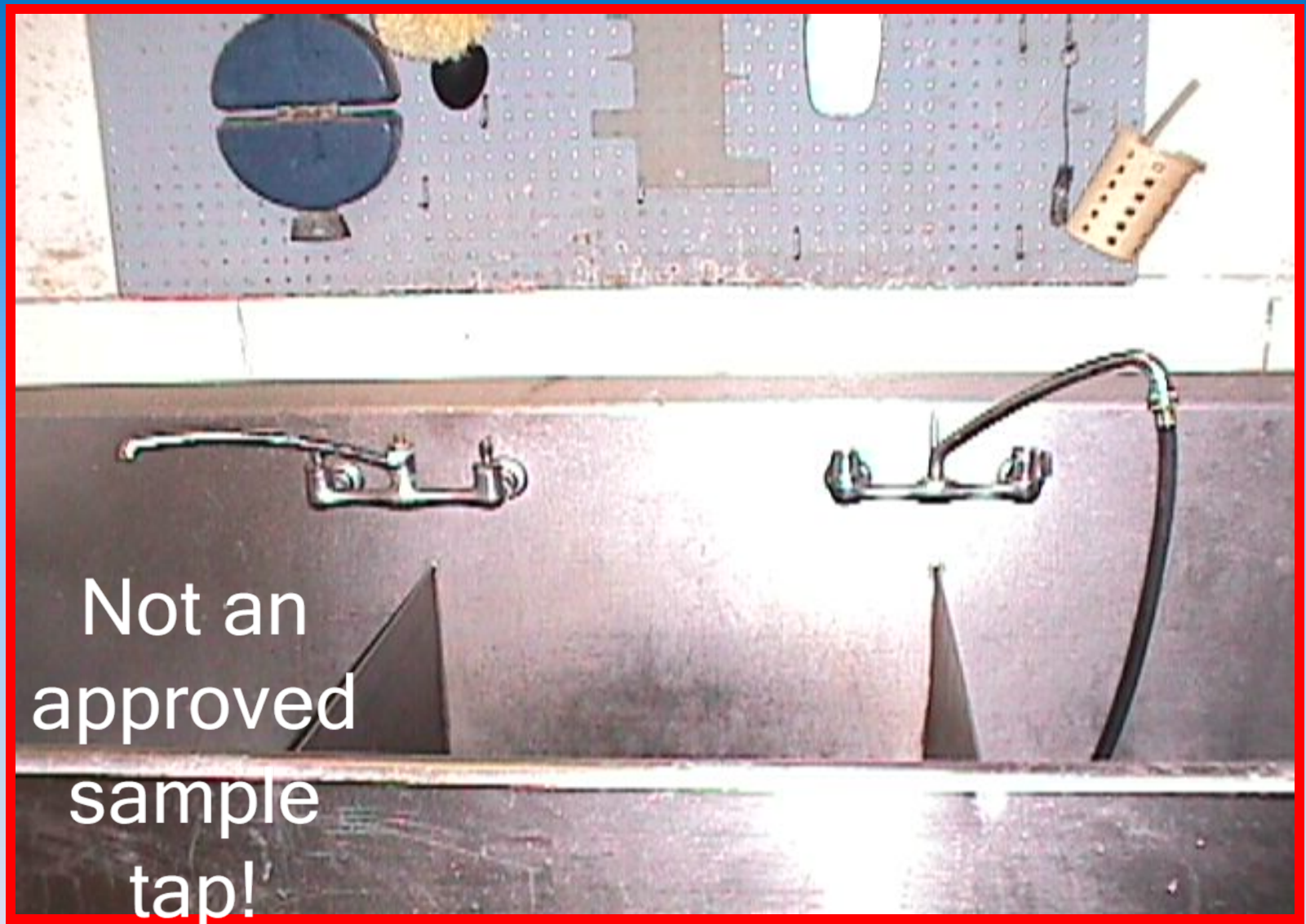
Mixing faucets

Vacuum breakers

Leaking faucets

Fire hydrants/flush valves

Downstream of treatment devices



Swing-neck faucets. Mixing valves. Screens - aerators on end of faucets.




Not an
approved
sample
tap!

Corrosion on outside - possible leaking packing gland.



Not an
approved
sample
tap!

Split valve.

A photograph of a vacuum breaker device installed on a pipe. The device has a black, multi-lobed handle and a threaded base. The pipe it is attached to has a green and blue mottled pattern. The background is a light-colored, textured surface. The entire image is framed by a thick red border.

Not an
approved
sample
tap!

Vacuum Breaker -Back-flow prevention device.



Not an
approved
sample
tap!

Threaded faucet. Hose possible cross-connection.



Not an
approved
sample
tap!

Next to sewer lift station.

Leaking Packing Gland

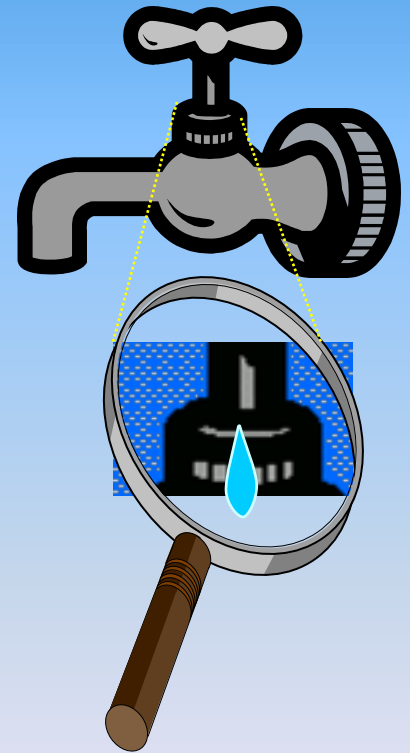




Packing gland
leaking

Sample Tap - Leak Test

Turn faucet on full stream.
Turn faucet down to trickle.
Look for water around base
of handle.



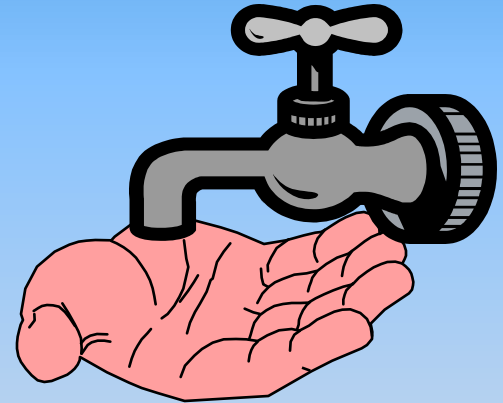
Sample Tap - Leak Test

Block spout with hand.

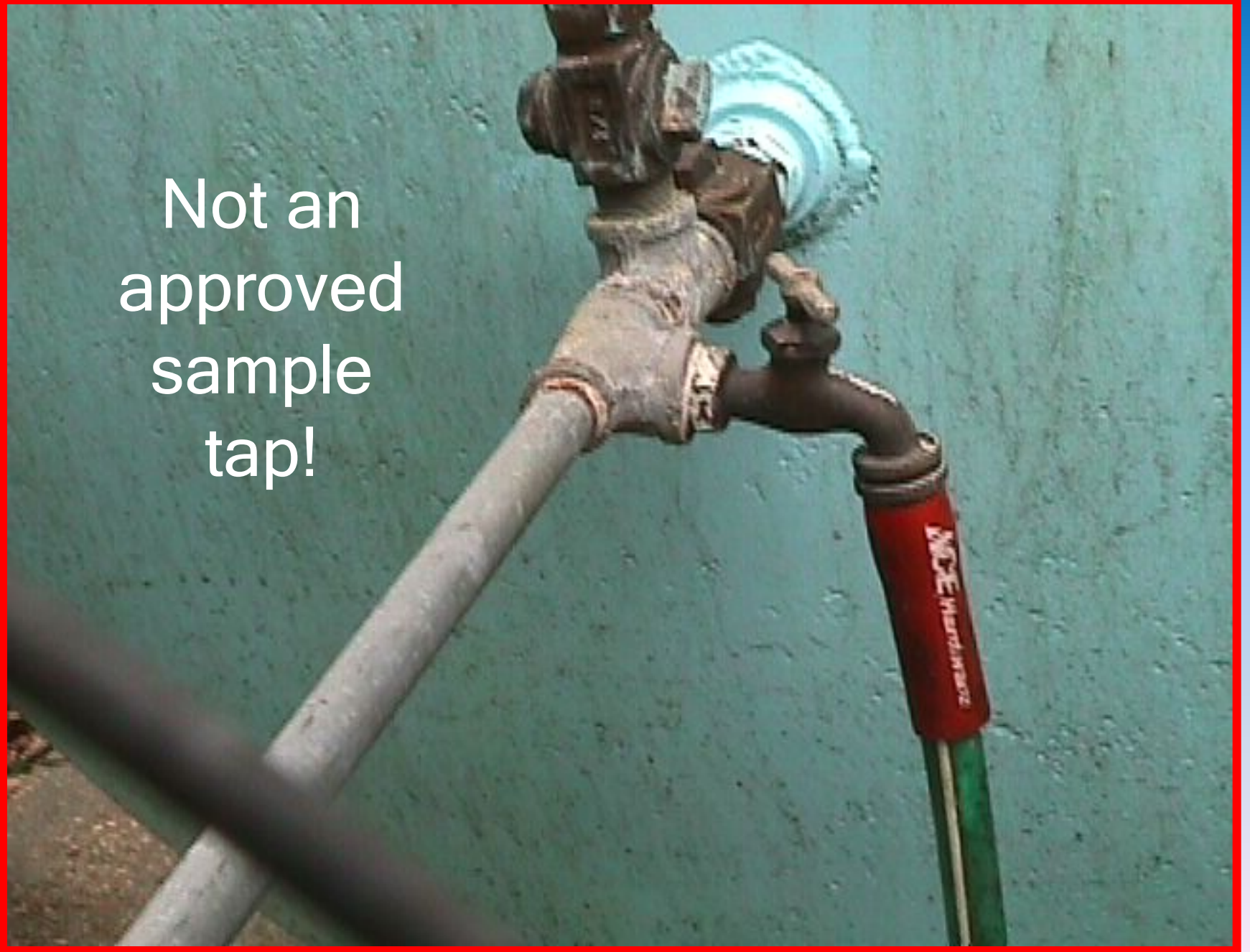
Slowly turn water on.

If tap has threads,

use pressure gauge



Not an
approved
sample
tap!





Not an
approved
sample
tap!

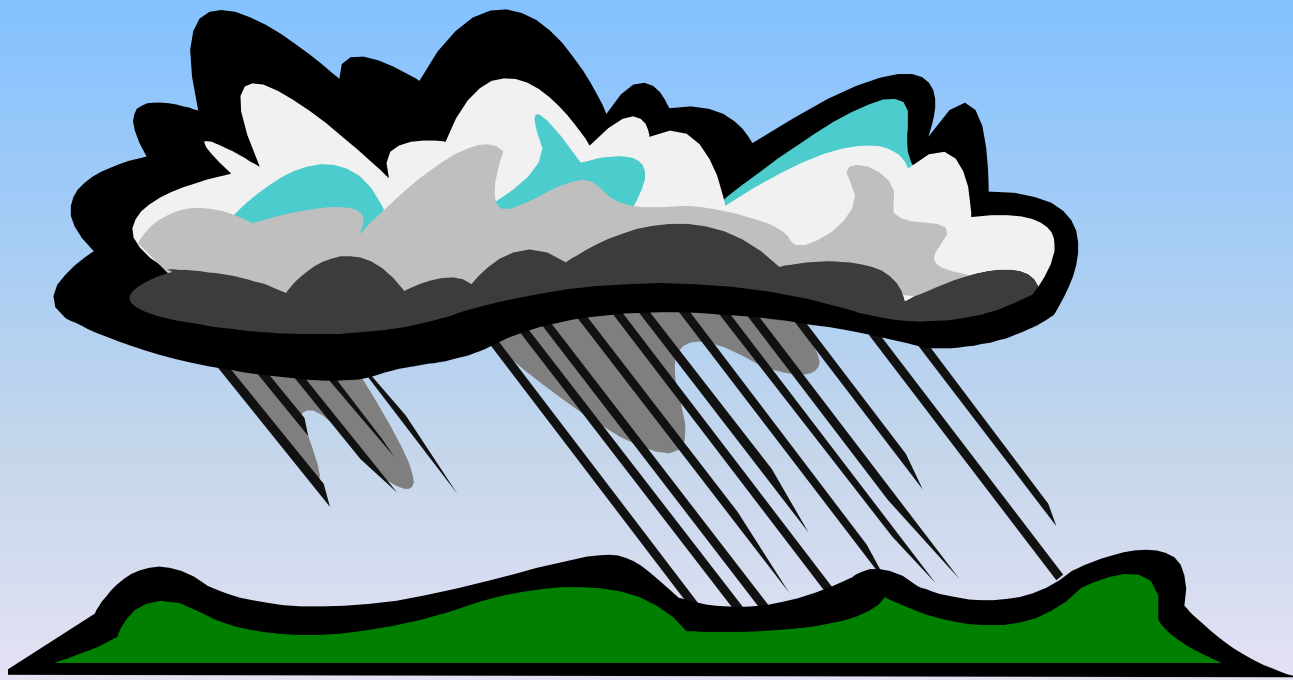
Dead water if either valve cannot be used.

Common Issues that can lead to undesired results

Improper Sampling Techniques

- Ω Not Flushing the Tap
- Ω Improper Handling of sample bottles
- Ω Bottle over-filled or under-filled
- Ω Exceed 30 Hour Holding Time

Avoid Sampling in the Rain



Keep your faucets
maintained – no spray



Who's Responsible??

The WATER SUPPLY PERSONNEL are responsible for insuring that all water samples are collected during the correct compliance period.

Beginning August 1, 2012 the water system is also responsible for collecting the sample in accordance with DHH specifications and delivering it to an approved drop off/pick up location on a timely basis.

Laboratory Results go to DHH

- You will be notified by Region/District or Lab if you have a TC+ Sample
- Collect Repeats and Triggered Source samples within 24 hours or as scheduled
- May require corrective action be taken to resolve contamination

QUESTIONS

