



# AQUAFINE CORPORATION

ULTRAVIOLET WATER STERILIZERS

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## RECOMMENDED PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING STERILE WATER SAMPLES

The Aquafine Corporation recommends the following procedures be used in obtaining sterile water samples from piping systems, sampling cocks, faucets, etc.

Prior to taking the water sample, be sure to have on hand an adequate supply of sterile bottles. These sterile bottles should be obtained from a reputable laboratory and should have been autoclaved and contained within a plastic outer wrapping.

1. Prior to taking the sample, it is imperative that the sample cock, faucets, etc. be opened at full force for a complete three and one half minutes. The inside diameter of a sample valve must not exceed 1/8" diameter to insure proper velocity. Tubing or some other material may be used to direct the water to a container or drain to avoid unnecessary spillage.
2. After the valve has been left wide open for three and one half minutes, reduce the flow to a reasonable stream of water. Flow to drain an additional three minutes.
3. Open the sterile bottle. Holding the cap in a down position, the operator should then hold his breath while taking the sample so as to avoid oral contamination of the sample. The operator must not allow his finger to touch the inside of the cap or the neck of the bottle.
4. After the sample has been taken, the cap should immediately be tightly placed on the sample container.
5. The sample container should be placed in a plastic wrapping and should be taken to the laboratory for plating as soon as possible following the above procedure.

The above procedure was developed by a leading national pharmaceutical firm after an eighteen-month study, and it has been found that any or all debris which may be accumulated within a sample valve or faucet will be mechanically removed during the three and one half minute flush period.

We recommend duplicate samples be taken at each test station during each specific test so as to avoid loss of sample through laboratory error and to insure reasonable validity through comparison.