

Sample Faucets

A fact sheet for drillers and pump installers

Sample faucets are used to collect water samples to test drinking water for contaminants such as coliform bacteria, nitrate, arsenic, other metals or agricultural chemicals. The proper product design, installation and use of sample faucets are important to ensure reliable sample results.

SOME IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT SAMPLE FAUCETS:

- **PRIVATE AND NON-COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEMS** – Sample faucets shall be smooth end. Sample faucets cannot be threaded faucets that have had the threads filed off. Sample faucets shall be 12 inches above the floor and have a downturned spout in a sanitary area.
- The sample faucet shall be installed at or upstream of the pressure tank and upstream of any water treatment equipment for collection of water samples directly from the well. There are some limited exceptions. (refer to NR 812.34 (1) and (2)).
- All sample faucets shall be metal and shall have an inside diameter of at least ¼ inch.
- **PUMP WORK** – When working on existing systems, pump installers shall follow NR 812.42(11)(b) and NR 812.04(2). This means that when doing any pump work replacing the pressure tank or water supply lines inside the basement or building, the pump installer must install a complying smooth-end sample tap.
- **PROPERTY TRANSFERS** – A sample faucet that was installed on or after February 1, 1991 and is noncomplying, or a well and pressure system without a compliant sample faucet shall be recorded as **noncomplying** for property transfer inspections regardless of the installation date of the system.
- **NON-COMMUNITY PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS** – A “entry point” sample faucet is required on a non-community water system at a location in the system which is after treatment or chemical addition, if any, but prior to the distribution system.



DOES YOUR SAMPLE FAUCET LOCATION COMPLY WITH ch. NR 812, Wis. Adm. Code?

This fact sheet does not replace or supersede specific code language for compliant sample faucets and their installation, which is found in ss. NR 812.04, NR 812.34, NR 812.37, NR 812.42 and NR 812.44, Wis. Adm. Code.

This document is intended solely as guidance and does not contain any mandatory requirements except where requirements found in statute or administrative rule are referenced. Any regulatory decisions made by the Department of Natural Resources in any matter addressed by this guidance will be made by applying the governing statutes and administrative rules to the relevant facts.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services, and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

This publication is available in alternative format (large print, Braille, audiotape, etc.) upon request. Please call 608-266-1054 for more information.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Box 7921 Madison, WI 53707-7921
(608) 266-1054

