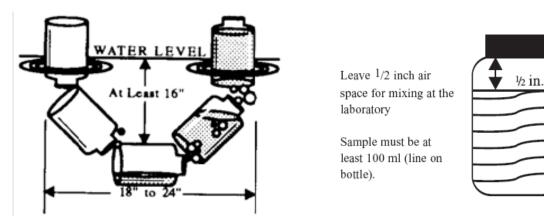


Pool Sampling Instructions

Using an IDEXX 120-mL Shrink-Banded Vessel with sodium thiosulfate:

- 1. A dechlorinating agent has been added to the bottle. It may appear as a white crystal, a drop of liquid, or a spot of powder two or three millimeters in diameter. It is sodium thiosulfate. **Do not wash or rinse it out**. The purpose of the bottles containing thiosulfate is to destroy the chlorine present at the moment the sample is collected. Sodium thiosulfate prevents the killing action of the chlorine on the bacteria while the sample is being transported to the laboratory. Water samples which contain chlorine residuals when they reach the laboratory will not be examined.
- 2. Remove the screw cap being careful not to touch or otherwise contaminate the inside part of the cap or the neck of the bottle.
- 3. Swimming pool and bathing beach samples should be collected by holding the open bottle upside down and plunging it about 18" beneath the surface, tilting and sweeping the bottle forward until filled. Pour out some of the water until the water level in the bottle is at the 100ml mark on the container. For bathing beach water, collect the sample in the actual bathing area--at least 25 feet from shore.
- 4. Replace the cap securely. Deliver the container(s) to the lab.

Example:



5. Clearly label your sample using the sticker included in your kit. If no sticker is available, use permanent marker on the lid of your sample for identification.

