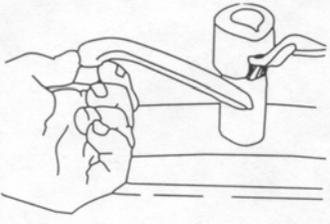
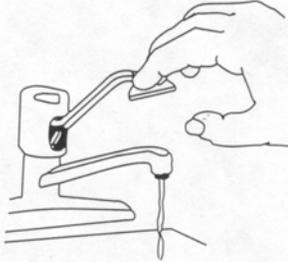
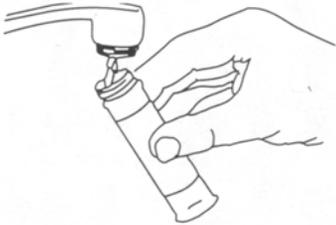


General procedure for collecting water samples if testing for volatile organic chemicals [Illinois EPA cautions private citizens that may try to collect their own water sample: the chemicals for which the sample will be analyzed – volatile organic compounds – may evaporate into the air while drawing the sample, if proper procedures are not precisely followed.] July, 2009

 <p># 1: Remove the aerator from the indoor leak-free cold water faucet</p>	 <p># 2: Let water run for 15 minutes to assure that you are getting water from the ground-water source (where your well is screened below ground).</p>	 <p>#3 Reduce the water flow until the stream is about ¼ inch in diameter.</p>
 <p>#4 Fill a prepared laboratory container as instructed by the lab. Hold the container at an angle to reduce aeration.</p>	 <p>#5 Fill the container until there is a curved surface to the water on top.</p>	 <p>#6 Replace the cap. Avoid trapping air between the sample and the cap.</p>
 <p>#7 Turn the vial upside down and tap. <u>If bubbles appear</u>, take another sample in a new container. If <b>no bubbles</b> appear, transport the sample as instructed by the laboratory.</p>	<p><b>Notes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Samples should be kept in a cooler with ice for transport to the lab.</li> <li>• Do not keep samples longer than 24 hours before taking them to a lab.</li> <li>• <b>If you use a water softener or filter, take the sample from an outside spigot not affected by those. Be</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>sure to disconnect the hose before taking the sample.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Containers have a special preservative for the volatile chemicals. Do not rinse or reuse lab containers or fill to overflowing.</li> <li>• Always follow the lab directions.</li> </ul>

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