



Vermont Department of Health Laboratory

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**Instructions for Collection and Packaging of Private Drinking Water
Samples for Blue-Green Algae Toxin (Kit BGA-2a)**

Please Read Instructions Carefully Before Collecting Sample

Kit BGA-2a Contents:

- 1 - sample submittal form (ORTox 202 BGA Toxin Request for Analysis)
- 3 - 40mL sample vials with septum caps
- 3 - labels for sample vials
- 1 - prepaid return mailing label
- 1 - ice pack (keep frozen until used)
- (paper towels recommended but not provided)

Upon receipt place ice pack in a freezer, the rest of the kit can be stored at room temperature until needed.

Collection of Sample Instructions

1. Identify a source of drinking water from which a sample can be drawn into a vial provided in the kit. This can be from a sink faucet or tub faucet. Uncap one of the vials and collect a sample from the tap. Cap and dry the outside of the vial. Write collection information on one label and place it on the vial.
2. Collect another sample of water in the same manner from a source of raw water, preferably where the water comes into the house before it is filtered and/or softened. Cap and dry the outside of the vial. Write collection information on one label and place it on the vial.
3. The third vial is an extra to be used in case one of the others gets lost or broken.
4. Provide the requested information on the submittal form for each sample. Also enclose a check in the amount of \$25 made out to the **Vermont Department of Health**. Place form, check and samples in the return shipment container.
5. Keep samples cool. Use the ice pack in the shipping container for cool transport to the laboratory. Deliver or ship samples by first class mail to the laboratory as soon as possible.