



**SAN MATEO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY
TEST INFORMATION**

Section: Environmental

Test Name: Membrane Filter Test

Test Includes: Total and fecal coliforms and <i>E. coli</i>	
<i>Reporting</i>	
Results Available:	Contact Number: 650-573-2500
<i>Reference</i>	
Method: Membrane filtration with confirmation testing	
Turnaround Time: 1-4 days	Reference Range: <1 colony
Limitations: No Friday deliveries for routine specimens. Sample must be delivered to lab within 24 hours.	Interpretation:
<i>Specimen Requirements</i>	
Specimen Collection:	Sample Type: Drinking and source waters
Volume/Amount Required: 100-120 ml	Preferred Specimen:
Collection/Preservation: sodium thiosulfate	Storage Instructions: 2-4° C
Causes for Rejection: too long in transport, not refrigerated, no sodium thiosulfate	Sample Container: Approved sterile sample collection bottle
Sample Test Kit:	Availability: Monday through Thursday (other days for emergencies only)
Test Information: Enumeration is performed on all samples. All positives will be called. Detection limits: 0-80 colonies on undiluted samples.	
<i>Specimen Submission</i>	
Request Form: Environmental Test Request	Specimen Handling:
Transport Temperature: <10°C with freezer packs	Shipping Requirements:
<i>Billing</i>	
Effective Date: July 1, 2008	Fees: \$18.00