

EQUIPMENT BLANK SAMPLING

This year we are asking every lake to collect one equipment blank sample to assess whether your equipment is contributing any contaminating material to the samples. Many lakes are using equipment 20+ years old and therefore this is a possibility. That being said, we are asking you to please collect an equipment blank sample (even if your gear is brand new) so that we can comprehensively understand this issue across all CSLAP lakes.

You only need to collect an equipment blank sample during one round of your choosing.

How to collect an equipment blank sample:

1. Complete a normal CSLAP sample according to the normal protocol
2. **Rinse your equipment with distilled water**, as you normally would after collecting a sample
3. Pour approximately 300 ml (approx. 1¹/₃ cups) of distilled water into your Kemmerer with the bottom valve closed.
4. Discharge the distilled water directly from the Kemmerer into the equipment blank bottle (fill to the shoulder).
5. Freeze and ship this bottle with your other samples