

Food Safety Modernization Act Produce Safety Rule Agricultural Water Testing Labs in Vermont and Neighboring States

This factsheet provides contact information for laboratories in Vermont and neighboring states that offer agricultural water testing services. These services can be used to comply with regulatory or audit programs that require growers to test their agricultural water for the presence of potentially harmful bacteria.

A listing does not constitute endorsement or recommendation by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (VAAFM). Listings are subject to change and growers should contact labs directly for further details.

Laboratory	Location	Phone	Website
Anayltic Services Inc.	130 Allen Brook Ln. Williston, VT	(802) 878-5138	www.analyticalservices.com
Certified National Analytics Lab	27 Kent St. Suite 102 Ballston Spa, NY	(518) 884-0800	www.cnawater.com
Certified National Analytics Lab	172 Ridge St. Glens Falls, NY	(518) 792-1170	www.cnawater.com
EAI Analytical Labs	33 Whittemore Farm Rd. Swanzey, NH	(603) 678-4891	www.eai-labs.com
Endyne Inc. (NH)	56 Etna Rd. Suite F Lebanon, NH	(603) 678-4891	www.endynelabs.com
Endyne Inc. (NY)	315 New York Rd. Plattsburgh, NY	(518) 563-1820	www.endynelabs.com
Endyne Inc. (VT)	160 James Brown Dr. Williston, VT	(802) 879-4333	www.endynelabs.com
Moose River Environmental Lab	951 US RT 2 E St. Johnsbury, VT	(802 751-5982	www.mooseriverlab.com
Vermont Department of Health Laboratory	359 South Park Dr. Colchester, VT	(802) 338-4724	www.healthvermont.gov/lab



Interactive Online Map

https://tinyurl.com/VTwaterlabs

Water Sampling Requirements

FSMA Produce Safety Rule: Subpart E – Agricultural Water https://go.usa.gov/xQGJC (URL is case sensitive)

GAP Audit Program

https://go.usa.gov/xQGJg (URL is case sensitive)

CAPS Audit Program

https://practicalproducesafetyvt.wordpress.com





Importance of water testing

Water is crucial to all aspects of farming, whether it's used to grow, cool, or process produce, or to keep hands, tools, and equipment clean. Because waterborne pathogens are not visible to the naked eye, routine water testing is important for ensuring that agricultural water contacting fresh produce is not a potential source of contamination. Growers may be required to conduct routine water testing to meet the requirements of the FDA's Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule (PSR) or for voluntary audit programs, such as USDA's Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Vermont Vegetable and Berry Growers Association Community Accreditation for Produce Safety (CAPS).

How to take a sample

Laboratories will provide a sample kit with specific sampling instructions. Make sure to read the instructions carefully and follow sanitary practices, such as wearing clean disposable gloves and not touching the rim of the sample container. For more information on taking a water sample and best practices, read VAAFM's *Water Sampling 101* factsheet:

https://go.usa.gov/xdPeb

Hold time recommendations

The accuracy of a water test is influenced by the amount of time between sampling and processing at the lab (called the 'hold time'). VAAFM recommends 6 hours as the maximum time between sampling and drop-off at the laboratory for the most accurate results, even if a laboratory allows a longer in-transit hold time. Samples should be kept at <10 C° (<50 F°), but not frozen. These recommendations are consistent with the EPA's *Guidelines Establishing Test Procedures for the Analysis of Pollutants* (https://go.usa.gov/xQGuG) and *Standard Methods 9060 B* (https://go.usa.gov/xQGuA).

Approximate costs of water sampling

The cost of a water test is typically between \$15 and \$50 per sample. Check with each laboratory for current pricing and additional services such as sample drop-off locations.



Test method recommendations

VAAFM recommends using a laboratory service that uses one of the FDA's approved test methods (https://go.usa.gov/xQGuv) for sampling generic *E. coli* in agricultural water for the purposes of meeting FSMA PSR agricultural water requirements. Approved test methods provide an enumeration of generic *E. coli* (a count) rather than simply indicating presence or absence. At the time of writing this factsheet, all laboratories listed offer testing services using an FDA approved test method.

Questions?

Contact the Vermont Produce Program at (802) 828-2433 or AGR.FSMA@vermont.gov. Find additional resources at https://agriculture.vermont.gov/produceprogram.

Please note: URLs on this page are case sensitive.

Last updated: February 21, 2020



(802) 828-2433 AGR.FSMA@vermont.gov agriculture.vermont.gov/produceprogram