

STOOL COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

For Enteric Bacteriology and Ova/Parasite Exams

- Obtain clean newspaper, plastic wrap (as shown below) or wide-mouthed container. Collect the stool specimen as shown below.



1. Lift the toilet seat. Cover the toilet bowl with a large sheet of newspaper or plastic wrap. Make a depression in the material with your hand to allow for collection. (If using wide-mouthed container, hold so that stool goes directly into container and does not come into contact with water or urine.)
2. Lower the toilet seat and sit to pass specimen onto newspaper or plastic wrap.

- An appropriate (i.e. bloody, slimy, watery) area of stool should be selected and sampled with the collection spoon provided in the cap of the container. Sufficient stool is added to each container to bring the liquid level up to the “fill to here” line (approximately 1 gram). **DO NOT REMOVE THE LIQUID INSIDE THE COLLECTION VIAL.**
- DO NOT TAKE STOOL FROM TOILET BOWL.** Stool samples cannot be tested if mixed with water or urine.
- After collecting stool specimen, dispose of newspaper or plastic wrap.
- Agitate each specimen with the spoon along the sides of the container, tighten the cap and shake firmly to insure that the specimen is adequately mixed. When mixing is completed the solution should appear homogeneous.
- Fill in the information on the attached label and complete the laboratory requisition form.
- Send the specimen vial(s) to the address below:
WVDHHR/BPH/Office of Laboratory Services
Microbiology Department
167 11th Avenue
South Charleston, WV 25303