

Foster Care Home Health Inspection



Objectives

- ▶ Health Inspection Components
- ▶ Chapter 65C-45, F.A.C.
- ▶ DCF Foster Home Inspection Checklist
- ▶ Health Inspection Preparation Items

Health Inspection Components

Inspection Checklist

**Garbage and
Rubbish Disposal**

**Water
Supply**



**Vermin and
Vector Control**

**Plumbing and
Sewage**

Chapter 65C-45, F.A.C.

65C-45.005(5)(a)

A licensing specialist who has been trained by the Department, community-based care agency (CBC), or other state entity, such as the local health department, in the areas of water supply, food holding temperature, plumbing, pest control, sewage, and garbage disposal, shall complete the “Foster Home Inspection Checklist,” incorporated by reference in Rule 65C-45.003, F.A.C.;

Foster Home Inspection Checklist



State of Florida
Department of Children and Families
**FOSTER HOME
INSPECTION CHECKLIST**

PURPOSE

- INITIAL
 FOLLOW-UP
 RE-LICENSING

RESULTS

- SATISFACTORY to meet Level II requirements
 UNSATISFACTORY to meet Level II requirements

**CORRECT VIOLATIONS
BY FOLLOW-UP ON:**

_____ (date)
_____ (time)

Name of Foster Parent(s): _____ (Last Name) _____ (First Name)

Location Address: _____

City: _____ State: FL Zip Code: _____

E-Mail: _____ Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

BEGIN TIME	END TIME	DATE
_____	_____	_____

Licensed Capacity for Foster Home: _____
Current Capacity for All Children in the Home: _____

WATER SUPPLY & WASTE WATER

- C NC NO NA
 1. Private well – routine testing
 2. Private well – results absent

SEWAGE

- C NC NO NA
 3. Onsite septic system operational per 64E-6

PLUMBING

- C NC NO NA
 4. Bath clean and working
 5. Toilet clean and working

VECTOR CONTROL

- C NC NO NA
 6. Effective control measures
 7. Creation of conditions
 8. Rodent/Rat proof
 9. Inside opening screened

GARBAGE & RUBBISH DISPOSAL

- C NC NO NA
 10. Collection frequency
 11. Garbage placed in receptacle
 12. All garbage cans have covered lids
 13. Garbage areas clean

FIRE SAFETY/OTHER

- C NC NO NA
 14. Smoke detectors
 15. Burglar bars
 16. Fire extinguisher
 17. Safety net for trampoline

Marking Key: C = the act or item was observed to meet standards; NC = the act or item was observed not to meet standards; NO = the act or item was not observed to be occurring at the time of inspection; NA = the act or item is not performed by the facility or not part of the operation

Comments: _____

Licensing Counselor: _____ Foster Parent Signature: _____

Licensing Supervisor: _____ Date: _____

Water Supply

Water supply testing should occur whenever a foster home receives its source of water from a private well.



Water Testing Criteria, Testing, and Frequency

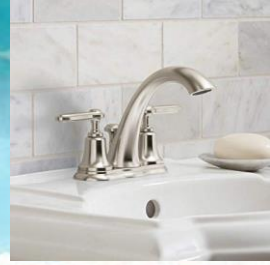
1. Water Supply. When water is accessible to those in care, the water temperature shall not exceed 120 degrees Fahrenheit to avoid scalding. Adequate hot water shall be provided at a minimum of 100 degrees Fahrenheit.
 - a. Routine Testing. Licensed out-of-home caregivers not served by a municipal water supply shall test water and submit bacteriological water test results to the local county health department:
 - I. Before license approval;
 - II. At least every 12 months;
 - III. Upon relocation;
 - IV. Before having the well placed in service after construction, repair, or modification; or
 - V. After an emergency situation, such as a flood, that may introduce contaminants to the system.

Water Testing Criteria, Testing, and Frequency, cont.



- b. Test results must be negative for bacteriological contamination.
- c. Positive test results require the facility to use potable water from a source approved by law for the purpose of drinking, cooking, and oral contact, until test results are negative. In addition, wells that test positive shall be disinfected, flushed, and tested for bacterial contamination.
- d. Laboratory tests must be submitted to the local county health department, in writing, by the testing laboratory.
- e. The licensing specialist may administering testing when appropriate
- f. Testing can be obtained through the local county health department or a certified independent laboratory.

Water Sample Steps



How to take a water sample:

- ▶ Write the identifier on the bag or bottle.
- ▶ Choose a faucet closest to the well pump. Avoid taking water from a kitchen faucet since they usually have swivel heads. This can be a source of contamination; instead, use a stationary faucet, i.e., bathroom.
- ▶ Remove any screen, filter, or attachment from the faucet before taking the sample.
- ▶ It is suggested that you disinfect the surface of the tap with alcohol prior to sampling.
- ▶ Let the water run at least five minutes. After five minutes, adjust the flow to obtain a smooth, steady stream with no splash.
- ▶ Wash hands thoroughly in alcohol.
- ▶ There is a fee charged for each sample submitted (bacteria analysis only).
- ▶ Never sample on a Friday as labs do not take samples on Fridays.
- ▶ It is recommended that a water sample be taken by the licensing agency, not the foster parent.

Water Sample Steps, cont.



For bags:

- ▶ Tear off the top of the water bag on the perforated line. Do not touch the edges.
- ▶ Open the bag by pulling on the two small white tabs on the front and back of the top of the bag. Do not remove the white tablet.
- ▶ Fill with water up to the four-ounce fill line (top of solid white area).
- ▶ Pull the bag closed by firmly grasping the white tie strips on the very top of the bag.
- ▶ Whirl the bag twice, then twist the long twist tie strips together to seal the bag.
- ▶ Place the bag in a container on ice to transport it to the lab.

Water Sample Steps, cont.

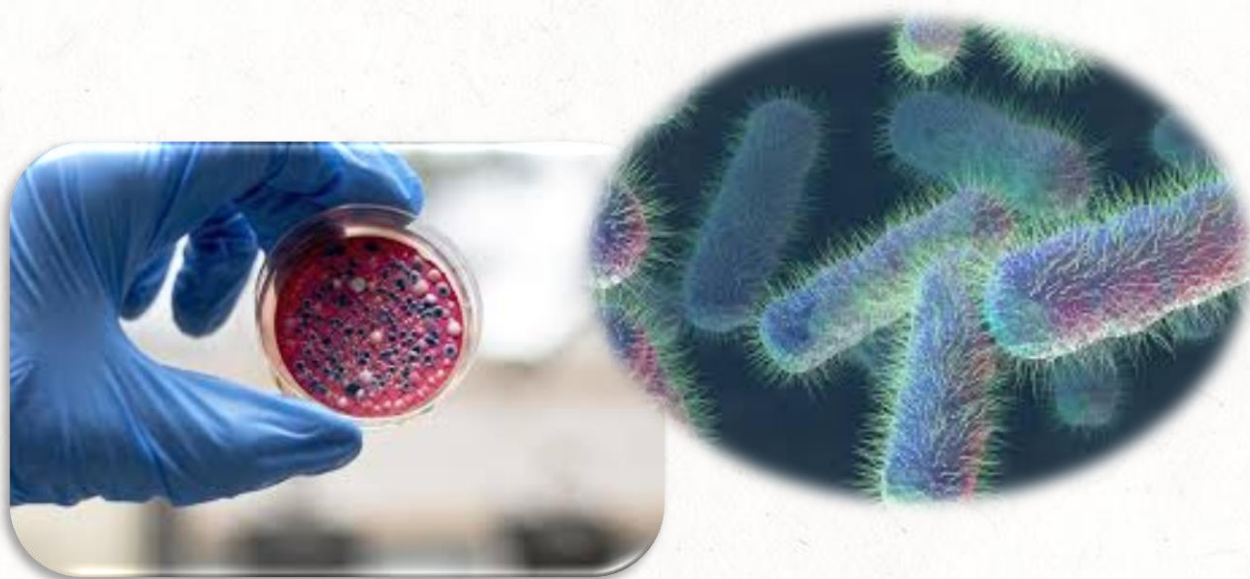


For bottles:

- ▶ Be sure not to touch the inside of the bottle. Do not remove the white tablet inside.
- ▶ Fill the bottle with water up to the four-ounce fill line (top of solid white area).
- ▶ Seal tightly.
- ▶ Place the bottle in a container on ice to transport it to the lab.

Water Test Results

- ▶ Test results must be absent (A) for bacterial contamination.
- ▶ Test must be repeated if the sample contains bacterial contamination.



Plumbing and Sewage



- ▶ All toilets, baths, and showers need to be clean and in good working order.
- ▶ Hot water must be a minimum of 100°F and cannot exceed 120°F.
- ▶ Water temperatures should be taken in the kitchen and bathrooms.

Plumbing and Sewage, cont.

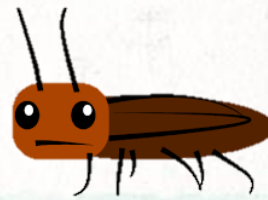


- ▶ All homes on septic systems must be checked for sanitary nuisances.
- ▶ The perimeter needs to be checked to ensure there is no sewage on the ground, and there are no open septic tanks.
- ▶ If you suspect there is an issue with the septic system, call the local health department for further guidance.



Vermin and Vector Control

- ▶ Effective measures must be taken to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, cockroaches, and other vectors and vermin.
- ▶ All windows and doors that will be used for ventilation must have a 16-mesh screening or equivalent.
- ▶ Make sure to check for evidence of vectors and/or vermin.



Garbage and Rubbish Disposal



Effective measure controls:

- ▶ Look at how and where the garbage is stored in the home and outside of the home.
- ▶ Disposal of trash shall occur daily for items that are odor-causing agents to prevent a sanitary nuisance, and weekly for paper items.
- ▶ The garbage cans outside need to have secured lids to keep insects, rodents, etc., from getting into the garbage and breeding.
- ▶ Wet garbage shall be collected and stored in impermeable, leak-proof, fly-tight containers pending disposal.
- ▶ Ensure the home has regularly scheduled garbage pickup and document on health inspection sheet.

Fire Safety

- ▶ Smoke detectors should be tested to ensure they are operable (press and hold the test button on the smoke detector to test the device).
- ▶ Each floor in the home shall have a fully charged, unexpired 2A10BC fire extinguisher.
- ▶ Foster parents shall obtain a radon test, if applicable.



- ▶ If the home is equipped with burglar bars, the foster parent shall be able to demonstrate that they can be released to allow exit. A key placed near a window does not qualify as an approved emergency release method. Age-appropriate training on opening of the burglar bars shall be provided to each child upon placement.

Other Safety Areas

- ▶ Trampolines shall have a safety net enclosure surrounding the them.
- ▶ Check at each quarterly visit.



Health Inspection Preparation Items

- ▶ Alcohol pads or wipes

- ▶ Plastic bags or bottles



- ▶ Container with ice to store water sample

- ▶ Gloves

Local Resources

- ▶ Prepare before training:
 - Contact list for your local CBCs for Water Testing Labs, Local Health Departments, and fire extinguisher inspectors.