



## PFAS (EPA Method 533 / 537.1) Sampling Instructions

### Sampling Clothing

- Avoid wearing clothing or boots containing Gore-Tex or using materials containing Tyvek.
- Avoid using cosmetics, moisturizers, heavy fabric softeners on clothes the day of sampling.
- Use PFAS-free sunscreens.
- Avoid insect repellants.
- No aluminum foil present.
- Collect PFAS samples first if your cooler contains other sample collection bottles!

### Consideration of Supplies

- Do NOT use chemical ice packs.
- Felt-tip pens and permanent markers should NOT be used. Use regular ball point pens.
- Avoid adhesive products like sticky notes.
- Avoid plastic clipboards, binders, hard covers, etc.
- Sampler must wash hands before wearing nitrile gloves in order to limit contamination during sampling.

### Sampling Protocol Steps

- Wash hands and put on Nitrile gloves (provided). They must be worn during the sample collection.
- If your sampling point has a faucet with an aerator, remove the aerator prior to collection of the samples.
- Flush the cold water sampling line approximately 10-15 minutes immediately prior to sampling.



- Slow the water stream before collection to ensure no splashing of sample.
- Remove cap WITHOUT touching the inside of the cap or around the edge of the container.
- Fill the container to the neck, replace cap and tighten.
  
- Do NOT overfill container.
- Allow a small amount of head space for mixing the sample with the preservative.
- Invert to mix the sample with the preservative.

### **PFAS Field / Trip Blank**

- Per EPA methods 537.1 and 533 methodology, a Field / Equipment Blank (FB) must be collected with all drinking water samples.
- Open the FB container and pour the PFAS-free field blank water (provided) into the empty container labeled Field Blank at the sampling location.
- The FB will only be analyzed if the targeted compounds for the sample are detected in the associated sample.

### **Shipping Instructions**

- If samples are being sent directly to the testing lab, make sure they are shipped overnight to the testing lab.
- Samples must arrive at testing laboratory within 48 hours of sampling.
- Maximum temperature of samples can be 10 degrees C...but not below 0 degrees C.
- Maximum hold time to start analysis is 14 days for method 537.1 and 28 days for method 533.