



PFAS Field Sampling Guidelines for Groundwater and Soil

*For Waters: 2 x 125 mL Bottles per sample
filled to the neck of the bottle*

PLEASE READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS PRIOR TO CONDUCTING SAMPLING

Sampling for PFAS for determination using EPA 537m can be challenging due to the prevalence of these compounds in consumer products. The following guidelines reflect current knowledge and are recommended when conducting sampling.

Consider Sampling for PFAS First...

Sample containers for other methods may have PFAS present on their sampling containers which could cross-contaminate your sample(s). We are analyzing down to the low parts-per-trillion (ppt) range so cross-contamination prevention is an important consideration.

SAMPLING

All Sampling done with Nitrile Gloves, provided by YORK

SAMPLE CONTAINERS

All sample containers - PP ONLY (Target list of 21 PFAS) Caps are unlined and made of PP (no Teflon® lined caps) Bottles are Batch Certified to be Target PFAS-free (< Reporting Limit)

FIELD EQUIPMENT

- Must not contain Teflon® (aka PTFE) or LDPE materials
- All sampling materials must be made from stainless steel, HDPE, acetate, silicone, or polypropylene
- No waterproof field notebooks can be used
- No plastic clipboards, binders, or the like
- No adhesives (e.g. Post-It® Notes, Duct tape) can be used
- Sharpies and permanent markers not allowed; regular ball point pens are acceptable
- Aluminum foil must not be used
- Keep PFAS samples in separate cooler, away from sampling containers that may contain PFAS
- Coolers filled with regular ice only - Do not use chemical (blue) ice packs

EQUIPMENT DECON

- “PFAS-free” water (e.g. Poland Spring*)-on-site for decontamination
- Only Alconox and Liquinox can be used for decontamination

* Poland Spring has been demonstrated to be PFAS-free when freshly opened

FIELD SAMPLING CLOTHING CONSIDERATIONS

- Do not use fabric softener on clothing to be worn in field
- Do not use cosmetics, moisturizers, hand cream, or other related products the morning of sampling
- Do not use sunscreen or insect repellants
- No materials containing Tyvek®
- All safety boots made from polyurethane and PVC
- No clothing or boots containing Gore-Tex®
- Wet weather gear made of polyurethane and PVC only

FOOD CONSIDERATIONS

No food or drink when PFAS Sampling with exception of bottled water and/or hydration drinks (i.e., Gatorade and Powerade) that is available for consumption only in the staging area.

SAMPLE CONTAINER HANDLING

- For **AQUEOUS** Samples: Each sample set contains 2 x 125 mL containers. Fill each container to the neck
- For **SOILS**-1 x 250 mL container, FILL HALF WAY ONLY
- No preservative is necessary for this application at this time.
- Place closed, labeled Sample bottles into ZipLock bag.
- Dispose of Nitrile gloves in provided waste bag.
- Place in separate cooler from other samples, WET ICE only
- Follow instructions on next page for more detail.
- If you have a Quality Assurance Project Plan follow that guidance



PFAS -Recommended Field Sampling Guidelines

PLEASE READ INSTRUCTIONS ENTIRELY PRIOR TO SAMPLING EVENT

Sampler should wash hands before wearing nitrile gloves in order to limit contamination during sampling. Each sample set* requires a set of containers to comply with the method as indicated below. *Sample set is composed of samples collected from the same sample site and at the same time. **A pair of Nitrile gloves is included with each sample Zip-lock bag/bottle set. One Field Blank set per day is provided.**

Note: PP is Polypropylene

Sample Containers	Bottle Type	Preservation
2 Sampling Containers - Empty- per sample-Waters SOILS- 1 Container-fill only half way	125 mL PP container-Waters 250 mL PP for Soils	None, Cool <6C
1 PP Bottle with PFAS-free Water for Field Blank	125 mL PP container	None, Cool <6C
1 Field Blank (FRB) - Empty-per sampling day	125 mL PP container	None, Cool <6C
2 - Empty PP bottles for MS/DUP when needed (Soils MS/DUP come from same Bottle)	125 mL PP container	None, Cool <6C

NOTE: Sampling containers for WATERS must be filled to the neck. **SOILS, fill bottle only 1/2 full**
FIELD BLANK and MS/DUP Bottles are labeled with NEON GREEN LABELS

Field blanks are required per sampling event day and the containers have been provided. Follow the instructions below.

Field Blank Instructions:

1. Locate the PFAS Field Blank bottle (empty, labeled) supplied The PFAS Field Blank Water container is pre-filled at YORK with PFAS-free water to transfer to the empty PFAS Field Blank bottle.
2. Locate the empty container labeled "Field Blank" with Neon green labels
3. Open both containers and proceed to transfer contents of the "PFAS FIELD BLANK WATER" container into the "PFAS FIELD BLANK" Bottle
4. Field Blanks to be analyzed must be listed on the Chain-of-Custody.
5. Both the empty Field Blank water container and the filled Field Blank container must be returned to YORK along with the samples taken.

Matrix Spike/ Matrix Dup Instructions: Note: **Soil MS/MSD** can be from the same container as the sample

1. Locate the PFAS MS and DUP bottles (empty, labeled-NEON GREEN) supplied -normally 1 set per 20 field samples
2. Transfer chosen Field MS /Dup as a normal sample and indicate sample ID on container and on Chain-of-Custody

Sampling Instructions: ALL SAMPLE BOTTLES HAVE NEON YELLOW LABELS

1. Do not overfill or rinse the container. Any sample(s) for Matrix Spike and Matrix Duplicates are treated similarly.
2. Close containers securely. Label legibly and place containers in ZipLoc® bags, and in a separate cooler (no other container types).
3. Ensure Chain-of-Custody and all sample labels contain required information. Place all samples in separate coolers (separate from other samples for different parameters). Place wet ice (bagged) on samples for return to YORK. Samples should be kept at 4°C ±2. Samples must not exceed 10°C during first 48 hours after collection. **Hold time is 14 days.**