

PFAS Sampling Instructions for SDWA (Drinking Water) Compliance for EPA Method 537

Please read instructions entirely prior to sampling event.

It should be noted that there is considerable information available from the US EPA as well as a multitude of state regulatory agencies regarding the potential for PFAS cross-contamination during sampling. It is recommended that samplers consult the applicable regulatory guidance prior to sampling. The following instructions are drawn from "METHOD 537, Version 1.1, September 2009, EPA Document #: EPA/600/R-08/092".

The sample handler must wash their hands before sampling and wear nitrile gloves while filling and sealing the sample bottles. PFAS contamination during sampling can occur from a number of common sources, such as food packaging and certain foods and beverages. Proper hand washing and wearing nitrile gloves will aid in minimizing this type of accidental contamination of the samples.

Each sample requires a set of containers to comply with the method as indicated below.

Container Count	Container Type	Preservative
2 Sampling Containers - Empty	275 mL container	Pre preserved with Trizma
Reagent Water for Field Blank use	275 mL container	Pre preserved with Trizma
1 Field Blank (FRB) Container - Empty	275 mL container	Unpreserved

**** Sampling container must be filled to the neck. For instructional purposes a black line has been drawn to illustrate the required fill level for each of the 2 Sample containers****

The Field blank, **for SDWA compliant samples only, must be included and handled** with each sample set at the sampling location. A sample set consists of samples collected from the same site at the same time.

Field Blank Instructions:

1. Locate the Reagent Water container from the bottle order. The Reagent Water container is prefilled with PFAS-free water and preserved with Trizma.
2. Locate the empty container labeled "Field Blank".
3. Open both containers and proceed to transfer contents of the "Reagent Water" container into the "Field Blank" container.

Both the empty Reagent Water container and the filled Field Blank container must be returned to the laboratory along with the samples taken.

Sampling Instructions:

1. Each sampling event requires 2 containers to be filled to the neck of the provided containers for each sampling location.
2. Before sampling, remove faucet aerator, run water for 5 min, slow water to flow of pencil to avoid splashing and fill sample containers to neck of container (as previously illustrated) and invert 5 times.
3. Do not overfill or rinse the container.
4. Close containers securely.
5. Ensure Chain-of-Custody and all labels on containers contain required information.
Place sample, Field Blank and empty Reagent Blank containers in ice filled cooler and return to the laboratory. 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.

Please contact your project manager with additional questions or concerns.

