



PFAS Sampling SOP “Cheat Sheet”

Prior to the PFAS Sampling Event

Review DEP’s Effluent PFAS Sampling SOP. Designate personnel and duties, including training, documentation, location and methods for sample collection, preservation, transportation to the contract lab, equipment decon and storage between sampling events, receipt and maintenance of PFAS sampling results.

Equipment

PFAS sampling kit – Cooler, 2 x 250ml sample bottles, 1-liter PFAS-free water, small temperature blank, field blank (1 full and 1 empty 250ml bottles) *if applicable*, equipment blank (1 full and 1 empty 250ml bottles) *if applicable*, Chain of Custody sheet. *Fill in labels shortly before sampling, & return bottles into their plastic bags. Fill in COC either before or after sampling.* Make arrangements with contract lab for kit drop-off/sample pickup at least 24 hours in advance of sampling event.

Sampling Device

Grab sample container must be either stainless steel or HDPE, at least 1 liter in capacity. A length of natural fiber rope or a grappling device may be used to reach the waste stream. *Use solely for PFAS sampling.*

Personal Gear

A cotton or cotton blend lab coat or over-suit, cotton clothing, disposable nitrile gloves. *Use solely for PFAS sampling.* Review Table 1 of SOP: Personal care items to avoid on sampling days.

The Sampling Event

- Don lab coat and a pair of disposable nitrile gloves; *do not handle any sampling bottles or equipment without wearing gloves.* Fill in bottle labels (date, time, initials) and return to plastic bags;
- Take kit to sampling site and place nearby in as clean an environment as possible;
- Do Field blank first, *when applicable.* Take both bottles out of the plastic bag, open the empty bottle, open the full bottle and pour the contents into the empty bottle. Cap both bottles and return into the plastic bag. Place bag in the cooler;
- Do Equipment Blank next, *when applicable.* Rinse sampling device with a portion of the PFAS-free water, and dump. Take both bottles out of the plastic bag. Pour the contents of the full bottle into the sampling container, and then pour the contents of the sampling container into the empty bottle. Cap both bottles and return into the plastic bag. Place bag in the cooler. *If you are filling directly from a spigot, you do not run an equipment blank;*
- Now take your Samples (2 bottles). Place your sampling container into the effluent stream, dump your first sample, and then take another sample. Pour this sample into both of the two sample bottles, filling each up to the shoulder/bottom of the neck. *There is a preservative in these bottles (Trizma), so take care not to overfill or dump from them.* Cap both bottles and return into the plastic bag. Place bag in the cooler. *If you are filling directly from a spigot, there is no sampling container to flush.* Allow effluent stream to run for a minimum of 5 minutes before filling the bottles;
- The cooler should now contain 2 full sample bottles in a bag, 1 full and 1 empty field blank bottle in a bag *when applicable*, 1 full and 1 empty equipment blank bottle in a bag *when applicable*, and the small temperature blank.
- Cover with sufficient ice to maintain preservation until the cooler is either picked up by courier or otherwise shipped to the lab.
- Decontaminate your sampling container by washing in an Alconox/Liquinox solution, rinsing with tap water, rinsing again with PFAS-free water, allow to dry and then place it in a plastic bag for storage.
- Decontaminate your lab coat by washing alone in plain soap/detergent, hanging to dry, and placing it in a plastic bag for storage.