



www.anateklabs.com - 208-883-2839 (Moscow)

PFAS/PFC Sampling Instructions

General Guidelines

- Sampling should occur on a Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday to ensure time for samples to be shipped and received before the weekend.
- Samplers must wash hands prior to sampling and wear powderless nitrile gloves while filling and sealing bottles.
- Do not uncap bottles until water is running and you are ready to collect samples.
- If the sampling site has an aerator, it should be removed before flushing the system and collecting samples.
- Two sample bottles will be filled at each sampling site, and Field Blank A will be poured into the Field Blank B bottle.
- Sample bottles include a preservative – do not rinse out the preservative.
- A Chain of Custody (COC) form must be completed for each sampling site.
- Clearly label each sample container to indicate the sampling location and the date and time collected. Use ball-point pens – avoid gel-pens and felt-tip or permanent markers.

Collecting Samples in the Field

The sampling kit for each site includes two sample bottles and two Field Blank bottles

Sample Bottles: 250 mL polypropylene plastic (**fill two sample bottles for each sampling site**)

- Samplers must wash their hands prior to sampling and wear nitrile gloves while filling and sealing bottles.
- The bottles contain a preservative – **do not rinse out the preservative!**
- Open the tap and allow the system to flush long enough to ensure water is coming from the source (at least 5 minutes). Reduce to a slow steady flow for collection.
- With gloved hands, uncap the bottle.
- Fill the bottle under a slow stream of water until the bottle is filled to the 250 mL mark at the shoulder of the bottle – do not fill to the top.
- Gently replace the cap, tighten securely, and invert the sample a few times to dissolve the preservative.
- Label the sample bottle with date, time, and location.

Field Blanks (one bottle required for each sampling site):

- You will have one sealed 250 mL plastic bottle that contains reagent water (labeled *Field Blank A*) and one plastic bottle that is empty except for preservative (labeled *Field Blank B*).
- At the sampling site, with gloved hands, **open Field Blank A and pour it into empty Field Blank B** and seal the cap.
- **Label Field Blank B with the date, time, and location** of the site, and ship it along with the samples.
- *The empty Field Blank A bottle can be recycled. It does not need to be returned to the lab.*



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PFC Shipping Instructions

Sample Handling

- Place samples into sealed plastic bags and then on wet ice immediately after sampling and/or refrigerate samples prior to shipping to lab. Samples must be shipped so that ice remains in the cooler upon receipt at the lab. Cooling samples prior to packing helps to ensure that samples remain cool in transit.
- Before submitting your samples to the lab, ensure that there is a complete chain of custody form for each sampling site.

General Shipping Instructions:

- PFAS samples must be kept on ice or refrigerated at less than 10°C (and above 0°C – not frozen) if received at the laboratory within 48 hours. Samples received after 48 hours must be received at 6°C or lower, and will need documentation that they have been refrigerated since collection.
- Place collected samples in sealed plastic bags before adding them to a cooler or shipping container.
- Use ice frozen in plastic bottles or bagged ice cubes – not chemical ice packs.
- Pre-cooling samples in a refrigerator or on ice prior to packing in a shipping cooler can help ensure that samples stay below 10°C (<48 hours from collection to receipt) or 6°C (>48 hours) throughout shipping – this is especially important in the summer.

Packing the Cooler:

- Complete the Chain of Custody and place in a zippered plastic bag.
- Line the cooler with sufficient bubble wrap to protect sample bottles.
- Place the samples (in sealed plastic bags) into the cooler, and fill the cooler with bagged ice or ice frozen in plastic bottles (shipping companies won't deliver leaking packages).
 - **Do not use blue ice packs.**
- Line the top of the cooler with additional bubble wrap, and place the bagged Chain of Custody in the cooler.
- Tape the cooler lid shut, apply courier labels, and ship samples overnight to
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Video:

A video outlining these procedures is available at:

<https://www.anateklabs.com/pfas-sampling-video/>

or

<https://youtu.be/j2dKKyxMwvQ>