

# PFAS by Methods 533 and 537.1 Sampling Guide

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) are abundant in everyday items. Sampling for PFAS requires special care to avoid cross contamination between the sample and common sampling equipment and other everyday items. Please familiarize yourself with this sampling guide before heading out to the sampling site.

Field Reagent Blanks (FRBs) will accompany each bottle order for PFAS by Methods 533 and 537.1. The purpose of FRB is to determine if the samples are exposed to any contamination during shipment, storage and sampling. The quantity of FRBs per sampling event may vary depending on sample quantity and project requirements.

## Sampling Requirements:

- Samples received at the laboratory within 48 hours of sampling must be received below 10°C. Samples received after 48 hours of sampling must be received within 6°C.
- A Field Reagent Blank must be collected during each sampling event. If the sampling event includes more than 20 sampling points, one FRB must be collected per 20 sampling points.
- PFAS samples must be collected first, before collecting samples for any other parameters to avoid contamination with other container types or preservatives.
- Samples must be double bagged in plastic bags and isolated to their own cooler.
- Each sampling event must include at least one set of containers for MS/MSD per 20 sampling points.

## Sampling Procedure:

1. Ensure all attachments such as screens, aerators or hoses are removed from the tap prior to sampling.
2. Flush the water and wait for the water temperature to stabilize before filling the provided containers.
3. Fill the container to the shoulder making sure to not overfill any containers containing preservatives. Once the container has been filled, invert the container a few times to ensure the preservative is evenly distributed.
4. The FRB must be sampled in the field where the remaining samples are being taken. Using the provided 250 mL HDPE container with reagent water fill the empty pre-preserved container. Once filled ensure the container is labeled as FRB and includes the sampling date, time and location of the site.

### **Abstain from using the following items:**

1. Any items containing fluoropolymers, such as Teflon. Such items include, but are not limited to: Teflon bailers, Teflon tubing, pumps containing Teflon materials such as Teflon tape, Teflon lined bottles or caps.
2. Eating food in the sampling area.
3. Using personal care products, insect repellent, or sunscreen in the sampling area.

### **Allowed equipment:**

1. Equipment comprised of HDPE, PVC, polypropylene, silicone, or stainless-steel.
2. Laboratory tested PFAS free HDPE or Polypropylene containers.
3. HDPE sheeting.

## **PFAS in Drinking Water by Method 533**

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### **Items needed:**

- 2- 250 mL HDPE with Ammonium Acetate per sample point
- 1- 250 mL HDPE filled with reagent water (FRB) per sampling event\*
- 1- 250 mL HDPE with Ammonium Acetate (FRB) per sampling event\*
- 2- 250 mL HDPE with Ammonium Acetate (MS) per sampling event\*
- 2- 250 mL HDPE with Ammonium Acetate (MSD) per sampling event\*
- Cooler with ice/Fridge
- Nitrile Gloves

## **PFAS in Drinking Water by Method 537.1**

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### **Items needed:**

- 2- 250 mL HDPE with Trizma per sample point
- 1- 250 mL HDPE with reagent water (FRB) per sampling event\*
- 1- 250 mL HDPE with Trizma (FRB) per sampling event\*
- 2- 250 mL HDPE with Trizma (MS) per sampling event\*
- 2- 250 mL HDPE with Trizma (MSD) per sampling event\*
- Cooler with ice/Fridge
- Nitrile Gloves

**i** If the sampling event exceeds 20 sampling points, additional containers will be provided with the bottle order for MS/MSD and Field Reagent Blanks.