



Guidance for Compliance Sampling and Testing of Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) for Industries

Contact your lab and request PFAS testing for Perfluorodecanoic Acid (PFDA), Perfluoroheptanoic Acid (PFHpA), Perfluorononanoic Acid (PFNA), Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS), and Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA).

Laboratory analysis to be conducted by EPA 537 – Isotope Dilution Method.

Your contract lab should provide you with sampling instructions and containers for this testing EPA Method 537.

Follow the instructions given to you by your testing laboratory.

Before you begin:

1. Be sure you understand there are many prohibited items while sampling for PFAS (due to the extremely low detection limits, these items can produce positive interferences) listed below:
 - Teflon containing materials. Aluminum foil
 - Sample containers made of LDPE
 - Post-it notes
 - Chemical ice packs
 - New clothing
 - Water resistant, waterproof, or stain resistant clothing, clothing containing Gore-Tex™
 - Clothing laundered using fabric softener
 - Boots containing Gore-Tex™
 - Cosmetics, moisturizers, hand cream, or other related products as part of personal cleaning/showering routine on the morning of sampling.
2. Equipment and Supplies you may need that are approved:
 - Cooler containing labeled sampling containers (all sampling containers to be obtained from laboratory performing the analysis. This is to ensure all are PFAS free and proper materials are being used)
 - Ice
 - Soap and water for hand washing
 - Paper towels
 - Fine point sharpie and pens

- chain of custody
- nitrile gloves (powderless)
- metal clipboard
- Clothing to be made of cotton that has been previously washed 6 or more times
- Uncoated Tyvek coveralls
- Boots made with polyurethane and PVC

3. Collecting the Sample

- Be sure the vehicle is clean. (clean interior with cotton cloth moistened with DI water).
- Keep all sampling containers in cooler for transport to sampling location.
- Keep all sampling equipment wrapped in polypropylene plastic sheets or Ziploc bags for transport to sampling location.
- Keep all PPE in plastic bag(s) for transport to sampling location.
- Sampling must be done with a minimum of two people.
- Be sure all appropriate clothing is worn and no prohibited materials are in use.
- Upon arrival near sampling site don nitrile gloves and collect all sampling equipment, PPE and sample container cooler.
- Put on any personal safety equipment.
- Just prior to collection of sample wash hands and don nitrile gloves.
- Remove the lid of the sampling container, being careful not to touch the inside of the lid or container or allow them to contact other surfaces. Fill the container to neck and screw the lid back on tightly.
- Label all sample containers.
- Place sample container(s) in the bag it came out of and place in cooler with ice.

Follow the instructions given to you by your testing laboratory.