

Sampling Instructions for Per and Poly Fluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) by EPA method 537.1 or EPA method 533

The **sampling kit** for drinking water samples provided by GEL Laboratories includes:

- 1) **Nitrile Gloves** – Use these gloves when collecting the samples and make sure and change gloves between each sampling point to prevent any cross-contamination.
- 2) **Pre-labeled sample containers containing preservative** – Method 537.1 requires Trizma as a preservative. Method 533 requires ammonium acetate. Containers will be provided with the appropriate preservative. Collect each sample location in duplicate by filling 2 containers from the same location. Ensure sample labels are completed including a sample identification (ID) as well as date and time of sample collection.
- 3) **Two 250ml containers full of PFAS-free water and preserve for Field Reagent Blank (FRB) and two empty 250ml containers**– The same preservative as the samples will be present in the pre-filled container. Pour the preserved water from the full container into the empty container when you collect the actual sample(s). Label sample as FRB with the date and time of collection. Discard the empty containers.
- 4) **Chain of Custody** - Complete this paperwork with the same sample information as listed on the sample containers (ID, dates, and times).

To avoid re-sampling or other sample custody complications, refer to the following tips while packing your cooler. These will help you protect your samples from drops, shocks and impacts and will ensure that sample temperatures stay within the regulatory required temperature range of above freezing to 6°C.

- 1) Always ship samples in the cooler and bottles provided by the laboratory.
- 2) This analysis requires cold preservation, keep the samples on ice. Natural ice is recommended per the method as blue ice may contain PFAS. When in doubt – USE MORE ICE. Ice is much less expensive than re-sampling. A trash bag can prevent your cooler from being held up in shipment due to leakage. Use it to line the cooler, wrap it around the samples and ice and tie it at the top.
- 3) Sign the relinquished by box on the chain of custody. Place chain of custody inside a ziplock bag and place on top of trash bag containing samples, but inside the cooler.
- 4) Tape the cooler shut. Go completely around the cooler several times near each end.

Return To:
GEL Laboratories, LLC
Attn: Sample Receiving
2040 Savage Road
Charleston, SC 29407
843-556-8171