

Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)

SAMPLE COLLECTION PROCEDURE

Reference Method EPA 505

**Read instructions carefully.
Samples may be rejected if ALL instructions are not followed.**

Safety concerns:

Caution! Sample bottles contain chemicals. Open containers slowly and carefully. Do not rinse out containers.

- View [Safety Data Sheets](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/envlab/sdsinformation.html)
(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/envlab/sdsinformation.html>)

Sample bottle:

- Two 40 mL clear glass vials with 3 mg Sodium Thiosulfate ($\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$) each.

Shipping/sample hold time:

- Ship within 3 days. The sample must arrive at the laboratory within 10 days of collection.

Sampling locations:

- First sample tap following treatment (treated water).

Prior to collection:

- If provided, remove gel packs and freeze for at least 48 hours prior to use for cooling samples in the field (until shipping with wet ice).

Sample collection procedure:

1. Attach the pre-printed label to the bottle. If you do not have a pre-printed label, write the following information, using a ballpoint or permanent pen, on the generic bottle label: PWSID, PWS Name, and Location ID.
2. Remove any attachments from the sample tap.
3. Turn on the cold water tap and run for 4 to 5 minutes, or until the water temperature has stabilized, whichever is longer.
 - a. If there is only one faucet handle, make sure it is in the cold water position.
4. Reduce the flow of the water so the stream is steady and the width of a pencil.
5. Remove vial cap and hold in hand. Do not touch the underside of the cap or the inside of the vial.
6. Position the vial, at a slight angle, under the water flow, fill to the top taking care not to flush away the sodium thiosulfate.
7. Screw the cap back on the vial. Make sure the cap is on securely. Turn the vial upside down to make sure the water does not leak.

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8. Vigorously mix the sample for 1 minute. Headspace is allowable.
9. Repeat steps with the remaining vial.
10. Replace any attachments that were removed from the faucet or sample tap.
11. Upon completion of sampling, immediately (within 15 minutes) place sample in cooler with frozen cooling material.

Complete Chain-of-Custody form using ballpoint or permanent pen:

1. Name of the sample collector.
2. Date and Time collected (include a.m. or p.m.).
3. Field Number (if applicable).
4. Put your signature on the "Relinquished By" line, including date and time. The date and time are when the sample is put in the return mailer and sealed. If samples pass hands prior to packaging, both parties must sign, date, and time. The first party would put down the date and time of the transfer, and the second party would put down the date and time the sample is packaged.

Shipping and Handling:

1. Prepare package for shipping.
 - a. Place the pre-chilled vials, with pre-printed labels attached, in the mailing container.
 - b. Insert the completed Chain-of-Custody in a plastic zip bag and place it in the mailing container.
 - c. Add enough fresh cooling material (wet ice) to shipping container to maintain a sample temperature between 0.0 and 6.0° C, with no evidence of freezing.
2. Ship to the Eurofins Eaton Analytical, LLC.

Courier Service (UPS Next Day Air Saver)

Eurofins Eaton Analytical, LLC
110 South Hill Street
South Bend, IN 46617

If you have questions, call 651-201-4700, or email health.drinkingwater@state.mn.us.

Minnesota Department of Health
Drinking Water Protection
651-201-4700
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www.health.state.mn.us

To obtain this information in a different format, call 651-201-4700.

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