

## PFAS Field Blanks

### PFAS REFERENCE METHOD EPA 533

#### Pre-Collection Information

- One field blank is required at each sampling point).
- PHL will prepare reagent water used to take the field blank sample(s). Be sure to order or the appropriate number of field blank containers.
- Collectors are to wear powder-free **nitrile** gloves when collecting samples.
- Each sample should have one corresponding field blank, prepared and recorded at the same time and location.
- The lot number of each field blank reagent water should be transcribed onto the COC with each corresponding prepared field blank.

#### Bottle Information

- One field blank bottle label is printed for each sampling point.
  - You do not need to write anything on the bottle, “Field Blank” with a corresponding sampling point on the pre-printed label serves as the unique identifier.
- If pre-printed bottle labels are not available, you must write the PWS identification (PWSID), PWS name, and the unique identifier on the field blank bottle label.

#### Chain of Custody (COC) Information

- A corresponding field blank will be listed beneath each sampling location on the COC.
- Do not enter anything in the Location ID field for field blanks.
- You must write down a time on the COC and the field blank bottle labels that a sample is collected.
  - The time of the field blank should be the same time as the corresponding PFAS sample.
  - If you chose to use a field number as the unique identifier, you must write that on the COC and the field blank bottle labels.
- You must write down the lot number of the reagent water onto the COC with each corresponding prepared field blank.

PFAS FIELD BLANKS - PFAS REFERENCE METHOD EPA 533

Field Number	Time Collected am <input type="checkbox"/> pm <input type="checkbox"/>	Location ID	Sampling Point	Field Blank Lot Number XXX-XXXXXXXXXX
1		E01	Well #1 Entry Point	
2			Field Blank Well #1 Entry Point	
3		E02	Well #2 Entry Point	
4			Field Blank Well #2 Entry Point	
5		E03	Well #3 Entry Point	
6			Field Blank Well #3 Entry Point	
7		E04	Well #4 Entry Point	
8			Field Blank Well #4 Entry Point	

Leave blank- do not add Location ID

Field number is only required if being used as the unique identifier

ANALYSIS	BOTTLE TYPE AND PRESERVATIVE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
PFAS EPA 533	Container: 250 mL HDPE bottle Preserved with 250 mg Ammonium Acetate (NH <sub>4</sub> C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub> )	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

### Unique COC Examples

- If a COC *already has four sample points* identified, additional samples with corresponding field blanks must be documented on a second COC.
  - In this case it is necessary to mark the COC "1 of 2" and "2 of 2".
- Ship or drop off both COCs and containers to the PHL.
- The images below show examples. You can write across the Sample Point section, or you can write in the Sampler Comment section.

Minnesota Department of Health  
Chain-of-Custody Form  
Matrix: Drinking Water

Sample between XX/XX/XXXX and XX/XX/XXXX

Field Number	Time Collected am <input type="checkbox"/> pm <input type="checkbox"/>	Location ID	Sampling Point	Field Blank Lot Number XXX-XXXXXXXXXX
1		E01	Well #1 Entry Point	
2			Field Blank Well #1 Entry Point	
3		E02	Well #2 Entry Point	
4			Field Blank Well #2 Entry Point	
5		E03	Well #3 Entry Point	
6			Field Blank Well #3 Entry Point	
7		E04	Well #4 Entry Point	
8			Field Blank Well #4 Entry Point	

1 of 2

ANALYSIS	BOTTLE TYPE AND PRESERVATIVE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
PFAS EPA 533	Container: 250 mL HDPE bottle Preserved with 250 mg Ammonium Acetate (NH <sub>4</sub> C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub> )	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Minnesota Department of Health  
Chain-of-Custody Form  
Matrix: Drinking Water

Sample between XX/XX/XXXX and XX/XX/XXXX

Field Number	Time Collected am <input type="checkbox"/> pm <input type="checkbox"/>	Location ID	Sampling Point	Field Blank Lot Number XXX-XXXXXXXXXX
1		E01	Well #1 Entry Point	
2			Field Blank Well #1 Entry Point	
3		E02	Well #2 Entry Point	
4			Field Blank Well #2 Entry Point	
5		E03	Well #3 Entry Point	
6			Field Blank Well #3 Entry Point	
7		E04	Well #4 Entry Point	
8			Field Blank Well #4 Entry Point	

2 of 2

ANALYSIS	BOTTLE TYPE AND PRESERVATIVE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
PFAS EPA 533	Container: 250 mL HDPE bottle Preserved with 250 mg Ammonium Acetate (NH <sub>4</sub> C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub> )	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

### Post-Collection Information

- If a PFAS sample arrives at the PHL without a field blank or with a field blank that is canceled, the PFAS sample will **not** be canceled. It will be analyzed and the data qualified if needed.
- If a field blank is documented on the COC but no time is documented, PHL will contact MDH staff and request a time. In these cases, the field blank and the sample will **not** be canceled.

- PWSs may see two data qualifiers (B6 and B7) associated with field blanks on their final reports. If you receive questions about these, please refer the PWS to the PFAS Project Manager. Information about what the new data qualifiers mean:
  - B6: The analyte was found in both field blank and sample.
  - B7: The result is suspect as it was not confirmed as a positive detect due to the absence of an accompanying trip and/or field blank to evaluate for possible contamination.

If you have questions, call 651-201-4700, or email [health.drinkingwater@state.mn.us](mailto:health.drinkingwater@state.mn.us).

Minnesota Department of Health  
Drinking Water Protection  
651-201-4700  
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June 2026

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