UPDATED PFAS LABORATORY AND REPORTING INFORMATION

Sample Analysis:

Follow sampling guidelines, preservatives, and containers as specified in EPA Method 537.1 (Version 1.0 Rev. 2018). Ensure that extraction and analysis holding times are met according to Section 8.5 of the Method. The preservative used should be 5 grams/liter Trizma© crystals (equal to 1.25 grams per 250 mL container) and sample containers should be 250 mL polypropylene sample bottles (or approved equivalent) fitted with unlined polypropylene screw caps. Trizma© acts as a buffer and removes free chlorine in chlorinated finished drinking water. Trizma© will not affect non-chlorinated PFAS samples.

Analytical and Reporting Requirements:

The recommendations for determining a detection limit (DL) and reporting limit (RL) in EPA Method 537.1 shall be followed. The minimum acceptable laboratory RL for each respective analyte PFOA, PFOS, PFHxS, PFHpA, and PFNA shall not exceed 2.0 nanograms per liter (ng/L). All analytical laboratory reports must use a state defined 2.0 ng/L RL for the 5 regulated PFAS above, and for all 18 analytes identified in Method 537.1 where possible. Please do not report "J" flagged results. Final results shall be reported to the nearest 0.1 ng/L.

Laboratories must report PFAS in acid form. Analytes designated in Method 537.1 have CAS #'s specific to the acid form of the compounds. Linear and branched isomers must be quantified and combined to determine the total, where possible. If standards containing the branched and linear isomers cannot be purchased, only the linear isomer can be identified and quantitated in field samples and QC samples using the linear standards because the retention time of the branched isomers cannot be confirmed.

Monitoring results associated with a WSID monitoring schedule shall be reported as routine "RT" samples. Confirmation samples, source samples, or investigate samples should be reported as special "SP" samples. Ensure the correct codes such as Facility ID, Sample Point, and WSID found on the water system's routine monitoring schedule are used and present on the submitted forms and final lab report. Compliance monitoring samples for PFAS should be collected at the entry point to distribution. More details about monitoring requirements and schedules may be found here: https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/DWGWP/SearchWS.aspx

Data Reporting:

Sampling results should be reported to the Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division within 10 days of receipt of a validated laboratory report and sent to the Division electronically using csv or Excel format. PDFs of lab reports may be submitted by email to ANR.DWpfasdata@vermont.gov. Sample results analyzed by a Modified EPA 537.1 method, or any version other than EPA 537.1 will not be accepted for compliance monitoring. Data with qualifiers shall be flagged, particularly when detections are found in field blanks, trip blanks, and any QA/QC failures of the regulated PFAS. Results with PFAS detections approaching or above the MCL must be submitted to the Division as soon as possible. Samples extracted and/or analyzed outside of acceptable method holding times will not be accepted.

Field blanks are required for each sampling location. Laboratories shall provide PFAS-free water for field blanks and trip blanks. **Trip blanks are only required on confirmation samples.** Refer to Sample Collection Guidance for additional information. If any of the 5 regulated PFAS are detected above the reporting level (RL) of 2.0 ng/L in the sample, trip blanks (where applicable) and field blanks will need to be analyzed and reported. Field blanks and trip blanks do not need to be analyzed or reported if regulated PFAS are not detected in the associated samples.