

Sample Collection & Shipping Instructions

Pathogen Wastewater Composite Sample (Container #107)

Sampling Kit Contents:

- Cooler, ice packs, sample container, collection instructions, sample collection form, and return shipping label (see Figure 1).



Figure 1: Kit Contents

Before You Begin

- Unpack cooler upon receipt and place ice packs in a freezer. Ice packs need to be frozen solid before sample collection.
- Be prepared to ship samples on **Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday**. Avoid all other days of the week and holidays unless prior arrangements are made.

Collection

- Label each bottle with the facility name, collection location, and date/time collected. Fill out the sample collection form and seal it into the plastic bag.
- Composite samples are collected by pooling multiple grab samples at a specified frequency (24 hours). Collect untreated wastewater manually or using automated samplers with refrigeration capacity that collect flow-weighted samples (e.g. one sub-sample per 200,000 gallons of flow). Continuous composite samplers (versus flow-weighted) may improve how representative the sample is of the community contributing to the sewer.
- Fill bottles with wastewater to the fill-line at the shoulder. Do not overfill.
- Tightly screw the lid back onto the bottle.
- **Immediately** begin cooling the sample to $<10^{\circ}\text{C}$ (50°F).



Figure 2: Packaging

Packaging

- Wrap bottles with bubble wrap. Place the bubble-wrapped bottles into the cooler.
- Using the frozen ice packs, surround the samples making sure the ice packs are **not** directly touching the bottles (see Figure 2). Fill remaining space with bubble wrap or packing paper and place the lid onto the cooler.
- Put the plastic bag with the completed sample collection form on top of the samples. Close the box and seal with tape. Place the return shipping label on the outside of the box and ship to the laboratory.

Shipping

- Hand-deliver or ship samples the same day as collected using the provided prepaid return shipping label.

Need help?

Client Services (general questions, orders, shipments, etc) 319-335-4500 / 800-421-4692

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