

## STEP SIX

Reduce water flow, if possible, to a stream about the thickness of a pencil. Tilt the bottle at a slight angle and move it under the edge of the stream of water.

Make sure the water flows very gently into the bottle to reduce agitation and to avoid introducing air bubbles. Fill the 1,000-ml and



500-ml bottles up to the shoulder of the bottle. Fill the 250-ml bottle (or the vials) so that no air space will remain in the bottle after the cap is secured.

*Note: The following types and numbers of sampling bottles may vary by laboratory for each method.*

- Collect two 1,000-ml bottles at each collection point for Method 525.2.
- Collect two 500-ml (or one 1,000-ml) bottle(s) at each collection point for Method 515.2.
- Collect one 250-ml (or two 40-ml) bottle(s) at each collection point for Method 531.

## STEP SEVEN

Keep all samples refrigerated until you are ready to ship samples. Once samples are ready to be shipped, package samples, frozen chemical cold pack, and the completed “chain of custody” and sample information forms into a container and ship to the laboratory within 48 hours.

If you have questions about sampling collection procedures, contact your regional office:

SW Regional Office:

Belle Fuchs or Donna Freier  
(360) 586-5179

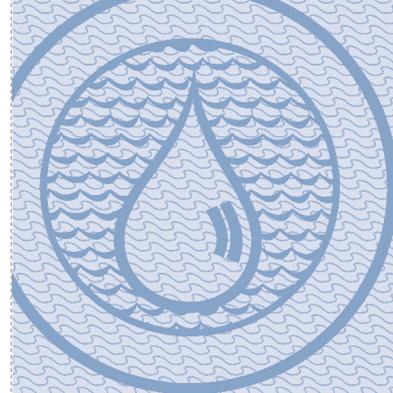
NW Regional Office:

Steve Hulsman  
(253) 395-6777

Eastern Regional Office:

Anita Albi  
(509) 456-2475

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# SYNTHETIC ORGANIC CHEMICAL (SOC) SAMPLING PROCEDURE



Washington State Department of

**Health**

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS  
DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER

## SYNTHETIC ORGANIC CHEMICAL (SOC) SAMPLING PROCEDURE

This brochure provides general information on how to collect a synthetic organic chemical sample. Steps and procedures can vary depending on the laboratory that is used so you should follow the instructions that are provided by the laboratory you are using.

Depending on the SOC analysis that is being requested (i.e., EPA Methods 515.1, 525.2, and 531), different sampling containers are involved (i.e., 250-ml, 500-ml, and 1,000-ml). Some of those containers may come with preservatives already in them. You may also need to add some additional preservative to Method 525 immediately after sample collection.



The general sampling procedure for SOC monitoring is as follows:

### STEP ONE

Freeze the chemical cold pack before collecting samples.

### STEP TWO

Locate a sampling point that is representative of the source, after treatment, and prior to entry to the distribution system.

### STEP THREE

Remove any attachment from the tap such as hoses, filters, screens, or aerators.

### STEP FOUR

Flush the water for about 10 minutes or until the water temperature reaches a constant temperature.

### STEP FIVE

While the water is running and before collecting the sample, fill out COMPLETELY the laboratory form and sample label. Laboratory forms vary, but the following information is very important to complete:

- Water System ID number
- Water System name
- DOH source number (i.e., SO1)
- Sample type and sample purpose (usually “RC” for routine compliance)
- Collection date and time the sample was taken
- Sample location (specific location where the samples were collected, for example “pumphouse tap”)
- System type (i.e., Group A or B)
- Sample type (i.e., pre-treatment/ raw or post-treatment/finished)

