



DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES AND
ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

Division of Waste and Hazardous Substances
Remediation Section
<https://de.gov/remediation>
302-395-2600

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
TRIP BLANK SAMPLING
May 2021

Trip Blanks

Trip blanks generally pertain to volatile organic samples only. Trip blanks are prepared prior to the sampling event in the actual sample containers and are kept with the investigative samples throughout the sampling event. They are then packaged for shipment with the other samples and sent for analysis. There should be one trip blank included in each sample shipping container. At no time after their preparation are the sample containers opened before they reach the laboratory.

Equipment:

Four-40 ml. volatile organic sample vials pre-preserved with Hydrochloric Acid, with labels, waterproof markers, organic free distilled water, cooler and ice.

1. Procure appropriate sample containers.
2. Using organic-free distilled water, slowly fill the pre-preserved VOA vials until the water meniscus is slightly above the top of the vial. Tighten lid, and invert the vial to make sure air bubbles are not present.
3. Place sample container in a cooler with ice to lower the temperature to 4 deg. C.
4. Record sample information in the field logbook.
5. Proceed with chain of custody.