



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
SURFACE WATER SAMPLING – SHALLOW
May 2021

Surface Water Sampling Procedure - Shallow

Surface water samples are frequently obtained in shallow free-flowing streams, in ponds or lagoons, or near shores of large water bodies. The following equipment and procedure should be utilized.

Equipment: Sample container with labels, waterproof marker, distilled water, nitrile gloves, waders (optional), chain of custody report, and decontamination equipment.

Procedures:

1. Prepare a sketch with site characteristics, flow direction, observed surface drainage pathways, and approximate sample locations.
2. Record water depth, and other pertinent site information in the logbook.
3. Locate sampling locations as determined in Site Sampling Plan.
4. Take appropriate sample container to the farthest downstream or downwind sample location. If there is no current or drift, collect samples from the farthest location away from known contamination first.
5. With the mouth of the sample jar oriented upstream, fill the jar with water while moving the jar upstream. Replace lid, tighten securely, and rinse the outside of the jar with distilled water.
6. Preserve sample if necessary. Refer to FS-14 for appropriate preservative.
7. Label jar appropriately and record samples taken and procedures in field logbook.
8. Proceed to the next upstream or upwind location.