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Sampling Instructions for VOCs in Drinking Water

You have been provided with 2-40 ml vials containing ascorbic acid and the plastic dropper bottle with hydrochloric acid in it. You also have a filled vial containing water labeled as a "Trip Blank." Read through these instructions in their entirety prior to sample collection.

- 1) Wear gloves and safety glasses.
- 2) Do not open the Trip Blank vial, this is to remain sealed and returned back to the lab as is.
- 3) Each sample will be collected in duplicate.
- 4) The vials contain ascorbic acid and this should not be rinsed out of the vials.
- 5) Allow the cold water to run for 10 minutes prior to collection.
- 6) Slow the water flow to avoid splashing and fill each vial most of the way with tap water.
- 7) Using the provided dropper bottle of hydrochloric acid (HCl), add **6 drops** of HCl to each sample over the sink. **Only add acid over the sink as the acid will damage countertops/sinks and Trace is not responsible for damage.**
- 8) Fill the vial the rest of the way without overflowing and screw the cap on tightly, invert the vial to ensure no air bubbles are present in each vial. If air bubbles are present, unscrew the cap and fill the cap with tap water. Pour the water from the cap onto the vial and screw closed tightly, and again check for air bubbles. Continue this until no air bubbles are present.
- 9) Rinse sink well to be sure no acid is in the sink.
- 10) Keep samples cool (4°C) and return on ice.
- 11) Return the HCl dropper bottle.

Be extremely careful when handling the ascorbic and hydrochloric acids. Only add acid over the sink as the acid will damage countertops and Trace is not responsible for damage.