
5.0.3 FIELD RINSING OF BOTTLES USED TO CONTAIN SAMPLES FOR ANALYSIS OF INORGANIC CONSTITUENTS

Most polyethylene sample bottles and only those glass sample bottles that are designated for analysis of inorganic constituents (inorganics bottles) are field rinsed as described in table 5-2. Check Horowitz and others (1994) and the laboratory requirements (summarized in Appendixes A5-B and A5-C) for more detailed discussions of field rinsing. **The field-rinse water normally is the same as the water that will fill the sample bottle: use wholewater sample for raw (unfiltered) samples and filtrate for filtered samples.**

- ▶ If the volume of sample obtained for processing is limited, DIW of the appropriate quality may be substituted as the rinse solution for the first two of the three required rinses.
- ▶ Wear disposable, powderless gloves while processing samples.

Check analyte requirements before field rinsing bottles. For example, DO NOT field rinse glass bottles that are designated for analysis of organic compounds.

Table 5-2. Directions for field rinse of bottles used to contain samples for inorganic-constituent analysis

[DIW, deionized water; mL, milliliters]

Bottle Preparation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If bottles were previously rinsed and half-filled with DIW¹, discard DIW and rinse once only with the water to be sampled. Use filtrate for filtered samples and wholewater for raw samples. • If bottles were not prerinsed with DIW, rinse twice with DIW onsite, followed by one field rinse with the water to be sampled (use only 25-mL filtrate for bottle rinse for the filtered sample^{1,2}).
Field-Rinse Technique
1. Put on disposable, powderless gloves.
2. Fill sample bottle about 1/10 full of rinse water. Cap bottle.
3. Shake the bottle vigorously to rinse all interior surfaces.
4. Discard rinse water by swirling the solution out of the bottle.
5. Shake off adhering droplets.

¹Required for filtered trace-element samples (Horowitz and others, 1994).

²Refer to section 5.2.1.A for detailed guidance relating to surface-water and ground-water samples.