



October 7, 2003

**Office of Water Quality Water-Quality Information Note 2004.01**

**Subject: Field Methods—Field forms for surface water, ground water, and microbiology**

The field forms for surface- and ground-water quality have been updated and revised and new field forms have been developed for microbiology work. The microbiology sections have been deleted from the surface- and ground-water forms. There are two types of forms available for microbiology work: 1) form for a single station field trip and 2) form for a multi-station field trip. The multi-station trip form consists of two parts—a form for trip preparation information (media preparation, lot numbers, etc.) and a form for counting information and data for each station. The surface- and ground-water forms have been standardized as much as possible, a box has been added in the alkalinity section for recording the pH meter calibration, and there's now more space for recording lot numbers. Note that changes in the way turbidity data are reported and stored in NWIS are expected in the near future. The new forms allow for the use of different parameter codes and reporting units when they become defined. The forms will be revised again once the details on measuring and recording turbidity data are worked out.

Note that a long-standing error on the reference page on both the surface-water and ground-water forms in the description of alkalinity parameter code 00410 has been corrected.

Previous forms

00410 ANC, water, unfiltered, incremental titration, mg/L

New forms (10-2003)

00410 ANC, water, unfiltered, fixed endpoint, mg/L  
00419 ANC, water, unfiltered, incremental titration

If data from incremental titrations on unfiltered samples were stored in NWIS under parameter code 00410, they need to be moved to parameter code 00419. If you have a large amount of data, this can be done in batch format. For assistance, please send email to [GS-W help QWDATA](mailto:GS-W_help@usgs.gov).

The pdf versions of the forms are available from the Office of Water Quality internal web page at: <http://water.usgs.gov/usgs/owq/Forms.html>. Editable Microsoft Publisher files are available via ftp from [hqwiftp.er.usgs.gov](ftp://hqwiftp.er.usgs.gov) in the pub/owq directory [file names are SWfieldform-10-2003.pub, GWfieldform-10-2003.pub, Microfieldform-10-2003.pub, Microfieldform-trip-10-2003.pub, and Microfieldform-trip-counting-10-2003.pub]. The .pub files can only be opened in Microsoft Publisher, which is available in the Microsoft Office 2000 package (disk 2) that the USGS purchased.

Waterproof paper can be obtained from a number of sources including J. L. Darling Corporation (<http://www.riteintherain.com>), Ben Meadows Company ([www.benmeadows.com](http://www.benmeadows.com)), and Pro-Outdoors ([www.pro-outdoors.com](http://www.pro-outdoors.com)).

Please send questions, comments, and recommendations for additions/updates to [kkfitz@usgs.gov](mailto:kkfitz@usgs.gov).

**This Note supercedes WaQI Note 03.05.**

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