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Bend, OR	Microbiology (d)	20332 Empire Ave. Ste. F4	Bend, OR 97703	541.639.8425

## SAMPLING BY EPA METHOD 5035A FOR VOC

### HIGH-CONCENTRATION LAB PRESERVATION METHOD

1. Samples will be collected in 2 empty 40-ml VOA vial with 0.25 mm thick PTFE-lined septa for each location you sample. These vials have been pre-weighed at the lab. Be sure not to add additional weight to the vial such as tape. Open only one bottle at a time to avoid switching caps. These vials will be re-weighed at the lab to determine the sample weight and volume of methanol to add for preservation
2. A methanol blank is included for each sample location. The blank is to be OPENED and placed in a secure area, to avoid spillage. Select an area that is free of car exhaust, it will contaminate the methanol.

*While you are collecting your soil VOC samples, you will leave the blank methanol vial open to check for any atmospheric VOCs. When you are done collecting soil samples, you will cap the blank vial and ship it to the lab along with the sample.*

3. If you are using a syringe type sampler gently push the syringe into an undisturbed soil from a freshly exposed surface. To collect ~ 5 g soil requires a soil depth of 2-3 cm.

*Once you've collected the soil sample, you must try to extrude it into the VOA vial within 10 seconds! – Good luck. Before you screw the cap on, make sure you inspect the VOA vial threads and wipe off any dirt.*

4. IF the sampler does not penetrate the soil, use a stainless steel scoop and try and remove ~ 5 g soil. Once you've collected your sample, quickly brush off any soil from the vial threads and immediately seal the vial with the septum-lined screw cap!
5. Collect an additional sample in a 4-oz jar for moisture content analysis, fill the jar completely so there is zero headspace.
6. Once samples are sealed, immediately place all samples on ice @ 4 degrees C.

**The lab must receive samples within 48 hours from the time of sample collection!!!!**

#### **▼ Return samples**

Corporate office & Main Lab  
Edge Analytical  
1620 South Walnut Street  
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