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Obtain the two 50 mL “Falcon” collection tubes [A] from the provided wastewater sampling supplies. You will be packaging a “solids” sample with this kit. Collect 50 mL of wastewater solids/sludge now before proceeding with this guide. Store samples at 4°C if unable to package and ship immediately.

2

After sample has been collected and the lid is securely screwed closed, stretch wrap the lid seam of the 50 mL Falcon tube with Parafilm plastic cling wrap [B] to avoid leakage. Affix one of the separately-provided sticky overlabels [D] onto each of the two (2) tubes and **complete the blank data field for date of collection**. Be cautious to not cover the barcodes already affixed to the tubes.

3

When labeled and sealed, place both 50 mL Falcon tubes [A] as well as the absorbent sheets [E] together into the main compartment of the specimen plastic bag [F] and seal the bag by removing the white strip and pressing the flap securely closed.

4

Add the following items into the thermal insulative sleeve [I]: sample bag [A, B, D, E, F], and two (2) frozen cold packs [H]. Seal the thermal insulative sleeve by removing the white strip and pressing the flap securely closed.

5

Finally, add the thermal insulative sleeve [I] containing sample contents [A, B, D, E, F, H], the content information card [C], and bubble wrap [G] (if provided - kits may not contain bubble wrap) into the transport box [J]. Seal the transport box closed with the provided white square sticker [not shown in photo].

Thank you for participating in the WastewaterSCAN Monitoring Program for SARS-CoV-2. Our goal is to detect levels of virus via a network of reporting wastewater plants to better inform local and national health agencies for improved public health.

This document outlines the process to package and submit samples of solids/sludge (grab or composite) from the primary clarifier for testing. This document serves as a reference point; Verily team members can work with you to adjust to the particular needs of your operation ([publichealthteam@verily.com](mailto:publichealthteam@verily.com))

## **Frequency**

Sample three (3) times a week with interspersed days (i.e., M/W/F or T/Th/S, etc.)

## **Sample Collection: Primary Settled Solids**

This program works with primary settled solids (sludge) to quantify SARS-CoV-2 concentrations in wastewater. Primary settled solids samples are available at many plants from a primary clarifier. If you do not have primary settled solids, methods to collect solids from grab or liquid influent sample are available (contact Verily at [publichealthteam@verily.com](mailto:publichealthteam@verily.com) for details).

## **We prefer composite samples.**

If this is not possible, a grab sample is acceptable. Please do not use a sample that has been thickened using a polymer or coagulant.

If your primary settled solids have low TSS and you are able to achieve a higher TSS by letting a larger sample volume settle, please do so by pouring off the liquid and collecting the settled material.

## **Sample Labeling and Storage:**

Sampling containers will be provided along with a separate label that contains a unique Site ID number, your unique Site Name, and a space to label the date of sample collection.

**When the sample is collected, please fill in the label blanks using a permanent marker or pen with the date of collection Date (format:MM/DD/YYYY)**

After sample collection, please place containers in provided sealable bags and store in the fridge at 4°C until sample pickup. If samples are collected in the afternoon, store for pickup until the following morning.

There is no paper chain of custody document. All required information is provided on the label and by our courier.

## **Sample Return:**

Pre-addressed, pre-paid shipping labels are included. Please arrange for the courier to retrieve samples as early in the morning as possible to enable same-day processing. Samples should remain at 4°C until pickup.