



National Atmospheric Deposition Program

Bag Sampling Starter Kit

The National Trends Network (NTN) is transitioning from bucket to bag sampling. Bag sampling will use a polyethylene-mylar bag, which the operator will load into modified buckets every week. The switch from sampling with a new bucket every week to using sample bags will reduce the need to wash the buckets after each use. This in turn will reduce the frequency of shipping between the sites and the lab, reducing the annual shipping costs for sites.

This starter kit contains the following items:

1. Handheld modified vacuum – Ensure the filter is in place and then connect the modified nozzle to the vacuum. Charge the vacuum using the supplied charging cable before first use. The base and screws are provided if you wish to mount the vacuum on a wall.
2. Two (2) modified buckets – All of the sites will now use the same type of bucket, each bucket is drilled with a hole on the side near the bottom of the bucket. The hole is used to evacuate the air from the bucket with the vacuum once the bag is in place. If you currently use the spacer washers on the NCON NTN collector, they will not be necessary anymore.
3. Bucket plugs (4) – The bucket plugs are used to plug the hole once the air has been evacuated from the bucket. There are extra plugs in case one is lost or misplaced.
4. Bucket strap (2) – The bucket straps are used to secure the bag in place so it doesn't blow away during the week. Once the strap is secured it stays on until the sample is decanted the following week.
5. A starter package of gloves – gloves must be worn when loading the sample bag into the bucket each week. If you need additional gloves circle in the supplies box on the field form or call the NADP Site Liaison at 1-800-952-7353.

Summary

- Transition to bag sampling as soon as you can following receipt of these supplies.
- Return all old supplies from bucket sampling (clean and dirty) to the CAL as soon as possible following your transition to bag sampling.
- The other sampling supplies: 1L bottles, shipping boxes, flexible lids (FLIDS), field forms, and sampling bags will be shipped in a separate box. If the supply box is not received, please contact us.

If you have any questions or concerns or the starter kit is missing any of the above items, please contact the NADP Site Liaison immediately at 1-800-952-7353 or ntn@slh.wisc.edu.