



Sample Containers, Preservation Techniques, and Holding Times For Aqueous Matrices

Bacteriological Analyses

<u>Determination</u>	<u>Method</u>	<u>Container/ Min. Volume (mL)</u>	<u>Preservative</u>	<u>Holding Time¹</u>
Coliform, Total	SM9221B, SM9223	P, G/ Sterile/100	<10°C ¹²	6hrsWW/ 8hrsSW/ 30hrsDW
Coliform, Fecal	SM9221E, SM9223	P, G/ Sterile/100	<10°C ¹²	6hrsWW/ 8hrsSW/ 30hrsDW
Enterococcus	SM9230B	P, G/ Sterile/100	<10°C ¹²	6hrsWW/ 8hrsSW/ 30hrsDW
	ASTM D650399	P, G/ Sterile/100	<10°C ¹²	6hrsWW/ 8hrsSW/ 30hrsDW
Heterotrophic Plate Ct.	SM9215B	P, G/ Sterile/100	<10°C ¹²	6hrsWW/ 8hrsSW/ 30hrsDW
Streptococcus, Fecal	SM9230B	P, G/ Sterile/100	<10°C ¹²	6hrsWW/ 8hrsSW/ 30hrsDW

Inorganic And Wet Chemistry Analyses

<u>Determination</u>	<u>Method</u>	<u>Container/ Min. Volume (mL)</u>	<u>Preservative</u>	<u>Holding Time¹</u>
Alkalinity*	SM2320B	P, G/500	≤6°C	14 days
Ammonia	SM4500NH3H	P, G/100	≤6°C H ₂ S ₀ ₄	28 days
Asbestos	100.2	P/1000	≤6°C	48 hours ¹³
BOD*	SM5210B	P, G/1000	≤6°C	48 hours
Boron	200.7	P/500	HNO ₃ ⁸	6 months
Bromate	300.1	P, G/100	≤6°C, EDA	28 days
Bromide*	300.1	P, G/100	None	28 days
Cations (Ca, Mg, Na, K)	200.7	P, G/500	HNO ₃ ⁸	6 months
COD	SM5220D	P, G/100	≤6°C, H ₂ S ₀ ₄	28 days
Chloride*	300.0	P, G/100	None	28 days
Chlorine demand	SM2350B	P, G/1000	None	15 minutes
Chlorine dioxide*	SM4500ClO ₂ D	P, G, /100	None	15 minutes
Chlorine, residual*	SM4500ClG	P, G/100	None	15 minutes
Chlorate	300.1	P, G/100	≤6°C, EDA	28 days
Chlorite	300.1	P, G/100	≤6°C, EDA	14 days
Chromium-Hexavalent	SM3500CrD	P, G/100	≤6°C, NH ₄ Buffer ¹⁵	28 days
Chromium-Hex. (low level)	218.6	P, G/500	≤6°C, NH ₄ Buffer ¹⁵	28 days
	7199	P, G/500	≤6°C	24 hours
Color*	SM2120B	P, G/100	≤6°C	48 hours
Cyanide	SM4500CN C E G	P, G/250	≤6°C NaOH ¹⁴	14 days
Dissolved Oxygen	SM4500 O C	G/300	Fixed on site	8 hours
Flashpoint	1010	G/500	None	Not Specified
Fluoride*	SM4500 FC	P/100	None	28 days
Hardness (Total)	200.7	P, G/500	HNO ₃ ⁸	6 months
Metals (incl. Cations)	6000, 200, 7000	P, G/500	HNO ₃ ⁸	6 months
Metals	200.8, 6020	P, G/500	HNO ₃ ⁸	6 months
Mercury	7470, 7471, 200.8	P, G/500	HNO ₃ ⁸	28 days
	SM3112B	P, G/500	HNO ₃ ⁸	28 days
Nitrate*	300.0	P, G/100	≤6°C	48 hours
Nitrite*	SM4500NO ₂ B	P, G/100	≤6°C	48 hours
Nitrate-Nitrite	300.0	P, G/100	≤6°C, H ₂ S ₀ ₄	28 days
Nitrogen–Total Kjeldahl	351.1	P, G/500	≤6°C, H ₂ S ₀ ₄	28 days
Odor	SM2150B	P, G/100	≤6°C	48 hours
Oil & Grease	1664	G-A/500 ¹⁰	≤6°C, H ₂ S ₀ ₄	28 days
PCBSA*	300.0	P, G/100	None	28 days
Perchlorate*	314	P, G/100	≤6°C	28 days



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Inorganic And Wet Chemistry Analyses continued

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Perchlorate (low level)*	332.0/6860	P,G/100sterile	≤6°C	28 days
pH*	SM4500H+B	P,G/100	None	15 minutes
Phenols	420.4	G-A/250	≤6°C ⁶ , H ₂ SO ₄	28 days
Phenols (low level)	SM5530C	G-A/1000	≤6°C, H ₂ SO ₄	28 days
Phosphates – Ortho*	SM4500P E	P,G/100	≤6°C	48 hours
Phosphorus, Total (as P)	SM4500P E	P,G/100	≤6°C, H ₂ SO ₄	28 days
Silica, Reactive*	SM4500 SiO ₂ C	P/500	≤6°C	28 days
Silica Total	200.7	P/500	HNO ₃ ⁸	6 months
Solids-Dissolved-TDS*	SM2540C	P,G/500	≤6°C	7 days
Solids-Suspended-TSS*	SM2540D	P,G/500	≤6°C	7 days
Solids-Total*	SM2540B	P,G/500	HNO ₃ ⁸	7 days
Solids-Settleable Solids*	SM2540F	P,G/2000	≤6°C	48 hours
Solids Volatile*	160.4	P,G/500	≤6°C	7 days
Specific Conductance-EC*	SM2510B	P,G/100	≤6°C	28 days
Sulfate*	300.0	P,G/100	≤6°C	28 days
Sulfide, dissolved	SM4500S D	P,G/100 ⁹	≤6°C zero headspace	ASAP/7 flocc -ZnA
Sulfide, total	SM4500S D	P,G/100	≤6°C NaOH,ZnAcetate	7 days
Surfactants (MBAS)*	SM5540C	P,G/500	≤6°C	48 hours
Turbidity*	SM2130B	P,G/100	≤6°C	48 hours
Uranium	200.8	P,G/500	HNO ₃ ⁸	6 months
UV-254	SM ^{20th} 5910B	G-TLC-A/250	≤6°C	48 hours
Volatile Acids	SM5560C	P,G/500	<6°C	7 days

Organic Analyses

<u>Determination</u>	<u>Method</u>	<u>Container/ Min. Volume (mL)</u>	<u>Preservative</u>	<u>Holding Time¹ Extraction/Analysis</u>
Semivolatiles	525	G-TLC-A/1000	≤6°C ³ , HCl	14/30 days
Base/Neutrals/Acid	625	G-TLC-A/1000	≤6°C ³	7/40 days
	8270	G-TLC-A/1000	≤6°C ³	7/40 days
	531.1	VOA-G-A/3 x 40 vials	≤6°C, Na ₂ S ₂ O ₃ 'MCAA ⁴	28 days
Chlorinated pests/PCB's	508	G-TLC-A/1000	≤6°C ³	7/14 days ⁷
Chlorinated pests PCB's	608,8081	G-TLC-A/1000	≤6°C ³	7/40 days ⁷
	608	G-TLC-A/1000	≤6°C	1year/1year
	8082	G-TLC-A/1000	≤6°C	7/40 days
	515.3	G-TLC-A/1000	≤6°C ³	14/14 days
Chlorinated Herbicides	8151	G-TLC-A/1000	≤6°C ³	7/40 days
	8015	VOA-G/4 x 40 vials, TB ²	≤6°C, HCl or H ₂ SO ₄	14 days recom.
Diesel Range Organics	8015	VOA-G/4 x 40 vials, TB ²	≤6°C, HCl or H ₂ SO ₄	14 days recom.
Dioxins	1613B	G-A/1000	≤6°C ³	30 days
Diquat	549.1	P/1000	≤6°C ³	7 days for ext ¹³
EDB and DBCP	504.8011	VOA-G-A/3 x 40 vials	≤6°C, Na ₂ S ₂ O ₃	14 days
Endothall	548.1	G-A/500	≤6°C ³	7/14 days
Ethylene Glycol	GCFID	G-TLC-A/1000	≤6°C	40 days
Gasoline Range Orgs.	8015	VOA-G/4 x 40 vials	≤6°C, HCl	14 days recom.
Glyphosate	547	VOA-G/3 x 40 vials	≤6°C, Na ₂ S ₂ O ₃	14 days ⁷
Haloacetic Acids	SM ^{19th} 6251B	VOA-G/4 x 40 vials	≤6°C, NH ₄ Cl	9/21 days
Organophos. Pests.	507	G-TLC-A/1000	≤6°C ³	14/28days ⁷
	8141	G-TLC-A/1000	≤6°C ³	7/40 days ⁷
Total Organic Carbon	SM5310B	P,G/4 x 40 vials	≤6°C, H ₂ SO ₄	28 days
Total Organic Halogen	SM ^{20th} 5320B	G-TLC-A/250	≤6°C ³ , H ₂ SO ₄	28 days



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TPH	418.1	G-TLC-A/1000	≤6°C, H ₂ SO ₄	28 days
Trihalomethanes	524.2	VOA-G-A/4 x 40 vials,TB	≤6°C, Na ₂ S ₂ O ₃	14 days
Volatile Organics	524.2,624,8260	VOA-G/4 x 40 vials,TB ²	≤6°C, HCl ³	14 days

Notes:

G=Glass, P=Polyethylene (plastic), G-A=Amber Glass, VOA=Vial with Teflon-lined septum – zero head space, G-TLC-A=Amber Glass with Teflon-lined cap, Recom.=recommended, DW = drinking water, SW = source water, WW = wastewater, °C = degrees Celcius, floc = flocculate, EDA = Ethylenediamine.

SM refers to Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastes, 18th Edition unless otherwise noted. All other methods referenced are EPA numbers.

* All of these analyses can be performed out of one 1/2 gallon plastic container.

1. Holding times per 40 CFR 141 for drinking waters, and CFR 136.3 for wastewaters.
2. Travel Blank (also preserved with HCl).
3. If Chlorine Residual is present, sodium thiosulfate or sodium sulfite (525) is needed to neutralize free chlorine. Dechlorinator must be added prior to acidification. If it is not added at the time of collection, dechlorinator is added to nonvolatile samples (except 549) at the time of extraction to ensure that residual chlorine is not present. Consult method.
4. Monochloroacetic acid (MCAA) buffer (pH3) is added at the ratio of 1.2 mL per 40 mL sample.
5. Sample preserved at lab after Electrical Conductivity is checked.
6. Preserved sample is screened for chlorine as necessary and treated at lab. See SOP A06 for more details.
7. See method exceptions.
8. Sample can be preserved at lab in its original container and must be held ≥ 24 hrs. prior to analysis.
9. Collect grab sample in 1 quart plastic container, fill completely, eliminating all headspace.
10. Grab sample only.
11. Consult laboratory for special instructions.
12. With Sodium thiosulfate
13. Analysis is subbed out. Please allow extra time for short holding time analyses.
14. Client submits unpreserved sample which is screened for sulfide and chlorine as necessary and preserved to pH>12 with NaOH upon receipt to the laboratory. See SOP A06 for more details.
15. Client submits unpreserved sample which is filtered as necessary and preserved by the laboratory to pH 9.3-9.7 with NH₄ buffer within 24 hours.

Basic Sampling Guidelines

- A. Always utilize proper sampling containers and preservatives.
- B. For organic analytes, all bottles should have Teflon lined caps, vials should have Teflon lined septa.
- C. Soil samples are typically collected in brass or steel tubes and wide mouth jars (500ml) with Teflon-lined caps.
Sludges should be collected in wide mouth jars, not brass or steel tubes. Store at ≤6°C
- D. Aqueous samples for volatile analyses should not have head space between the sample matrix and septum, or bubbles within the sample.
- E. Samples requiring organic analyses should never be handled with plastic implements, latex gloves, or stored in plastic containers. Glass is the only acceptable container (except EPA 549).
- F. Always use trip blanks when samples require volatile analyses. Fill completely, eliminate all headspace.
- G. Keep samples isolated from all possible sources of contamination (i.e., gasoline refueling operations, solvents, paints, lacquers, and adhesives).
- H. Always complete a Chain-of-Custody form.
- I. Use blue ice packs in coolers when possible.
- J. Deliver samples directly to the laboratory as soon as possible.