



NY #11393/11840
FL #E87600/E87936



Recommended Containers, Preservation, Storage, & Holding Times

Sample Integrity

Spectrum Analytical is committed to maintaining the integrity of all samples submitted for laboratory analyses. Spectrum has a set criterion that all samples must pass in order to be considered to be of satisfactory condition. The Sample Department will notify the client of any samples that may be considered to be of unsatisfactory condition. Analysis of unsatisfactory samples will be conducted only with the written authorization from the client.

Collection of Samples in Duplicate

The collection of a sample in duplicate is requested when submitting a series of five or more samples per Chain of Custody. Collecting double the volume of a sample will enable us to perform additional quality control procedures in the laboratory. This practice may also be utilized when submitting samples for a project requiring additional quality control information.

Cooling of Samples

For most analyses, samples must be chilled to $<6^{\circ}\text{C}$ immediately following collection and packed with a sufficient amount of ice to maintain that temperature until receipt at laboratory facility. EPA protocols do not allow the use of icepacks or ice substitutes because they are unable to reach a cold enough temperature.

Laboratories are required to maintain a record of sample temperature as received. Spectrum utilizes infrared temperature recorder to monitor temperature. A notation of the temperature is made on the Chain of Custody. Samples received on ice will be noted as such.

Table 1
Recommended Containers, Preservation, Storage, & Holding Times
For Water and Wastewater

Description	Method	Matrix	Sample Container ¹	Preservative ²	Prep/Analysis Holding Time	Volume
Volatile/Semivolatile Analyses						
EDB, DBCP	504.1	H ₂ O	G (b) Tef Sep	Cool $<6^{\circ}\text{C}$ 75 μL Na ₂ S ₂ O ₃ Solution	14 days	40 ml ^{3,4}
Haloacetic Acids	525.2	H ₂ O	AG (b) Tef Sep	Cool $<6^{\circ}\text{C}$ NH ₄ Cl	14 days	250 ml ^{3,4}
GCMS-Purgeables	524.2	H ₂ O	G (b) Tef Sep	Cool $<6^{\circ}\text{C}$ Ascorbic acid & HCl to pH <2 ^{2,5}	14 days	40 ml ^{4,12}
GCMS-Purgeables	624, 8260C	H ₂ O	G (b) Tef Sep	Cool $<6^{\circ}\text{C}$ HCl to pH <2 ^{2,5}	14 days ⁵	40 ml ^{4,12}
GC-Pesticides & PCBs	608/8081A/B & 8082A	H ₂ O	AG (a) Tef Cap	Cool $<6^{\circ}\text{C}$ pH 5-9 ^{2,6}	7/40 days ⁷	1 L ^{3,4}
GC/MS-Semivolatiles – PAHs Base Neutral/Acid Extractable	625, 8270D	H ₂ O	AG (a) Tef Cap	Cool $<6^{\circ}\text{C}$ ²	7/40 days ⁷	1 L ^{2,3}



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Petroleum Hydrocarbon Analyses						
Oil & Grease	1664A	H ₂ O	AG (a) Tef Cap	Cool <6 ⁰ C H ₂ SO ₄ to pH<2	28 days ⁸	1 L ³
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons	1664A	H ₂ O	AG (a) Tef Cap	Cool <6 ⁰ C HCl to pH<2	28 days ⁸	1 L ³
Diesel Range Organics (DRO)	Mod. 8015B/ ME4.1.25	H ₂ O	G (b) Tef Cap	Cool <6 ⁰ C HCl to pH <2	14/40 days ⁷	1 L ³
Gasoline Range Organics (GRO)	Mod. 8015B/ ME4.2.17	H ₂ O	G (b) Tef Sep	Cool <6 ⁰ C HCl to pH <2	14 days	40 ml ^{4,12}
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons by GC	Mod. 8100	H ₂ O	G (a) Tef Cap	Cool <6 ⁰ C HCl to pH <2	14/40 days ⁷	1 L ³
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons by GC	Florida Pro	H ₂ O	G (a) Tef Cap	Cool <6 ⁰ C HCl to pH <2	14/40 days ⁷	1 L ³
MA DEP EPH	5/2004	H ₂ O	See Table 3 ²			
MA DEP VPH	5/2004	H ₂ O	See Table 4 ²			
CT DEP ETPH	CT ETPH	H ₂ O	See Table 5 ²			
NJ DEP EPH	NJ EPH Rev 2	H ₂ O	See Table 3			
Metal Analyses						
ICP/ICPMS Metals		H ₂ O	P or G (c)	Cool <6 ⁰ C HNO ₃ to pH<2 ⁹	6 months	250 ml
Mercury		H ₂ O	P or G (c)	Cool <6 ⁰ C HNO ₃ to pH<2 ⁹	28 days ¹⁰	250 ml
Chromium VI		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	24 hours	200 ml
Lead, Organic		H ₂ O	G (a) Tef Cap	Cool <6 ⁰ C	Analyze immediately	1 L ³
Inorganic/Wet Chemistry Analyses						
Ion Chromatography Anions		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	28 days ¹¹	100 ml
Acidity		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	14 days	150 ml
Alkalinity		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	14 days	150 ml
BOD		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	48 hours	1 L
Bromide		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	28 days	100 ml
Chloride		H ₂ O	P or G	None Required	28 days	150 ml
Chlorine, Total Residual		H ₂ O	P or G	None Required	Analyze immediately	200 ml
COD		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C H ₂ SO ₄ to pH<2	28 days	50 ml
Coliform, Fecal		H ₂ O	Sterile Plastic	Cool <6 ⁰ C ²	6 hours	100 ml
Coliform, Fecal Strep		H ₂ O	Sterile Plastic	Cool <6 ⁰ C ²	6 hours	100 ml



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Coliform, Total		H ₂ O	Sterile Plastic	Cool <6 ⁰ C ²	6/30 hours	100 ml
E. Coli		H ₂ O	Sterile Plastic	Cool <6 ⁰ C ²	6/30 hours	100 ml
Enterococci		H ₂ O	Sterile Plastic	Cool <6 ⁰ C ²	6 hours	100 ml
Heterotrophic Plate Count		H ₂ O	Sterile Plastic	Cool <6 ⁰ C ²	8/24 hours	100 ml
Color		H ₂ O	Sterile Plastic	Cool <6 ⁰ C	48 hours	200 ml
Conductance, Specific		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	28 days	100 ml
Cyanide, Amenable		H ₂ O	P or G (a)	Cool <6 ⁰ C NaOH to pH>12 ²	14 days	500 ml
Cyanide, Free		H ₂ O	P or G (a)	Cool <6 ⁰ C NaOH to pH>12 ²	14 days	500 ml
Cyanide, Total		H ₂ O	P or G (a)	Cool <6 ⁰ C NaOH to pH>12 ²	14 days	500 ml
Flash Point		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	ASAP	50 ml
Fluoride		H ₂ O	P or G	None Required	28 days	200 ml
Hardness		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C HNO ₃ to pH<2	6 months	100 ml
MBAS (Surfactants)		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	48 hours	250 ml
Nitrogen, Ammonia		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C H ₂ SO ₄ to pH<2	28 days	500 ml
Nitrogen, Total Kjeldahl		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C H ₂ SO ₄ to pH<2	28 days	500 ml
Nitrogen, Nitrate		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	48 hours	250 ml
Nitrogen, Nitrate plus Nitrite		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C H ₂ SO ₄ to pH<2	28 days	250 ml
Nitrogen, Nitrite		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	48 hours	250 ml
Odor		H ₂ O	G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	24 hours	500 ml
Orthophosphate		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	48 hours	100 ml
Oxygen, Dissolved		H ₂ O	P or G Bottle with G Top	None Required	Analyze immediately	300 ml
pH , Hydrogen ion		H ₂ O	P or G	None Required	Analyze immediately	25 ml
Phenolics		H ₂ O	G	Cool <6 ⁰ C H ₂ SO ₄ to pH<2	28 days	1 L ³
Phosphorous, Total		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C H ₂ SO ₄ to pH<2	28 days	500 ml
Phosphorous, Dissolved		H ₂ O	P or G	Filter immediately Cool <6 ⁰ C H ₂ SO ₄ to pH<2	24 hours	500 ml
Residue, Filterable (TDS)		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	7 days	300 ml

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Residue, Non-filterable (TSS)		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	7 days	300 ml
Residue, Total		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	7 days	300 ml
Residue, Volatile		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	7 days	100 ml
Salinity		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	28 days	100 ml
Silica		H ₂ O	P	Cool <6 ⁰ C	28 days	200 ml
Settleable Solids		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	48 hours	1 L
Specific Gravity		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	28 days	500 ml
Sulfate		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	28 days	300 ml
Sulfide		H ₂ O	P or G Bottle with G Top	Cool <6 ⁰ C NaOH & ZnAcetate	7 days	500 ml
Sulfite		H ₂ O	P or G	None Required	Analyze immediately	100 ml
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)		H ₂ O	AG (a)	Cool <6 ⁰ C H ₃ PO ₄ to pH<2	28 days	40 ml
Total Organic Halogens (TOX)		H ₂ O	AG	Cool <6 ⁰ C	28 days	200 ml
Turbidity		H ₂ O	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	48 hours	100 ml

Notes:

- 1 G (x) = glass; AG (x) = amber glass; P (x) = plastic; Tef Sep = Teflon septum; Tef Cap = Teflon lined cap; x = cleaning protocol as follows: a = acid wash + solvent wash + oven dry; b = oven dry; c = acid wash.
- 2 For organics and bacteriological analysis, sodium thiosulfate is required for all chlorinated waters. One exception to this recommendation is ascorbic acid must be used when vinyl chloride and other gases are measured with a mass spectrometer. For cyanide, use 0.6g ascorbic acid. Dechlorination must be performed prior to the addition of any necessary preservative.
- 3 Samples must be provided in duplicate to cover for breakage and provide sufficient sample for QC procedures. Extractable organics with matrix spike/matrix spike duplicate QC protocols require a triplicate sample.
- 4 Fill completely to avoid volatile loss.
- 5 Samples with purgeable aromatics must be acidified with HCl to pH<2 in order to have a 14-day holding time.
- 6 Use NaOH or H₂SO₄ as appropriate to adjust pH to 5-9.
- 7 Holding time is seven days from sample collection date for extraction, 40 days from extraction date for analysis of the extract. Holding time is fourteen days for extraction if listed as 14/40.
- 8 The EPA has not recommended petroleum hydrocarbon holding times. The holding time given is the laboratory practice by analogy with Oil and Grease standards. State of New Jersey holding time is 7 days. California LUFT is 14 days.
- 9 For the determination of dissolved elements, the sample must be filtered through a 0.45 µm pore diameter membrane filter (prior to acidification) at the time of collection or as soon thereafter as practically possible and acidified immediately thereafter.
- 10 The EPA allows only 14 days holding time for mercury in plastic bottles for drinking water analysis.
- 11 Certain anions require special handling. Holding times and preservation for a particular sample will be determined by the requirement for the anion of interest with the shortest holding time; e.g., nitrate and nitrite - 48 hours; orthophosphate-filter and 48 hours.
- 12 Samples must be provided in triplicate to cover for breakage and provide sufficient sample for screening and QC procedures.



Table 2
Recommended Containers, Preservation, Storage, & Holding Times
For Soil, Solids, and Wastes

Description	Method	Matrix	Sample Container ¹	Preservative	Prep/Analysis Holding Time	Volume
Volatile/Semivolatile Analyses						
GCMS- Purgeables	8260C	Soil/Waste	G (b) Tef Sep	See Memo ⁹	14 days	See Memo ⁹
GC-Pesticides & PCBs	8081A/B & 8082A	Soil/Waste	AG (a) Tef Cap	Cool <6 ⁰ C	14/40 days ³	100 g or 8 oz Jar
GC/MS-Semivolatiles – PAHs Base Neutral/Acid Extractable	8270C	Soil/Waste	AG (a) Tef Cap	Cool <6 ⁰ C	14/40 days ³	100 g or 8 oz Jar
Petroleum Hydrocarbon Analyses						
Oil & Grease	1664A	Soil	G (a) Tef Cap	Cool <6 ⁰ C	14/40 days ^{3,4}	100 g or 8 oz Jar
Diesel Range Organics (DRO)	Modified 8015B/ ME4.1.25	Soil	G (a) Tef Cap	Cool <6 ⁰ C	14/40 days ^{3,4}	100 g or 8 oz Jar
Gasoline Range Organics (GRO)	Modified 8015B/ ME4.2.17	Soil	G (b) Tef Sep	Cool <6 ⁰ C 15 ml CH ₃ OH	14 days	15 g ²
Total Hydrocarbons by GC	Modified 8100	Soil	G (a) Tef Cap	Cool <6 ⁰ C	14/40 days ^{3,4}	100 g or 8 oz Jar
Total Hydrocarbons by GC	Florida Pro	Soil	G (a) Tef Cap	Cool <6 ⁰ C	14/40 days ^{3,4}	100 g or 8 oz Jar
MA DEP EPH	5/2004	Soil	See Table 3			
MA DEP VPH	5/2004	Soil	See Table 4			
CT DPH ETPH	CT ETPH	Soil	See Table 5			
NJ DEP EPH	NJ EPH Rev 2	Soil	See Table 3			
Metal Analyses						
ICP/ICPMS Metals	200.7/6010C/ 6020B	Soil	P or G (c)	Cool <6 ⁰ C	6 months	100 g or 8 oz Jar
Mercury	7471A	Soil	P or G (c)	Cool <6 ⁰ C	28 days	100 g or 8 oz Jar
Lead, Organic	CA LUFT	Soil	G (a) Tef Cap	Cool <6 ⁰ C	Analyze immediately	200 g or 8 oz Jar
General Inorganic Analyses						
General Inorganics	9000 Series	Soil	P or G (c) ⁵	Cool <6 ⁰ C	Not to exceed Table 1 specifications	100 g or 8 oz Jar
Asbestos (PLM)	EPA 600R	Bulk	G (a) Tef Cap	None	Indefinite	50 g minimum
BTU	ASTMD 240	Soil	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	28 days	50 g



Table 2
Recommended Containers, Preservation, Storage, & Holding Times
For Soil, Solids, and Wastes

Description	Method	Matrix	Sample Container ¹	Preservative	Prep/Analysis Holding Time	Volume
Flashpoint/Ignitability	1010	Soil	G (b) Tef Sep or G (a) Tef Cap	Cool <6 ⁰ C	ASAP	100 g or 8 oz Jar ⁶
pH/Corrosivity	9045C	Soil/Waste	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	ASAP ⁷	100 g or 2 oz Jar ²
Reactivity	SW 846 Ch. 7.3	Soil/Waste	P or G	Cool <6 ⁰ C	ASAP ⁷	100 g or 8 oz Jar
Standard Plate Count	SM 9215 B ¹⁰	Soil/Solid/ Waste	Sterile Plastic	Cool <6 ⁰ C	24 hours	100 g
TCLP/SPLP	1311/1312	Soil/Waste	Inorganics - P or G (c) or (a) Organics - G (a)	Cool <6 ⁰ C if appropriate	varies by method	500 g or 32oz Jar ^{2,8}
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	Lloyd Kahn 9060	Soil	G (a) Tef Cap	Cool <6 ⁰ C	28 days	100g or 8 oz Jar
Total Organic Halogens (TOX)	9020B	Soil	G (a) Tef Cap	Cool <6 ⁰ C	14 days	100g or 8 oz Jar

Notes:

- 1 G (x) = glass; AG (x) = amber glass; P (x) = plastic; Tef Sep = Teflon septum; Tef Cap = Teflon lined cap; x = cleaning protocol as follows: a = acid wash + solvent wash + oven dry; b = oven dry; c = acid wash.
- 2 Fill completely to avoid volatile loss; if pre-weighted VOA vials are used, sample cannot exceed half volume of the vial.
- 3 Holding time is fourteen days from sample collection date for extraction, 40 days from extraction date for analysis of extract.
- 4 EPA has not recommended oil and grease, petroleum hydrocarbons or EDB holding times in soil. The holding time is given by analogy to extractable organics.
- 5 Acid washed containers are not appropriate for nitrate and other N analysis. Use glass container ordered with cleaning protocol (1-Chem V220-0250, or equivalent).
- 6 Fill completely to avoid volatile loss. If vials are used, a minimum of 4 is required.
- 7 Holding time is not to exceed 14 days. If sulfide reactivity is sought, then not to exceed 7 days.
- 8 TCLP samples with liquid require more sample volume. For example, a sample with 10% solids requires a minimum of 2000g. Aqueous samples should routinely be provided as 3 liters in order to cover for breakage and provide enough sample for laboratory QC.
- 9 Refer to Spectrum Analytical Memorandum (M-020) sample collection techniques for VOC soils.
- 10 Standard Methods 18th Edition



Table 3
Recommended Containers, Preservation, Storage, & Holding Times
For EPH Samples

Matrix	Container	Preservative	Holding Time
Aqueous	1 liter amber glass bottle with Teflon-lined screw cap	Add 5 ml of 1:1 HCl; Cool to 4 ⁰ C	Samples must be extracted within 14 days and analyzed within 40 days
Soil/Sediment	4-oz (120 ml) wide mouth amber glass jar with Teflon-lined screw cap	Cool to 4 ⁰ C	Samples must be extracted within 14 days and analyzed within 40 days

Table 4
Recommended Containers, Preservation, Storage, & Holding Times
For VPH Samples

Matrix	Container	Preservative	Holding Time
Aqueous	3 - 40 ml VOA vials with Teflon-lined screw caps	Add 3 to 4 drops of 1:1 HCl; Cool to 4 ⁰ C	14 days
Soil/Sediment	2 - 40 ml VOA vials with Teflon-lined screw caps	Add 15 g of soil to pre-weighed, laboratory methanol-preserved VOA vials on site; additional sample without preservative is needed to figure dry weight calculation; Cool to 4 ⁰ C	28 days

Table 5
Recommended Containers, Preservation, Storage, & Holding Times
For CT DPH ETPH Samples

Matrix	Container	Preservative	Holding Time
Concentrated Waste Sample	125 ml wide mouth glass container with Teflon lined lid	None	Samples must be extracted within 14 days and analyzed within 40 days
Water Samples with No Residual Chlorine Present	1 L amber glass containers with Teflon lined lids	Cool to 4 ⁰ C	Samples must be extracted within 7 days and analyzed within 40 days
Water Samples with Residual Chlorine Present	1 L amber glass containers with Teflon lined lids	Add 3 ml 10% Na ₂ S ₂ O ₃ solution per gallon. Cool to 4 ⁰ C*	Samples must be extracted within 7 days and analyzed within 40 days
Soil/Sediment and Sludge	250mL wide mouth glass container with Teflon lined lid	Cool to 4 ⁰ C	Samples must be extracted within 14 days and analyzed within 40 days

* Dechlorination must be performed prior to the addition of any necessary preservative.