



Hold Time / Bottle / Preservation (AQUEOUS) (see next page for additional aqueous, plus solids)

Thermal preservation (above freezing to <6°C) required for all samples unless otherwise indicated in method

Analysis (AQUEOUS)	Chemical Preservative	Bottle Type	Size	Holding Time	Notes
ABN/PAH 8270/625	None	Glass – Amber	1000 mL	7 days	Provide extra bottles if QC required
Acidity	None	Plastic	125 mL	14 days	Fill to top. Must be separate container
Alkalinity	None	Plastic	125 mL	14 days	Fill to top. Must be separate container
Ammonia (NH ₃)	H ₂ SO ₄ (pH<2)	Plastic	250 mL	28 days	Can combine with COD, Total Phosphorus, TKN
Anions NO ₂ ,NO ₃ ,O-PO ₄ * F, Cl, Br, SO ₄	None	Plastic	60 mL	48 hours NO ₂ ,NO ₃ ,O-PO ₄ 28 days F, Cl, Br, SO ₄	All anions can be performed with one 60 mL container. *O-PO ₄ should be filtered within 15 minutes of sampling
Anions NO ₂ +NO ₃	H ₂ SO ₄ (pH<2)	Plastic	60 mL	28 days	
Bacteria	Sodium Thiosulfate	Plastic (IDEXX bottle)	100 mL	8 hours waste water 30 hours drinking water	Bacteria samples accepted Mon – Thu only Call lab about drop-off on weeks with observed holidays
Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD)	None	Plastic	500 mL	48 hours (Maine- 24 hr)	Can combine with pH & conductivity
Chlorophyll	None	Glass – Amber	1000 mL	Filter Promptly	Can combine with Acidity, Color & pH
Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)	H ₂ SO ₄ (pH<2)	Plastic	60 mL	28 days	Can combine with NH ₃ , T-Phos, TKN in 250 mL
Color	None	Plastic	250 mL	48 hours	
Conductivity	None	Plastic	125 mL	28 days	Can combine with BOD & pH
Cyanide	NaOH (pH>12)	Plastic	125 mL	14 days	Cannot accept unpreserved samples
1,4-Dioxane/EDB/DBCP 8260SIM	None	Glass	2 x 40 mL	14 days	Zero headspace. HCl preserved vials are acceptable
Dissolved Oxygen (DO)	None	Glass BOD Bottle w/ glass stopper	300 mL	15 minutes	Qualified if analyzed after 15 minutes
MA-EPH	HCl (pH<2)	Glass – Amber	1000 mL	14 days	Extra bottles if QC required
Ferrous Iron	HCl (pH<2)	Plastic	125 mL	48 hours	Must be separate container
Flashpoint	None	Glass – Amber	250 mL or 4 oz	14 days	Must be separate container
Gases	HCl (pH<2)	Glass	2 x 40 mL	14 days	Includes methane, ethane, ethene. Zero headspace
Hexavalent Chromium	(NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ Buffer or None	Plastic	125 mL	Preserved 28 days Unpreserved 24 hours	Must be separate container
Metals	HNO ₃ (pH<2)	Plastic	250mL (1000mL for 1st draw)	6 months (Hg 28 days)	Hg samples must be received on ice (<6° C). No thermal preservation required for other metals
Odor	None	Glass – Amber wide mouth	1000 mL	24 hours	500 mL minimum volume. Must be filled to top
Oil & Grease	HCl (pH<2)	Glass – Amber wide mouth	1000 mL	28 days	Extra bottles if QC required
PFAS 537.1	Trizma®	Plastic (HDPE or polypropylene)*	2 x 250 mL	14 days	QC & FRB bottles if required *Cannot have Teflon lined lid
PFAS Isotope Dilution & 533	Ammonium Acetate	Plastic (HDPE or polypropylene)*	2 x 250 mL	28 days	QC & FRB bottles if required *Cannot have Teflon lined lid
Pesticides 608/8081	None (608 pH 5-9)	Glass – Amber	1000 mL	7 days	Must be pH 5-9 at receipt Extra bottle if QC required
PCB 608/8082	None	Glass	1000 mL	1 year; 7 days if combined w/ Pesticides	Extra bottle if QC required
pH	None	Plastic	125 mL	15 minutes	Can combine with BOD & conductivity Qualified if analyzed after 15 minutes
Total Phenols	H ₂ SO ₄ (pH<2)	Glass – Amber	250 mL	28 days	
Residual Chlorine, Free/Total	None	Plastic	60 mL	15 minutes	Qualified if analyzed after 15 minutes

Thermal preservation (<6°C) is required for most environmental samples. Please refer to EPA Published Methods for specific method requirements or any perceived discrepancies. This document is for general guidance only; EPA Published Analytical Methods & information overrides any oversight, contradiction, or unintentional error that may be found within.

continued next page



Hold Time / Bottle / Preservation (AQUEOUS continued)

Thermal preservation (above freezing to <6°C) required for all samples unless otherwise indicated in method

Analysis (AQUEOUS cont'd)	Chemical Preservative	Bottle Type	Size	Holding Time	Notes
Sulfide	Zinc Acetate, NaOH (pH>12)	Plastic	125 mL	7 days	
Surfactants	None	Glass – Amber	250 mL	48 hours	
TDS/TS	None	Plastic	250 mL	7 days	Needs separate container
TSS	None	Plastic	1000 mL	7 days	
TOC	H ₂ SO ₄ (pH<2)	Glass – Amber	2 x 40 mL	28 days	Minimize exposure to atmosphere
TKN	H ₂ SO ₄ (pH<2)	Plastic	250 mL	28 days	Can combine COD, T-Phos, NH ₃
TPH/DRO 8015	None	Glass – Amber	1000 mL	7 days	Extra bottles if QC required
Total Phosphorus	H ₂ SO ₄ (pH<2)	Plastic	125 mL	28 days	Can combine TKN, COD, NH ₃ (in 250mL)
Turbidity	None	Plastic	125 mL	48 hours	
Unpreserved VOC	Not preserved with HCL	Glass	2 x 40 mL	*See note →	524: 24 hours ; 8260: 7 days; 624: 72 hours
VOC 624/8260/524.2/MA-VPH 8021/GRO 8015	HCl (pH<2)	Glass	2 x 40 mL	14 days	Zero headspace

Hold Time / Bottle / Preservation (SOLIDS)

Thermal preservation (above freezing to <6°C) required for all samples unless otherwise indicated in method

Analysis (SOLIDS)	Chemical Preservative	Bottle Type	Size	Holding Time	Notes
ABN/PAH 8270/625	None	Glass – Amber	4 oz	14 days	
Ammonia (NH ₃)	None	Glass – Clear	4 oz	28 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Up to 4 analyses per container - Ask lab which analyses may share containers - TCLP may require an additional jar
Anions NO ₂ , NO ₃ , o-PO ₄ F, Cl, Br, SO ₄	None	Glass – Clear	4 oz	7 days NO ₂ , NO ₃ , o-PO ₄ 28 days F, Cl, Br, SO ₄	
Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)	None	Glass – Clear	4 oz	28 days	
Conductivity	None	Glass – Clear	4 oz	28 days	
Cyanide	None	Glass – Clear	4 oz	14 days	
Hexavalent Chromium	None	Glass – Clear	4 oz	30 days MA 24 hours	Must be in its own jar, never opened prior to analysis MA samples also require pH & ORP, per method
Ignitability	None	Glass – Clear	4 oz	14 days	Ignitability needs separate container
MA-EPH	None	Glass – Amber	4 oz	14 days	
MA-VPH	MeOH (10 mL)	Glass – Clear	40 mL	28 days	Soil grabber provided, fill twice for 10 grams
Metals	None	Glass – Clear	4 oz	180 days, Hg 28 days	
Nitrogen, Total Kjeldahl (TKN)	None	Glass – Clear	4 oz	28 days	
PCB 8082	None	Glass – Clear	4 oz	1 year	
Pesticides 8081	None	Glass – Amber	4 oz	14 days	
pH	None	Glass – Clear	4 oz	7 days	
Sulfide	None	Glass – Clear	4 oz	7 days	
Total Phosphorus	None	Glass – Clear	4 oz	28 days	
Total Solids (TS)	None	Glass – Clear	4 oz	7 days	
TPH/DRO 8015	None	Glass – Amber	4 oz	14 days	
VOC 8260 / 8021 / 8015 GRO	MeOH (10 mL)	Glass – Clear	40 mL	14 days	Soil grabber provided, fill twice for 10 grams

Thermal preservation (<6°C) is required for most environmental samples. Please refer to EPA Published Methods for specific method requirements or any perceived discrepancies. This document is for general guidance only; EPA Published Analytical Methods & information overrides any oversight, contradiction, or unintentional error that may be found within.