

Water Sampling Guide

Parameter	Bottle	Preservative (included in the bottle)	Hold Time	Special Instructions
Bacteria	100 mL sterile	Sodium thiosulfate	48 hours	Store at ≤6°C, one container for each bacterial test
Benzo(a)pyrene	1 L amber glass	None	7 days	Teflon lined cap. Store at ≤6°C.
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)	500 mL plastic	None	24 hrs*	Store at ≤6°C. * If >24 hours, results are flagged. If >48 hours, client is contacted.
Bromate/Chlorate/Chlorite	2 x 40 mL amber glass	None	5 days	No headspace. Store at ≤6°C.
Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)	100 mL plastic	Dilute sulfuric acid	28 days	Can be analyzed from Nutrients bottle.
Chemical Health & Toxicity (CHT)	100 mL plastic	Dilute nitric acid		May also need to submit a sample for mercury and cyanide. Refer to requirements for mercury and cyanide.
Chlorine/Chloramines	2 x 40 mL glass	None	24 hours	Fill bottle to overflowing, no headspace. Store at ≤6°C.
Chlorophenolics	1 L amber glass	Dilute sulfuric acid	7 days	Teflon lined cap. Store at ≤6°C.
Cyanide (Total & WAD)	100 mL plastic	Sodium hydroxide, pH>12		
Dissolved Organic Carbon <i>Field filtered</i>	100 mL plastic	Dilute sulfuric acid		Filter sample before filling bottle.
Dissolved Organic Carbon <i>Lab filtered</i>	100 mL plastic	None	24 hours	Rinse bottle and fill. Sample is filtered and preserved in the lab.
Extractable Hydrocarbons (F2-F4)	2 x 40 mL amber glass	None	14 days	Teflon lined cap. Store at ≤6°C.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA)	2 x 40 mL amber glass	Ammonium chloride	14 days	No headspace. Store at ≤6°C.
Herbicides	1 L amber glass	None	7 days	Teflon lined cap. Store at ≤6°C.
Lead in Drinking Water				** Contact the lab to discuss requirements.
General Chemistry/Major Ions/Water Quality Package	1 L	None	4 days	Store at ≤6°C.
	100 mL	Dilute sulfuric acid	28 days	Do not flush out preservative. Store at ≤6°C.
Methylene Blue Active Substances (MBAS)	500 mL plastic	None	48 hours	Store at ≤6°C.
Metals	100 mL plastic	Dilute nitric acid	48 hours*	Filter before filling bottle or rinse bottle, fill and send to lab unpreserved* for dissolved metals.
Mercury (Hg)	40 mL glass	Dilute hydrochloric acid	28 days	
Nitrate	100 mL plastic	Dilute sulfuric acid	28 days	Store at ≤6°C. Do not flush out preservative.
Nitrite	100 mL plastic	None	48 hours	No headspace. Store at ≤6°C.
Nutrients: Ammonia, TKN, Nitrates	250 mL plastic	Dilute sulfuric acid	28 days	Store at ≤6°C.
Odour	1 L glass	None	ASAP	Fill bottle to overflowing (no headspace). Store at ≤6°C.
Oil and Grease	1 L glass	Dilute sulfuric acid		Teflon lined cap. Store at ≤6°C.
Ortho-Phosphate	100 mL plastic	None	48 hours	Store at ≤6°C.
PAHs	1 L amber glass	None	7 days	Teflon lined cap. Store at ≤6°C.
PCBs	1 L amber glass	None	7 days	Teflon lined cap. Store at ≤6°C.
Pentachlorophenol (PCP)	1 L amber glass	Dilute sulfuric acid	7 days	Teflon lined cap. Store at ≤6°C.
Pesticides	1 L amber glass	None	7 days	Teflon lined cap. Store at ≤6°C.
Phenolics (inorganics)	40 mL amber glass	1 mL of 20% sulfuric acid	28 days	Teflon lined cap. Store at ≤6°C.
Purgeable Hydrocarbons (F1-BTEX)	2 x 40 mL amber glass	Sodium thiosulfate	14 days	Fill bottle to overflowing, no headspace. Store at ≤6°C.
Radon in water	2 x 40 mL glass	None	8 days	Fill to overflowing, no headspace. Sample date/time required.
Radionuclides	1 L for each parameter	Dilute nitric acid	48 hours*	Filter before filling bottle or rinse bottle, fill and send to lab unpreserved* for dissolved radionuclides.
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	500 mL	None	6 days	TSS, VSS, and FSS can all be done on the same aliquot.
Volatile Suspended Solids (VSS)				
Fixed Suspended Solids (FSS)				
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	500 mL	None	6 days	TDS, VDS, and FDS can all be done on the same aliquot.
Volatile Dissolved Solids (VDS)				
Fixed Dissolved Solids (FDS)				
Sulfide	100 mL plastic	Zinc acetate + Sodium hydroxide		Store at ≤6°C.
Trihalomethane (THM)	2 x 40 mL amber glass	Sodium thiosulfate	14 days	Fill to overflowing, no headspace. Store at ≤6°C.
Tritium	100 mL plastic	None		
Turbidity	100 mL plastic	None	48 hours	Store at ≤6°C.
Volatile Organic Compounds	2 x 40 mL amber glass	Sodium thiosulfate	14 days	Fill bottle to overflowing, no headspace. Store at ≤6°C.