

Preservation and Holding Times for Regulated Parameters

Parameter/ Method	Preservative	Sample Holding Time	Extract Holding Time	Suggested Sample Size	Type of Container
Metals (except Hg)	HNO ₃ pH<2	6 months		1 L	Plastic or Glass
Mercury	HNO ₃ pH<2	28 days		100 mL	Plastic or Glass
Alkalinity	Cool, 4C	14 days		100 mL	Plastic or Glass
Asbestos	Cool, 4C	48 hours			Plastic or Glass
Chloride	none	28 days		50 mL	Plastic or Glass
Residual Disinfectant	none	immediately		200 mL	Plastic or Glass
Color	Cool, 4C	48 hours		50 mL	Plastic or Glass
Conductivity	Cool, 4C	28 days		100 mL	Plastic or Glass
Cyanide	Cool, 4C, Ascorbic acid (if chlorinated), NaOH pH>12	14 days		1 L	Plastic or Glass
Fluoride	none	28 days		300 mL	Plastic or Glass
Foaming Agents	Cool, 4C	48 hours			
Nitrate (chlorinated)	Cool, 4C	28 days		100 mL	Plastic or Glass
Nitrate (non chlorinated)	Cool, 4C, H ₂ SO ₄ , pH<2	14 days		100 mL	Plastic or Glass
Nitrite	Cool, 4C	48 hours		50 mL	Plastic or Glass
Odor	Cool, 4C	24 hours		200 mL	Glass
pH	none	immediately		25 mL	Plastic or Glass
o-Phosphate	Filter immediately, Cool, 4C	48 hours		50 mL	Plastic or Glass

Silica	Cool, 4C	28 days		100 mL	Plastic
Solids (TDS)	Cool, 4C	7 days		100 mL	Plastic or Glass
Sulfate	Cool, 4C	28 days		50 mL	Plastic or Glass
Temperature	none	immediately		1 L	Plastic or Glass
Turbidity	Cool, 4C	48 hours		100 mL	Plastic or Glass
502.2	Sodium Thiosulfate or Ascorbic Acid, 4C, HCl pH<2	14 days		40-120 mL	Glass with PFTE Lined Septum
504.1	Sodium Thiosulfate Cool, 4C,	14 days	4C, 24 hours	40 mL	Glass with PFTE Lined Septum
505	Sodium Thiosulfate Cool, 4C	14 days (7 days for Heptachlor)	4C, 24 hours	40 mL	Glass with PFTE Lined Septum
506	Sodium Thiosulfate Cool, 4C, Dark	14 days	4C, dark 14 days	1 L	Amber Glass with PFTE lined Cap
507	Sodium Thiosulfate Cool, 4C, Dark	14 days(see method for exceptions)	4C, dark 14 days	1 L	Amber Glass with PFTE Lined Cap
508	Sodium Thiosulfate Cool, 4C, Dark	7 days (see method for exceptions)	4C, dark 14 days	1 L	Glass with PFTE Lined Cap
508A	Cool, 4C	14 days	30 days	1 L	Glass with PFTE Lined Cap
508.1	Sodium Sulfite HCl pH<2 Cool, 4C	14 days (see method for exceptions)	30 days	1 L	Glass with PFTE Lined Cap
515.1	Sodium Thiosulfate Cool, 4C, Dark	14 days	4C, dark 28 days	1 L	Amber Glass with PFTE Lined Cap
515.2	Sodium	14 days	less than or equal to	1 L	Amber

	Thiosulfate HCl pH<2 Cool, 4C, Dark		4C, dark 14 days		Glass with PFTE Lined Cap
524.2	Ascorbic Acid HCl pH<2, Cool 4C	14 days		40-120 mL	Glass with PFTE Lined Septum
525.2	Sodium Sulfite, Dark, Cool, 4C, HCl pH<2	14 days (see method for exceptions)	30 days from collection	1 L	Amber Glass with PFTE Lined Cap
531.1, 6610	Sodium Thiosulfate, Monochloroacetic acid, pH<3, Cool, 4C	Cool 4C 28 days		60 mL	Glass with PFTE Lined Septum
547	Sodium Thiosulfate Cool, 4C	14 days(18 mo.frozen)		60 mL	Glass with PFTE Lined Septum
548.1	Sodium Thiosulfate (HCl pH 1.5-2 if high biological activity) Cool, 4C, Dark	7 days	14 days less than or equal to 4C	greater than or equal to 250 mL	Amber Glass with PFTE Lined Septum
549.1	Sodium Thiosulfate, (H ₂ SO ₄ pH<2 if biologically active) Cool, 4C, Dark	7 days	21 days	greater than or equal to 250mL	High Density Amber Plastic or Silanized Amber Glass
550, 550.1	Sodium Thiosulfate Cool, 4C, HCl pH<2	7 days	550, 30 days 550.1, 40 days Dark, 4C	1 L	Amber Glass with PFTE Lined Cap
551	Sodium Thiosulfate, Sodium Sulfite, Ammonium Chloride, or Ascorbic Acid, HCL pH 4.5-5.0 Cool, 4C	14 days		greater than or equal to 40 mL	Glass with PFTE Lined Septum
555	Sodium Sulfite	14 days		greater than or	Glass with

	HCl, pH less than or equal to 2 Dark, Cool 4C			equal to 100 mL	PFTE lined cap
1613B	Sodium Thiosulfate Cool, 0-4C, Dark		Recommend 40 days	1 L	Amber Glass with PFTE Lined Cap

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