

Envirolab holding times and container information

Waters:

Analyte	Type of Container	Preservation	Maximum holding time (days unless stated)
TPHs	G	N/A	21 [#]
PAHs	G	N/A	14*
EPH	G	N/A	15 [#]
VPH	G [^]	N/A	14*
VOCs	G [^]	N/A	14*
PCB	G	N/A	21 [#]
SVOC	G	N/A	14*
Phenols	P	pH <2 with H ₂ SO ₄	21*
Oil & Grease	G	N/A	30*
Ammoniacal nitrogen	P	pH <2 with H ₂ SO ₄	21*
DOC	P	pH <2 with H ₂ SO ₄	28*
General Metals (except Cr ₆₊)	P	Filter (0.45µm) and pH <2 with HNO ₃	6 months*
Hardness	P	Filter (0.45µm) and pH <2 with HNO ₃	6 months*
Cr ₆₊	P or G	N/A	11 [#]
Boron	P or G	N/A	180*
TSS	P or G	N/A	9 [#]
TDS	P or G	N/A	30 [#]
Fluoride	P or G	N/A	30*
Chloride	P or G	N/A	30*
Nitrite	P or G	N/A	14 [#]
Nitrate	P or G	N/A	14 [#]
Phosphate	P or G	N/A	30*
Sulphate	P or G	N/A	30*
Cyanides	P	pH >12 with NaOH	14*
Conductivity	P or G	N/A	28*
pH	P or G	N/A	16 [#]
COD	P	pH <2 with H ₂ SO ₄	30*
BOD	P or G [^]	N/A	2*
Sulphide	P	pH >12 with NaOH	14*
Alkalinity	P or G	N/A	14*

Soils:

Analyte	Type of Container	Preservation	Maximum holding time (days unless stated)
TPHs	G	N/A	14 [#]
PAHs	G	N/A	14*
EPH	G	N/A	28*
VPH	G [^]	N/A	14*
VOC	G [^]	N/A	14*
PCB	G	N/A	30*
SVOC	G	N/A	14*
Nitrite	G or P	N/A	30*
Nitrate	G or P	N/A	30*
Chloride	G or P	N/A	30*
Sulphate	G or P	N/A	30*
Metals	G or P	N/A	6 months*
ws Boron	G or P	N/A	6 months*
Acid soluble sulphate	G or P	N/A	30*
Cyanides	G or P	N/A	14*
pH	G or P	N/A	180 [#]
Sulphide	P or G	N/A	7*
TOC	G or P	N/A	28*

Key:

* Guidance from maximum of BS ISO 18512:2007, 5667-3:218 & USEPA SW846 chapter 3 and 4.

Based on in-house stability trials

[^] No headspace should be present in container

G = Glass

P = Plastic