

**ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY APPROVAL PROGRAM
CERTIFICATION MANUAL**

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Sample Collection: Requirements for Solid & Chemical Materials	02/13/13	1 of 1	243

SAMPLE PRESERVATION

Due to the variety of possible sample types, only generalizations can be made. Most solid samples are best preserved by refrigeration to 4°C. Analysis should begin as soon as possible. If SW 846 does not list a holding time, then the holding time must not exceed the holding time listed for water samples. A complete record should be maintained on each sample to provide a history of sample handling from collection to analysis and reporting.

SW-846 contains over 200 documents, including the Table of Contents, Disclaimer, Preface, Chapters One through Thirteen, and many different methods for the sampling and analysis of wastes. For specific sample container, preservation techniques, and holding times, refer to Chapter 2, (Tables 2-40(A) and 2-40(B)), Chapter 3 (Tables 3-1 and 3-2) and Chapter 4 (Table 4-1).