



PROCESSING OF WATER SAMPLES A5.

Edited by Francesca D. Wilde, Dean B. Radtke,
Jacob Gibs, and Rick T. Iwatsubo

Sample processing forms a continuum with sample collection (NFM 4) and involves the compositing, subsampling (splitting), filtration, solid-phase extraction, preservation, and shipment of samples. Samples are most vulnerable to sampling artifacts, contamination, incorrect chemical treatment, and mislabeling during sample processing. Samples must be processed as soon as possible after collection.³

**Sample processing:
the measures taken
to prepare and
preserve a water
sample as or after
it is collected
and shipped for
laboratory analysis.**
