

SUSPENDED SOLIDS IN WATER

DRAFT PROCEDURE (by Coles, July 29, 1998)

Materials:

at least 250 ml (0.250 liter) of water sample
paper coffee filter
margarine tub with holes punched in bottom
milligram scale
container to catch filtered water
cylinder to measure volume of water
drying lights

1. Dry a paper coffee filter for 20 minutes under the drying light. Then weigh the filter.
2. Shake the water sample to get all material that may have settled back into suspension. Measure out 250 ml of water sample.
3. Place the dry, weighed filter into the dish with holes in it, and place a container underneath to catch the water. Filter the 250 ml of water through.
4. Dry and weigh the filter again.

CALCULATION

- A. Weight of filter after filtering sample: _____ mg
- B. Weight of filter before filtering: _____ mg
- C. Subtract B from A; result is weight of
suspended sediment, in milligrams: _____ mg
- D. amount of sample in liters
(e.g. 0.250 liters if you used 250 ml) _____ l
- E. Divide C. by D.
= suspended sediment load in mg/l: _____ mg/l