

supplementary texts if the reader is not familiar with the subject matter. I recommend the book to geologists who are moving into the environmental field or those who wish to update their knowledge on newer techniques.

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*Field Sampling Methods for Remedial Investigations*, by M. Byrnes, Lewis Publishers, 1994, 254 pp., US \$69.95, ISBN 0-87371-698-1

This book was written with the express purpose of teaching environmental professionals how to write and execute plans for the characterization of sites that may contain hazardous contaminants. The text is organized in a manner to facilitate direct application to the field sampling program development process. After an introduction to general considerations, the author provides a brief synopsis of the relevant environmental laws with which activities must comply. The second chapter provides a description of the staged data quality objectives (DQO) process which defines the sequence of events for development of a field sampling program.

The bulk of the text is dedicated to the presentation of standard operating procedures in Chapter 3. Methods addressed include those for collecting samples from shallow and deep soils, sediments, surface waters, ground waters, and drums. Specific approaches for both historic and newer methodologies are provided.

The final four chapters discuss equipment decontamination; sample preparation, preservation, documentation and shipment; health and safety; and management of investigation derived wastes. Appended reference materials include conversion tables, soil classification descriptions, and diagrams of radiological decay chains.

This is a good book for novices and staff newly assigned to field operations. It may also be helpful to more experienced personnel looking for a quick reference to SOPs. The text is accompanied by extensive photographs and diagrams that facilitate understanding.

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