

Metals Sampling Instructions



Please follow the instructions provided to ensure your sample can be accepted by the laboratory. If you have questions regarding your sample collection, please call us Monday - Friday from 8 am - 6 pm at (775) 355-0202.

Total vs. Dissolved Metals

Preservative vials with Nitric Acid (HNO₃) are included with metals sampling container(s). Please follow the guidance below when deciding when or if to add the preservative to the sampling bottle.

ADD the preservative to the metals bottle if

- **You require total parameters OR**
- **You have field filtered the sample and require dissolved parameters**

Samples cannot be properly filtered at the laboratory after a preservative has been added.

Do **NOT** add the preservative to the metals bottle if

- Dissolved metals are needed, and you are not field filtering samples
- Submit metals bottle (red label) unpreserved and return unused acid vial returned to laboratory

Field Blanks

A “field blank” is an additional sample collected in the field consisting of an analyte-free solution (DI Water). It is collected using the same methods as a regular sample and is taken in between regular sampling sites after completion of equipment decontamination. This blank is useful in documenting adequate decontamination of sampling equipment and can account for unexpected contaminants in routine monitoring.

State/Federal regulatory agencies and WETLAB recommend pulling at least one metals field blank for each sampling event. Additional containers are available upon request.

Delivering Your Samples

- Drop samples off at your local WETLAB Monday through Friday. Operating hours vary by location.
- Ship samples to our Sparks, Elko, or Las Vegas labs.
- WETLAB's Courier Service picks up samples and delivers bottle kits throughout Nevada and California for an additional fee. For pricing and to coordinate a pickup, please speak to your WETLAB representative.

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