How to pack water samples for C14 dating & stable isotope analysis

When sending water for radiocarbon dating and stable isotope analysis, it is necessary to use proper containers and pack them correctly to prevent leakage.

**Recommendations:**

- Use wide-mouthed Nalgene bottles
- You may use any type of plastic bottle: HDPE, LDPE, PP
  
  **Note:** It is recommended to use glass or Polyacrylonitrile (PAN) plastic bottles for samples that will be stored for long periods prior to sending to the lab
- A small-neck bottle generally seals better than large-neck, but both are fine
- Mark the bottle with the appropriate sample identification number in ink or on a non-removable tamper-proof label

**Packaging Suggestions:**

Place the bottles inside a plastic bag and seal the bag with a zip-tie or duct tape for shipping. This way, if any of the bottles leak during shipment, the water will not weaken the cardboard shipping container. Make sure to use a box with sufficient packing to prevent breakage during shipment.

**Contact us if you have any questions.**

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We have recently updated our Privacy Policy in support of the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), in effect from May 25. You are welcome to review the policy to learn more about how we process your data in order to provide you laboratory services and updates.

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