

National Laboratory Service



For more information on NLS
or to discuss your specific needs:

call us on **08708 506 506**
email **nls@environment-agency.gov.uk**
or visit our website **www.environment-agency.gov.uk/nls**

National Laboratory Service Fobney Mead, Rose Kiln Lane, Reading, Berkshire RG2 0SF
Tel 08708 506506 Fax 0118 922 6127 **www.environment-agency.gov.uk/nls**

Quality Control
We place a strong emphasis on robust quality control. Our laboratories and methodologies are UKAS accredited to the ISO17025 standard, and we hold MCertS accreditation for a wide range of environmental tests on soils.



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Science. Service. Solutions.



National Laboratory Service (NLS) is a leading provider of high quality environmental testing and analysis. We combine scientific excellence with dedicated customer service to deliver practical environmental solutions.



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At NLS we take great pride in our world-class scientific expertise. From our national network of five laboratories, we carry out environmental testing and analysis to the highest standards of scientific excellence.

Providing over 450 tests for more than 4,000 different analytes, we examine land and water samples from the UK and overseas, offering expert guidance and solutions to our parent company, the Environment Agency, and commercially to a wide range of external customers.

We believe passionately in scientific integrity and quality of service. Drawing on years of expertise, we tailor our analytical methods to suit customer requirements and build unique, valued relationships with every client we work with. For not only are NLS customers guaranteed round-the-clock support and flexible turnaround times, but direct access, whenever they need it, to people who understand the science. Commitment, contact and a personal touch are the hallmarks of everything that we do.

Our ultimate aim is to enable our customers to meet their obligations to safeguard the health of people, wildlife and the environment, and to carry out their business with confidence and efficiency. We contribute to robust plans for improvement and tailored programmes for change, helping to enhance environmental performance and achieve sustained commercial success.

“Our aim is to contribute to sustainable development through the provision of high quality, respected and reliable environmental testing and analysis.”

Hugh Taylor, General Manager, NLS

With an impressive breadth and depth of capabilities, NLS delivers authoritative chemical and microbiological testing, analysis and interpretation across a range of substances, including:

- Contaminated land
- Fresh and saline waters
- Soils and sediments
- Sewage and industrial effluents
- Leachates
- Fauna and biota
- Landfill gases

The NLS microbiology unit also provides comprehensive bacteriology analysis of:

- Faecal indicators
- Microbiology tracers and pathogens

Our Leeds laboratory offers a testing and site-risk assessment service for Legionella.

As part of our overall service offering, we also guarantee:

- Helpdesk support
- Emergency response
- Environmental crisis management
- Comprehensive feasibility reviews
- Information searches
- Accurate data
- Fast and efficient turnaround

