

THANK YOU FOR MONITORING YOUR LOCAL WATERSHEDS!

Before you head off to test, please read these *safety instructions!*

- Always monitor with 1+ partners. Let someone else know where you are and when you intend to return.
- Stay out of the watershed you are monitoring as much as possible.
- Check the weather conditions in advance. Do not go out if a storm is predicted.
- Follow all posted notices and warnings in the area you are testing.
- Keep your pets at home.
- Never drink the water you are testing. Assume it is unsafe.

COLLECTION PROCEDURE

1. Remove the cap to your collection jar and rinse it 2-3 times with sample water.
2. Hold the bottom of the jar and plunge it, facing downward below the water surface.
3. Allow water to flow into the jar for **30 seconds**.
4. While the jar is still submerged, screw on the lid.

TEMPERATURE TEST

1. Place the jar so that the thermometer stick on the jar's exterior is approximately 10 centimeters below the water surface. For a measure, submerge gauge into water.
2. Hold the at the top with your fingertips (so your hand does not interfere with the temperature reading) for **1 minute**.
3. Remove the jar/stick from the water and record the temperature (the number with the **GREEN background**) in degrees Celsius.

TURBIDITY TEST

1. Carefully pour water out of the collection jar until the sample is filled just to the Fill Line.
2. Hold the Turbidity color comparison chart on the top edge of the sample jar. Looking down into the jar, compare the appearance of the Secchi disk sticker with the chart. Record your result in JTU.

DISSOLVED OXYGEN TEST

1. Submerge the small glass vial into the water sample. Carefully remove the vial, keeping it full to the top.
2. Drop **two** Dissolved Oxygen tablets into the small vial. It is okay if the water slightly overflows when the tablets are added.
3. Screw the cap on the vial. Make sure no bubbles are present in the sample.
4. Mix by inverting (shaking back and forth) the sample over and over until the tablets have dissolved. This will take about 4 minutes.
5. After the tablets have dissolved, wait another **5 minutes** for the color to fully develop.
6. Compare the color of the sample to the Dissolved Oxygen color comparison chart. Record your result in ppm.

pH TEST

1. Fill the plastic test tube labeled “pH” to the **10 mL line** with water from the collection jar.
2. Add **one** pH Wide Range tablet.
3. Cap the test tube and mix by inverting until the tablet has completely dissolved.
4. Compare the color of the sample to the pH color comparison chart. Record your result.

NITRATE TEST

1. Fill the plastic test tube labeled “NITRATE” to the **5 mL line** with water from the collection jar.
2. Add **one** Nitrate tablet.
3. Cap the test tube and mix by inverting until the tablet has completely dissolved.
4. Compare the color of the sample to the Nitrate color comparison chart. Record your result in ppm.

PHOSPHATE TEST

1. Fill the plastic test tube labeled “PHOSPHATE” to the **10 mL line** with water from the collection jar.
2. Add **one** Phosphorous tablet.
3. Cap the test tube and mix by inverting until the tablet has completely dissolved.
4. Compare the color of the sample to the Phosphate color comparison chart. Record you result in ppm.

After monitoring...

- Please make sure to record your data here:
- Please put the DO vial, pH test tube, Nitrate test tube, and Phosphate test tube **back into your monitoring kit**. THESE CANNOT BE EMPTIED BACK INTO THE WATERSHED. You can only empty the large collection jar back into the watershed.
- Pack up your other materials **neatly** for the next user.
- Make sure you don't leave any trash behind, and if you see any litter around the monitoring site, pick it up and take a picture!
- THANK YOU!