

Determining the Secchi Depth

1. Lower the Secchi disc until it disappears from view.

2. Note the depth.

3. Raise the Secchi disc until it reappears.

4. Note the depth.

5. The Secchi depth is the average of these two depths. Record the Secchi depths on the other side of this sheet.

NOTE: Take your reading on the shady side of the boat. Do not wear sunglasses. Take at same time of day (noon if possible) in calm weather conditions. Record your readings in tenths of a metre eg. 4.2m

Taking the Water Sample

Your kit contains:

1 sampling bottle, 1 filter with Nitex mesh, 1 wide mouthed jar and 2 test tubes. Use the sampling bottle to collect water to fill the jar and the 2 tubes.

1. First rinse all four containers twice with lake water.

2. Collect a sample by lowering and retrieving it through the water to a depth of the Secchi reading but no closer than **1 metre** to the bottom. You will need to attach a length of light rope to the neck and tape the bottle to a clean weight that will let it sink. A hammer may be the best thing.

3. Pour the water through the filter apparatus.

4. Fill the wide mouthed jar with the first sample.

5. Take a second sample at the same site, the same way and use this water to fill the two test tubes to just above the line. **Make sure that the lids are snug.**

Return the bottles to Dorset as soon as possible. Store the samples in the refrigerator prior to shipping.

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