**Conductivity Video Questions**

Conductivity tests the amount of ions in the water. It tells us if there might be salt in the stream. If there is too much salt, it hurts the organisms that live in the water. The video was made in early summer 2020.

* The unit for measuring conductivity in water is the microsiemen per centimeter (µs/cm). The conductivity of pure water is in the range 0.5 to 3 µs/cm.
* Lake and river water in the U.S. is much higher, generally ranging from 50 to 1500 µs/cm. Streams that support good populations of freshwater fish have conductivities in the range 150 to 800 µs/cm.
* Conductivities outside this range tend to be unsuitable for some species of fish and aquatic macro-invertebrates.

1. What was the conductivity shown in the video?

2. On the basis of the video’s conductivity reading, was high salt concentration a problem in this stream on the day the sample was taken? (Recall that a conductivity in the range 150 to 800 µs/cm is OK for most critters.)

3. Would you expect the reading to be higher or lower if the sample taken in March? Explain.

4. How has the City of Ann Arbor changed its practices to improve stream conductivity?

5. How can individuals help keep salt out of their surface water?