

SECCHI DISK TRANSPARENCY

Procedure Checklist

Equipment Checklist

- Boating safety equipment and anchor
- Copy of full procedures or this quick reference procedure checklist
- Data sheet
- Pencil or indelible ink pen
- Secchi disk and measured line



Data Collection

A. Sampling location, frequency, and timing

- 1. Take a reading every week or every other week according to the dates on the data sheet.
- 2. 8 readings spread evenly throughout the summer is the minimum expected effort; more is better.
- 3. It is best to measure transparency at the same time each week, sometime between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on a sunny, calm day.

B. Proceed to your monitoring location

C. Prepare for monitoring

- 1. When in position, fill out the data sheet (Lake Name, County, Date, Field ID #, etc.).

D. Making the Secchi disk measurement

- 1. Take reading over the shaded side of the boat.
- 2. Do not wear sunglasses or use a viewscope.
- 3. Lower Secchi disk until it disappears from sight; note depth.
- 4. Raise the Secchi disk until it reappears; note depth.
- 5. Calculate the average of the two depths and record this on the data sheet as the final reading.
- 6. If the Secchi disk rests on the lake bottom during measurement, record the depth and write "on bottom" on your data sheet.

E. Reporting. Hold onto your datasheet. It is our intention to get these uploaded into the new MiCorps database in 2021.