

Sampling Instructions

Sample drop off hours:
Mon-Thurs 8:00am-4:00pm
Friday 8:00am-1:00pm

You will need:

- ✓ Secchi Disk with marked rope/tape measure
- ✓ 2-meter Integrated Sampler
- ✓ 2 sampling bottles per site (1 large, 1 small)
- ✓ Acid vial (10% Sulfuric Acid) for sample preservation – *attached to small sample bottle*
- ✓ Cooler with cubed ice
- ✓ Chain of Custody Form
- ✓ Sharpie marker and a pen
- ✓ GPS Unit and/or Depth Finder (to locate sampling location)

Take the first sample in May and sample (as close as possible) every 30 days after the first sampling through September.

Do not sample during a rain event and wait at least four hours after a rain event before sampling.

Do not smoke before or during sampling. Tobacco smoke contains contaminating phosphorus compounds, and do not wear any clothing contaminated with tobacco smoke.

Secchi Disk:

1. Lower the Secchi disk into the water until it is no longer visible and then some.
2. Slowly bring the disk back towards the surface until you just start to see it. Mark the rope at the water's surface with your hand.
3. Record the measurement on your Chain of Custody Form. (The measurement is the distance from where you marked the rope with your hand to the Secchi disk in feet).

Tip: If your Secchi disk does not have tape measure rope, mark your Secchi rope in advance at every foot and half foot to make measuring easier.

Sample Collection:

1. Use a Sharpie marker or pen to label each of the sampling bottles with the lake and site name.
2. Lower the Integrated Sampler (check valve end first) into the water to the 2-meter marked line.
3. Lift the sampler out of the water and empty it out on the opposite side of the boat.

Sample Collection (continued):

4. Repeat steps 1 and 2 two more times to rinse sampler (Rinse the sampler 3 times).
5. Lower the sampler again into the water up to the 2-meter marked line. Stopper the open end of the pipe and tip back and forth to mix the water. It is OK if some water leaks out.

*Tip: If your sampling pipe does not have a stopper, you can position the sampling pipe while you pour it so that half of the water from pipe goes into the bottle and half goes back to the lake. **It's OK to fill the sampler a couple of times to get enough volume to fill the sample bottles.***

6. Fill the large white container all the way, cap the container and place in the cooler.
7. Fill the small bottle to the shoulder. Empty the attached acid vial into the bottle. cap the container and place in the cooler. Discard empty acid vial in the trash.
8. Fill in Chain of Custody Form.
9. Keep all samples on ice in the dark cooler and deliver to AWRL within 48 hours. Samples may be kept in the refrigerator overnight but must be transported to the lab on ice.

**A.W. Research Laboratories, Inc.
314 Charles Street
Brainerd, MN 56401**

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*After hour drop-off and sample pick-up options are available.
Please contact Sarah Fogderud to make arrangements (contact info below).*

***Thank you for participating in our Summer Lake Monitoring Program!
Your efforts are critical in maintaining the water quality of Minnesota's lakes
for all of us to enjoy!***

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:

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