



Secchi Dip-In

A secchi disk measures the turbidity of a body of water which will help us gather data on the water clarity at Pigeon Lake. Turbidity is a result of high concentrations of sediments and biota such as phytoplankton.

Secchi Disk Protocol:

1. Slowly lower the Secchi disk into the water on the shady side of the boat until it is no longer visible. Use the marks on the string to measure and record the depth. (do not wear sunglasses as this can cause an inaccurate reading)
2. Gradually raise the disk until it just becomes visible again. Use the marks on the string to measure and record the depth
3. Add the depths from steps 1 and 2 and divide by two to get an average. This average is your Secchi depth.
4. This may be repeated for a measurement of precision.

NALMS Quick-Start Video: "How to Take a Secchi Depth"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xiRT2j54Y2U&feature=emb_title

Measured Secchi depth: _____ (cm)

Date of Observation

dd/mm/yyyy

Time of Observation: _____ AM or PM

Latitude: _____

Longitude: _____

Weather

- Sunny
- Partly Cloudy
- Overcast
- Rain

Was the disk resting on the bottom of the lake? Yes / No

What is the general water quality of the waterbody?

- Beautiful, No Problems
- Minor Problems
- Slight Use Impairment
- Substantial Impairment
- Use Totally Impaired

Has the quality changed in the past year?

- Better
- Worse
- No change
- Don't know

Measure the transparency at any time. Please do not do the Dip-In if it is raining, if there is abnormally high boat traffic, or if there are any unsafe conditions. A clear, calm day is best. Go to the site or sites where you normally measure transparency. Follow your normal monitoring procedures.

Thank you so much for your time and dedication to Pigeon Lake!