



SECCHI DISK TRANSPARENCY



Quick Reference Procedure Checklist

Please Note

This document is an abbreviated form of the full Secchi Disk Transparency Procedures. It is recommended that you read the full procedures at least once during the beginning of each field season. Full procedures are found here:

<https://micorps.net/lake-monitoring/clmp-documents/CLMP-Manual.pdf>

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 a 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.

Reporting Your Results

Deadline: October 30.

1. Enter your data into the MiCorps Data Exchange

The data entry web address is: <https://data.micorps.net/enter/login.php>

To enter data you will need your own username and password. To receive this, or to ask any questions about data entry, contact:

Great Lakes Commission

Email: MiData@glc.org

2. At the end of the season, mail in a copy of your data sheet—whether you entered your data into the MiCorps Data Exchange or not.

Mail a copy to:

Michigan Lake Stewardship Associations, Inc.

P. O. Box 303

Long Lake, MI 48743

All data must be entered into the database and the hard copies mailed no later than October 30th.