



# How To Use Your New Secchi Disk

The Secchi Disk is one of the easiest and most effective ways for helping to measure the water clarity of a body of water. Suspended particles from run-off, algae, and other can make the water cloudy.

It is important to take various Secchi Disk readings throughout the year. Once a month is considered the minimum however if you can every 2 weeks gives a more accurate overall look at the waters Secchi Reading.

It is recommended to take your reading between 10am and 3pm on a sunny day with calm waters. This will allow you to get the most accurate reading possible.

## How to take a Secchi Disk Reading:

- 1) Lower the Secchi Disk into the water. If doing a reading from a boat make sure you are located on the shady side of the boat.
- 2) Keep lowering the disk into the water until you can no longer see it. Keep hold on the cord where this occurred at.
- 3) Start pulling the disk back up until you can now see it. Now find the average spot on the cord between where the disk disappeared and then reappears.
- 4) Retrieve the disk and measure the length of the cord to the spot that was the average of the two readings. This is your Secchi Depth.

## Tip for taking easier readings:

Some users find it easier to pre-mark the cable at 6 to 12 inch markings making it easier to take measurements. This way you can count the marks as you deploy the disc without having to measure afterwards.