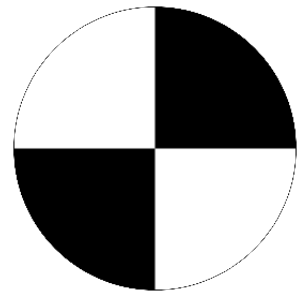


Horizontal Secchi Disk Readings S.O.P.

Secchi disk readings are one way of measuring water clarity or clearness. A Secchi disk is circular plate, 8 inches in diameter, with alternating black and white sections which is attached to a measuring tape. Typically, these reading are taken by lowering the disk into the water and recording the depth at which it can no longer be seen. However, most springs are too clear and shallow to get a reading, so in most springs we measure horizontal secchi distance.



EQUIPMENT LIST
20 cm Secchi disk
100-meter measuring tape
Mask and snorkel

Taking Measurements

1. Place the Secchi disk below the surface of the water, either by attaching it to a boat or holding it.
2. Have an observer with a dive mask and snorkel get in the water and swim/float away from the disk, watching the Secchi disk until it is no longer visible. Read the measuring tape at the point where this occurs (the tape should be held and read close to the persons face).
3. Swim back toward the Secchi disk until the disk just becomes visible. Read the measuring tape again at this point.
4. Average these two measurements together to get the Secchi disk reading.

