



Massachusetts Water Watch Partnership

Standard Operating Procedure Lakes-1

For Locating Sampling Site

Revision 0

MF Walk

Marie-Françoise Walk, MA Water Watch Partnership
Blaisdell House UMass Amherst, MA 01003 413.545.5531

11-13-01

Date

Richard Chase

Richard Chase, MA DEP, Division of Watershed Management
627 Main St. 2nd floor Worcester, MA 01608 508.767.2859

11/26/01

Date

Arthur Screpets

Arthur Screpets, MA DEP, Division of Watershed Management
627 Main St. 2nd floor Worcester. MA 01608 508.767.2875

12/08/01

Date

Overview

This procedure describes how to locate lake sampling sites using the triangulation method.

1.0 Equipment List

- ___ Bathymetric or other map of the lake
- ___ Site location sheet and pencils

2.0 Protocol

- 2.1 Using a bathymetric map, go to your chosen site (often this is the deepest spot in the lake). You must permanently locate this spot so that you or other monitors can consistently find the site.
- 2.2 With the boat securely anchored at the site, select two permanent landmarks on shore that align one behind the other. This alignment forms an imaginary line through the objects to the site in a manner analogous to siting a gun.
- 2.3 At about a 90 degree angle to this first bearing or line, select two more aligning landmarks.
- 2.4 All four landmarks and your sampling site should be carefully marked on your map of the lake.
- 2.5 Describe each landmark so that others can easily locate them. Remember that the “white house with green shutters” may be a brown house with black shutters next year, so try to find descriptive characteristics that are not likely to change, e.g. two-story brick house with wrap-around porch and two car garage on north side. Mark your sites on a field map. Include site code (e.g. #1, Deep Spot, etc.).

Illustration from EPA's Volunteer
Lake Monitoring: A Methods Manual,

