# Algae & Water Quality Analytical Services

### **Procedures for Sample Collection & Shipment**

**Sescript**\* Analysis

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The following procedures are provided to ensure that algae and water collections are adequate for analysis and that sample integrity is maintained during shipment. It is critical that these steps are followed to provide accurate results. Each sample collection station will be billed for analysis requested on the Chain of Custody (COC) form.

### **Algae Analysis**

SRTC

- 1. Complete Chain of Custody (COC) form for the corresponding sample including analyses requested. Sample results will not be reported until a COC is received by the laboratory.
- 2. Fill one (1) 250 mL non-preserved plastic bottle (e.g. Nalgene) with a representative sample of algae from the sample collection station and label this bottle as "sample station name algae ID".

NOTE: This should be a separate bottle from any samples collected for water quality analysis (per instructions below).

3. Seal the container well and place inside two ziploc bags.

### Water Quality Analysis

- 1. Complete Chain of Custody (COC) form for the corresponding sample including analyses requested. Sample results will not be reported until a COC is received by the laboratory.
- 2. Multiple sampling sites may be necessary based on site conditions and management objectives. Contact your SePRO Aquatic Specialist for guidance.
- 3. Follow procedures in **A or B** below based on analysis requested.

Follow these protocols for any analysis that include Total Phosphorus and Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen.

- 1. Two 250 mL plastic bottles are required for each sample collection station. SePRO will provide one acid preserved bottle and one non-preserved bottle. Use caution when opening the preserved bottle.
- 2. Using a non-preserved bottle, rinse three times with water from the sample station and fill bottle with representative water sample. Using appropriate personal protective equipment (gloves, safety glasses, etc.), open the preserved bottle and pour sample water from non-preserved bottle the into the preserved bottle. Refill the non-preserved bottle with water from this same sample collection station and seal both bottles for shipment. Ensure both bottles are labeled at a minimum with date and sample collection station identification.

Follow these protocols for all analysis, except those that include Total Phosphorus and Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen.

1. Fill two 250 mL plastic bottles with a representative sample of water from each sample collection station. Prior to filling the bottles, triple rinse with water from the sampling station.

E-mail **srtclab@sepro.com** to receive sample bottles or contact your SePRO Aquatic Specialist



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## **Algae & Water Quality Analytical Services**

### **Comprehensive Algae Bioassay**

- 1. Complete Chain of Custody (COC) form for the corresponding sample including analyses requested. Sample results will not be reported until a COC is received by the laboratory.
- 2. Using a non-preserved bottle, rinse three times with water from the sample station and fill bottle with representative water sample. Using appropriate personal protective equipment (gloves, safety glasses, etc.), open the preserved bottle and pour sample water from a non-preserved bottle the into the preserved bottle. Refill the non-preserved bottle with water from the sample location. Seal the two bottles, at a minimum label each with date and sample collection station identification, and place in a cooler for shipment.
- 3. If algae is dispersed throughout the water body, fill the 9 liter plastic cube with a representative sample of water containing the algae from your site.

(or)

If algae is thick filamentous or in a mat, fill the 9 liter plastic cube with a representative sample of water from the sample station and place a large handful of algae into a non-preserved sample bottle.

4. Seal the cube well, place inside a garbage bag

#### Sampling Container Summary

One preserved bottle (water sample), one 9 liter plastic cube (water sample) and one non-preserved bottle (when scum/mat algae present), per sample station.

**Note:** Contact SePRO Corporation at *srtclab@sepro.com* to receive the collapsible cubes. Contact your SePRO Aquatic Specialist for guidance on the number of water samples to collect based on site conditions and size of each water body.

### **Sample Shipment**

Place samples in a cooler with ice packs or ice in leakproof bags and immediately ship via *overnight express* (morning delivery please) and make sure your cooler is not leaking. Samples should be 39°F upon arrival to ensure sample integrity. Packages that are leaking do not get delivered to the SRTC. FedEx is the preferred freight method. Do not ship via U.S. Mail. *Please do not ship on a Friday*.

Email the SePRO's laboratory at srtclab@sepro.com prior to shipping and provide an estimated arrival date.

Ship samples to: SePRO Research & Technology Campus 16013 Watson Seed Farm Road Whitakers, NC 27891 Tel: (252) 437-3282 E-mail: srtclab@sepro.com

### **Questions?**

If you have questions pertaining to sample collection, please contact your SePRO Aquatic Specialist.



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