2026 LAKES MONITORING
PROGRAM CHAIN OF CUSTODY

RMB Environmental Laboratories

22796 County Hwy 6 Detroit Lakes, MN 56501 218-846-1465 lakes@rmbel.com	Lake Name & Site #: _____ MN Lake ID: _____ County: _____ Organization: _____

The RMB Lakes Monitoring Program includes total phosphorus and chlorophyll-a analyses. If you are interested in additional testing, please contact the lab prior to sampling. Sample results will be posted on our Lakes Monitoring Program website www.rmbel.com/lakesmonitoringmain monthly. At the end of the season these results are sent to the MPCA's statewide database (EQuIS).

SAMPLER INFORMATION

Primary Sampler (Print First & Last)	Phone Number	Email Address
Secondary Sampler (Print First & Last)	Phone Number	Email Address

SAMPLE DETAILS

Sample Collection Date	Time ☐ AM ☐ PM	**Physical Condition** (select one)	**Recreational Suitability** (select one)
Sample Collection Method ☐ **2 Meter Integrated Sample** ☐ 1 Meter Integrated Sample ☐ Surface Grab Sample	Secchi Disk Depth (feet) ☐ Mark if Secchi hit bottom and record bottom depth	☐ Clear ☐ Low Algae ☐ Medium Algae ☐ High Algae ☐ Severe Algae	☐ Very Good ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor ☐ Very Poor

CHAIN OF CUSTODY

Relinquished By: (signature)		In the event that samples are received by the lab at temperatures greater than 6°C… ☐ I hereby authorize RMB Environmental Laboratories to process the samples as received. ☐ Please contact client at phone number_____ before processing samples.
Relinquished Date	Time	

LABORATORY USE ONLY

Received By Lab: (signature)	Date	Time

Shipping ☐ Courier _____ ☐ SpeeDee _____ ☐ Client Shipping ☐ Hand Delivery	☐ Meets proper sample storage and transportation guidelines ☐ Does NOT meet proper sample storage and transportation guidelines Explain: _____ ☐ Received on ice ☐ Received at room temp ☐ Samples received same day as collection	Temperature blank _____°C Therm ID _____	☐ Peer review / field ☐ EDD generated ☐ EDD sent

SAMPLING PROCEDURES

BEFORE YOU HEAD OUT ON THE LAKE…

1. Make sure your cooler has **frozen ice packs**.
2. Fill out the **bottle labels** and **chain of custody** with the following information:
   - Organization Name
   - Lake Name
   - Lake ID #
   - Site ID #
   - Sampler Name
   - Date

COLLECTING YOUR SAMPLE…

1. **Field rinse the 2-meter integrated sampler.** Fill it with lake water and empty it three times.
2. Collect a sample with the integrated sampler. Plug both ends of the sampler and **invert 3 times to mix the sample.**
3. Empty the water into the amber glass bottle.
4. Pour the water **from the amber glass bottle** into the smaller 250 mL plastic bottle.
5. Add sulfuric acid to the **plastic sample bottle.** Please do NOT add sulfuric acid to the amber glass bottle.
6. Discard any remaining contents of the amber glass bottle.
7. Collect an additional sample with the 2-meter integrated sampler to **refill the amber glass bottle.**
8. Fill in the remaining sample data and chain of custody details:
   - Secchi Depth Reading
   - Sample Time
   - Sample Collection Type
   - Field Observations

DONE SAMPLING?

1. Make sure the bottle caps are on tight. **Ensure that the cooler contains:**
   - Frozen Ice Pack(s)
   - Sample Bottles
   - Completed Chain of Custody Form
2. Ship or deliver the cooler to RMB Environmental Laboratories **within 48 hours of collection** time. We will restock your cooler and return it to you.

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Thank you for your participation in the RMB Lakes Monitoring Program!