

Waccamaw River Volunteer Monitors' Standard Operating Procedure:
Nitrite, Nitrate and Ammonia Test Strips

1. Fill out # 1-3 on the Test strips field data sheet first and #4-7 as you follow the following guidelines.

Ammonia Strips

1. Fill sample vial to top line with water.
2. Take one strip out of the bottle and replace the cap tightly.
3. Dip the strip into water sample. Vigorously move the strip up and down in water sample for 30 seconds, making sure both pads are always submerged (use the stopwatch provided with the kit).
4. Remove the test strip and shake off excess water.
5. Hold the test strip level, with pad side up, for 30 seconds.
6. To read result, **turn test strip over** so that both pads are facing away from you.
7. Compare the color of the small pad to the color chart above. Read the result through the clear plastic of the test strip.
8. Rinse sample vial with deionized (DI) water (water bottle in the kit) after each use.
9. Record the measurement on the Test Strips Field data sheet.

Nitrite and Nitrate

1. Dip a strip into water for 1 second and remove. Do not shake excess water from the test strip.
2. Hold the strip level, with pad side up, for 30 seconds. Compare the NITRITE test pad to the color chart.
3. At 60 seconds, compare the NITRATE test pad to the color chart. Estimate results if the color on the test pad falls between two color blocks.
4. Record the measurement on the Test Strips Field data sheet.