

# Turbidimeter Protocol

1. Shake your sample to be sure no settling has occurred. Fill a clean sample cell to the line (~15mL) with sample and cap it, taking care to handle it by the top only (smudges on the glass will change readings).
2. Use a lint-free cloth to wipe down the cell and remove any water spots and fingerprints.
3. Apply a thin film of silicone oil – one or two drops should do. Wipe with a soft cloth until there's an even film over the entire cell's surface.
4. Turn the turbidimeter on and press the **RANGE** key until the display says “**AUTO RNG**”
5. Insert the cell into the turbidimeter compartment so that the triangular orientation mark aligns with the raised mark in front of the compartment.
6. Close the compartment, press **READ** and record the turbidity in NTU.
7. If sample is highly turbid, you may need to perform a dilution and re-read the turbidity. First try a 1:10 dilution (2 ml sample + 18 ml DI water).
8. Empty the cell of sample, carefully rinse the cell out and return to step 1 for the next sample.

## Quality Control Notes:

1. Blank: run one blank sample (using autoclaved DI water as “sample”) during each sampling run. Record the turbidity reading.
2. Positive control: run a duplicate sample for Site #2 during each sampling run. Record the turbidity reading.