

## Collecting Water Samples in the Dissolved Oxygen Bottles

Fill in the bottle number on the data sheet. Your sample bottle is already numbered. This is Important! It's the only way we know which bottle goes with which site. *DO NOT ADD OR CHANGE ANY WRITING ON THE DO BOTTLE!* If you have questions or notes, write them on the data sheet.

The water sample must be collected in such a way that you can cap the bottle while it is still submerged. That means that you must be able to reach into the water with both arms and the water must be deeper than the sample bottle.

Carefully wade into the stream. Stand so that you are facing one of the banks.

Collect the sample so that you are not standing upstream of the bottle. Remove the cap of the DO bottle.

*BEST WAY:* Slowly lower the DO bottle into the water, pointing it downstream, until the lower lip of the opening is just submerged. Allow the water to sip into the bottle very gradually, avoiding any turbulence (this will add oxygen to the sample). When the water level in the bottle has stabilized (it won't be full because the bottle is tilted), slowly turn the bottle upright and fill completely. Keep the bottle under water and allow it to overflow to ensure that no air bubbles are trapped in the sample.

*ALTERNATIVE WAY:* If the water is deep enough (2' or more) plunge the open bottle straight down about 1' and quickly invert it. Keep the bottle under water and allow it to overflow to ensure that no air bubbles are trapped in the sample.

Cap the bottle while it is still submerged. Lift it out of the water, tilt it, and look around the "collar" of the bottle just below the bottom of the stopper. If you see an air bubble, pour out the sample and try again.

Cap the bottle firmly with a twisting motion. Place the bottle in your cooler in an upright position. If you have any comments or noted an air bubble after the fact, write it on your data sheet.