



# Water Quality Program

## Weekly Recreational Monitoring

Since 2001, the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation has monitored water quality weekly in Lake Pontchartrain. The water is monitored at ten sites, some on the Lake and some in area rivers.

### Where We Test:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>1:</b> Williams Boat Launch, Kenner          | <b>6:</b> Bogue Falaya Park, Covington         |
| <b>2:</b> Bonnabel Boat Launch, Metairie        | <b>7:</b> Tchefuncte Boat Launch, Madisonville |
| <b>3:</b> Mouth of Bayou St. John into the Lake | <b>8:</b> Bayou Castine, Mandeville            |
| <b>4:</b> Pontchartrain Beach                   | <b>9:</b> Fontainebleau State Park Beach       |
| <b>5:</b> Bayou St. John at Robert E. Lee Blvd  | <b>10:</b> Northshore Beach, Slidell           |

### What We Test:

Temperature: Water temperature is measured in °C and converted to °F.

Dissolved Oxygen: Measure of how much oxygen is dissolved in the water. DO is measured in milligrams of oxygen per liter of water.

Salinity: Measure of how salty the water is. Since Lake Pontchartrain is an estuary (connected to the Gulf of Mexico) its salinity varies. Salinity is measured in parts of salt in 1000 parts of water.

Turbidity: Measure of the clarity of the water. It is measured in two ways, by lowering a Secchi disk into the water until it cannot be seen and by measuring the scatter of light through the sample in a turbidimeter. Turbidity is measured in inches (Secchi Disk) or NTUs (turbidimeter).

Fecal Coliform: Fecal coliform is the bacterium that is monitored to determine if water is safe for swimming. While this bacterium is not harmful, it can help indicate the presence of serious pathogens. Fecal coliform is measured as the number of colonies in 100 milliliters of water.

Over the years, our more than 7500 data points have shown that Lake Pontchartrain is doing great. The only time we see high bacteria counts is after the rain, as the runoff from the land can be polluted. But- that takes about 3 days dissipate.

We monitor the water on Tuesdays and release the data on Thursdays (when we receive the bacteria analysis). The data can be found on the LPBF website at [www.saveourlake.org/weekly-report.php](http://www.saveourlake.org/weekly-report.php). The New Orleans Advocate newspaper also posts the data in its Metro section each Saturday and several local television and radio shows announce the data as well. Check out the data each week and before you go out and enjoy the lake.

# Weekly Water Quality Monitoring Sites

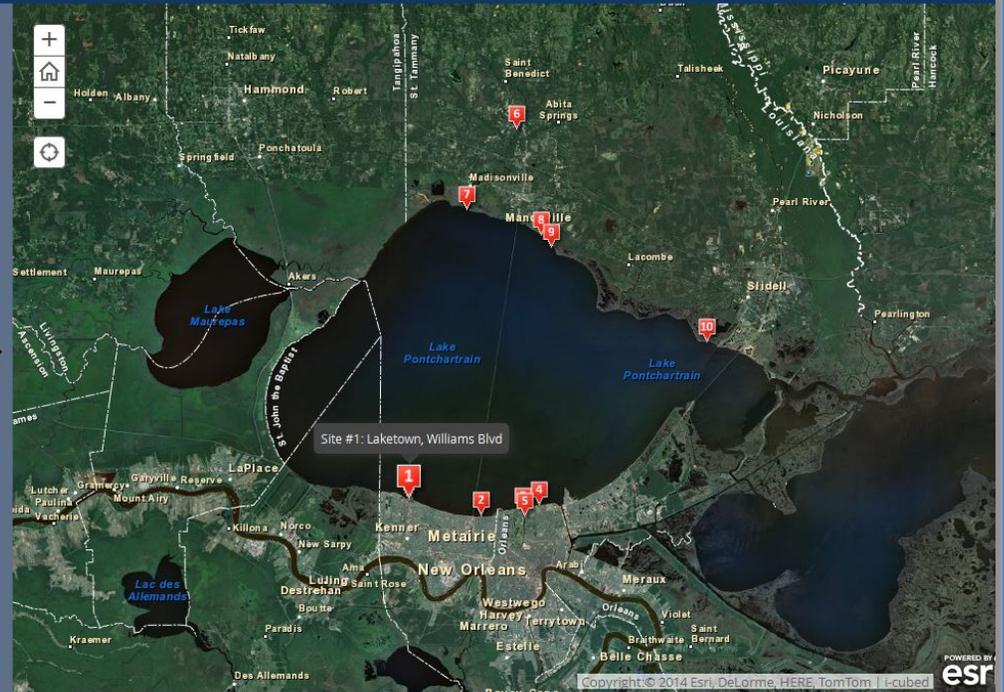
Click on each water quality monitoring site to view a picture/video of that site and a description of the site.

A story map   



Site #1: Laketown, Williams Blvd

At the end of Williams Blvd. in Kenner, Laketown is a park and boat launch adjacent to the Treasure Chest Casino.



Site #1: Laketown, Williams Blvd



Site #2: Bonnabel Boat Launch



Site #3: Old Beach, Bayou St. John



Site #4: Pontchartrain Beach



Site #5: Robert E Lee Blvd, Bayou St. John



Site #6: Bogue Falaya River



Site #7: Tchefuncte Boat Launch, Madisonville



Site #8: Bayou Castine



Site #9: Fontainebleau Beach



Site #10: Northshore Beach

Site #6: Bogue Falaya River



LPBF: Dr. Andrea Bourgeois-Calvin  
Water Quality Director

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Site #6: Bogue Falaya River

In Covington, the adjacent park accesses this tributary of the Tchefuncte River, used for tubing and swimming.

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Check out our new Weekly Water Quality Monitoring Sites map tour with informational videos!!! Scan the code with any mobile device scanner app to start the tour or visit:

<http://saveourlake.org/short/HjpPG>



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