



# Nutrient Pollution Lab Procedure

## Equipment Required:

- 5 1-liter beakers or other transparent, colorless, containers
- Marker to write on plastic or glass
- 3 liters of water from a pond, stream, or bay
- 1 liter distilled water
- Balance
- Paper bag (large enough to fit over one container)
- 400 mg plant fertilizer (note: do not use fertilizer that controls weeds. The herbicide will also kill algae. 10-10-10 is suggested.)

## Procedure:

1. Label beakers 1-4 and date each one.
2. Fill beakers 1, 2, 3 with 500 mL water from river or pond.
3. Fill beaker 4 with 500 mL distilled water.
4. Weigh 100 mg of fertilizer. Add 100 mg of fertilizer to beaker 1.
5. Add 100 mg of fertilizer to beaker 2. Cover with a paper bag so no light can enter.
6. Do not add any fertilizer to beaker 3.
7. Add 100 mg of fertilizer to beaker 4.
8. Place all beakers in a sunny area or under a bright light. Do not seal the beakers. You will examine and record observations on day 1, 5, and 10.