

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

# ASK THE AUDITOR

**BRING US YOUR LAB & AUDIT QUESTIONS**

October 2024 [DNR.WI.GOV](https://DNR.WI.GOV)



# **Deficiencies**

How “BAD” is it to have deficiencies after an audit?

# *Deficiencies*

Why did we get cited for that this time but not before?

# **Traceability & Records**

How do I track standards and reagents I purchased?

# **Traceability & Records**

How do I track standards and reagents I dilute in the lab?

# **Traceability & Records**

How can I make my lab digital only - no paperwork?

# Accreditation

Why are certain tests exempted from needing accreditation?

These tests are exempt from accreditation per NR 219:

- ❑ Dissolved oxygen, pH, bacteria tests, residual chlorine, temperature, turbidity, conductance, flow measurements.
- ❑ Physical properties of soils and sludges. Nutrient tests of soils and sludges.

# QM & SOPs

Why are so many items required in the quality manual & SOPs?

# **Initial Demonstrations of Capability (IDCs)**

What is an IDC, and what do I have to do for it?

# **NH<sub>3</sub> and TP**

When and what do I have to document for pH checks?

# *NH<sub>3</sub> and TP*

How often is a calibration curve required?

# **NH<sub>3</sub> and TP**

Is a CCV required before the method blank?



How do I know if my desiccant is still good?



How do I figure out my TSS reporting limit?



Can I use pre-weighed filters?



What do I do if my TSS oven is outside of 103 – 105 °C?

Do I adjust LODs and LOQs for dilution?



How do I report sample results less than the LOD or RL?

# **Weights & Thermometers**

What are the weight expiration dates and acceptance criteria?

# **Weights & Thermometers**

How can I remember to perform infrequent tasks?

# **Weights & Thermometers**

What thermometer records are required?

# **Maintenance**

What maintenance items should we record?

# **Maintenance**

Where should I document all my maintenance items?

# **Miscellaneous**

Ways the Lab Cert Program informs its customers.