



# **WINTER MONITORING SAFETY GUIDE**

***Navigating Icy Field Conditions***

**Dickinson**



# IN-STREAM CONDITIONS

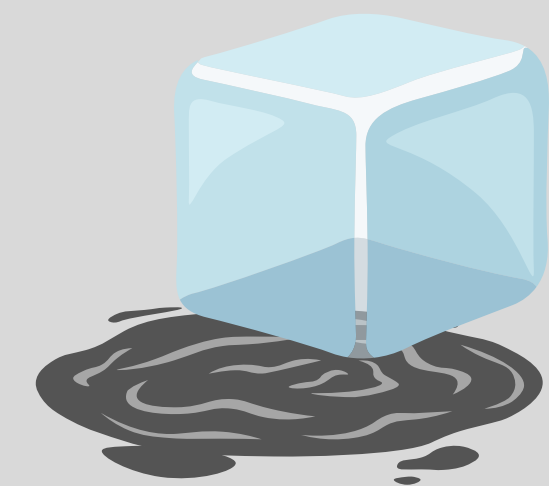
- **If your site is frozen**

- Document that it is frozen and that your site is inaccessible on your data sheet.



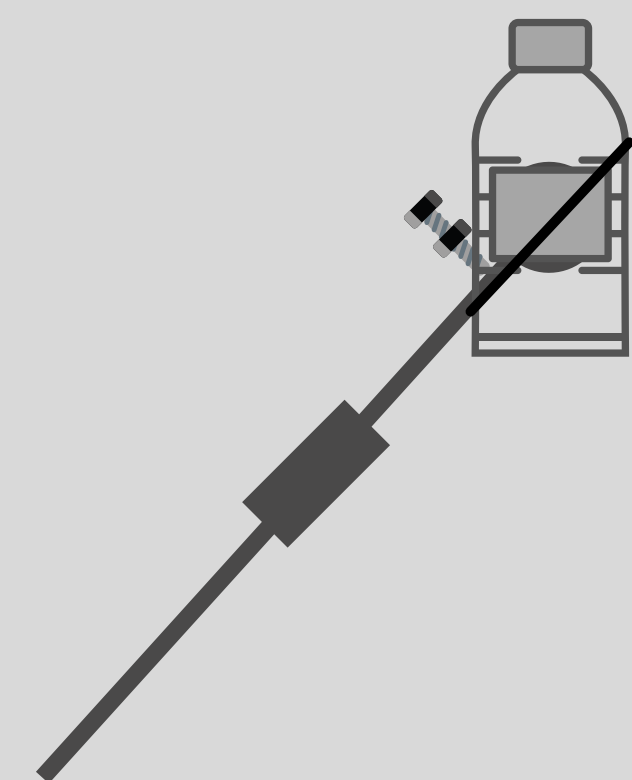
- **If your site is partially frozen**

- Use your sampling pole to sample from an opening in the ice closest to your site.



- **If you cannot safely grab a sample** with your sampling pole, mark that the stream was inaccessible due to frozen conditions on your datasheet.

- If you need a sampling pole, e-mail [allarm@dickinson.edu](mailto:allarm@dickinson.edu), or follow **these instructions** to make your own!

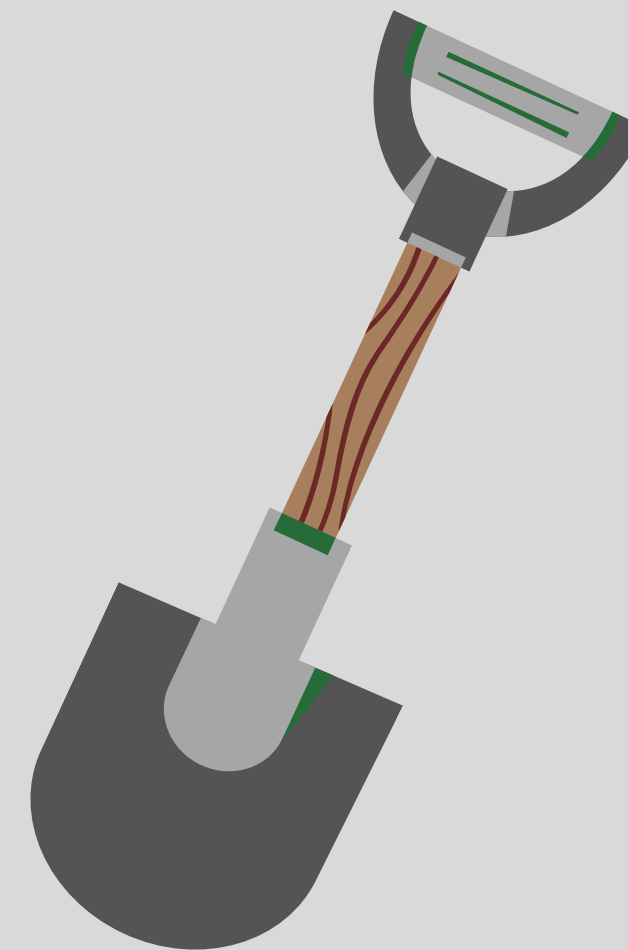
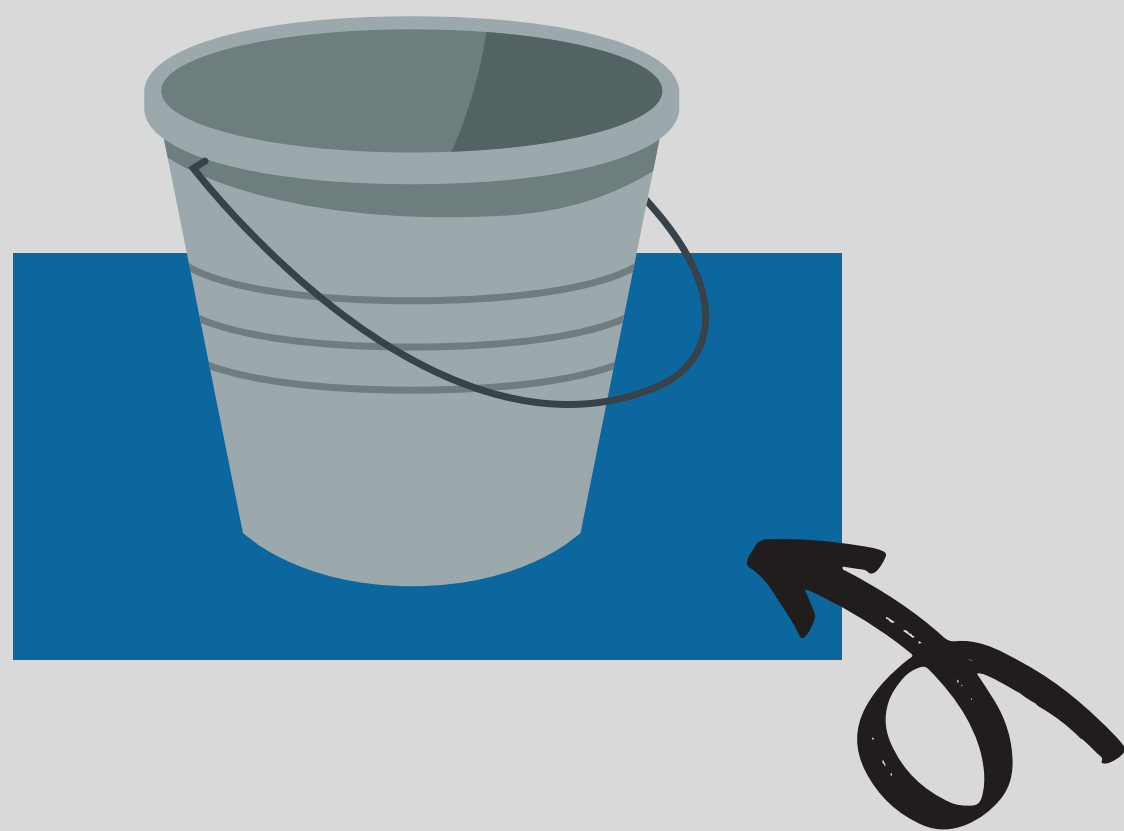




# STREAM-SIDE CONDITIONS

***Watch out for muddy stream banks, and icy patches. Use a hiking pole or sampling pole to stabilize your trek.***

- If you use a bucket for sampling, please reference page 9 in the **Stream Team monitoring manual**.

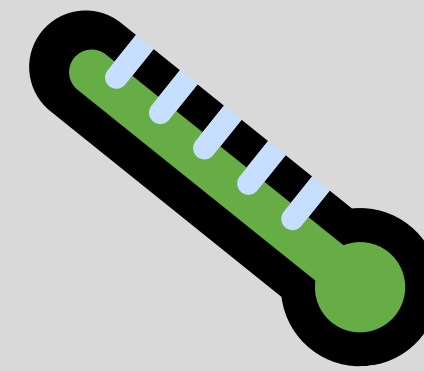


- Having a shovel on hand might help with light snow removal to help access your site. If the site is inaccessible, mark that on your data sheet.
- If you are monitoring on a roadside or bridge, it might help to bring a tarp, plastic bag or other surface to cover the snow where you are monitoring to prevent potential snow contamination of your sample.

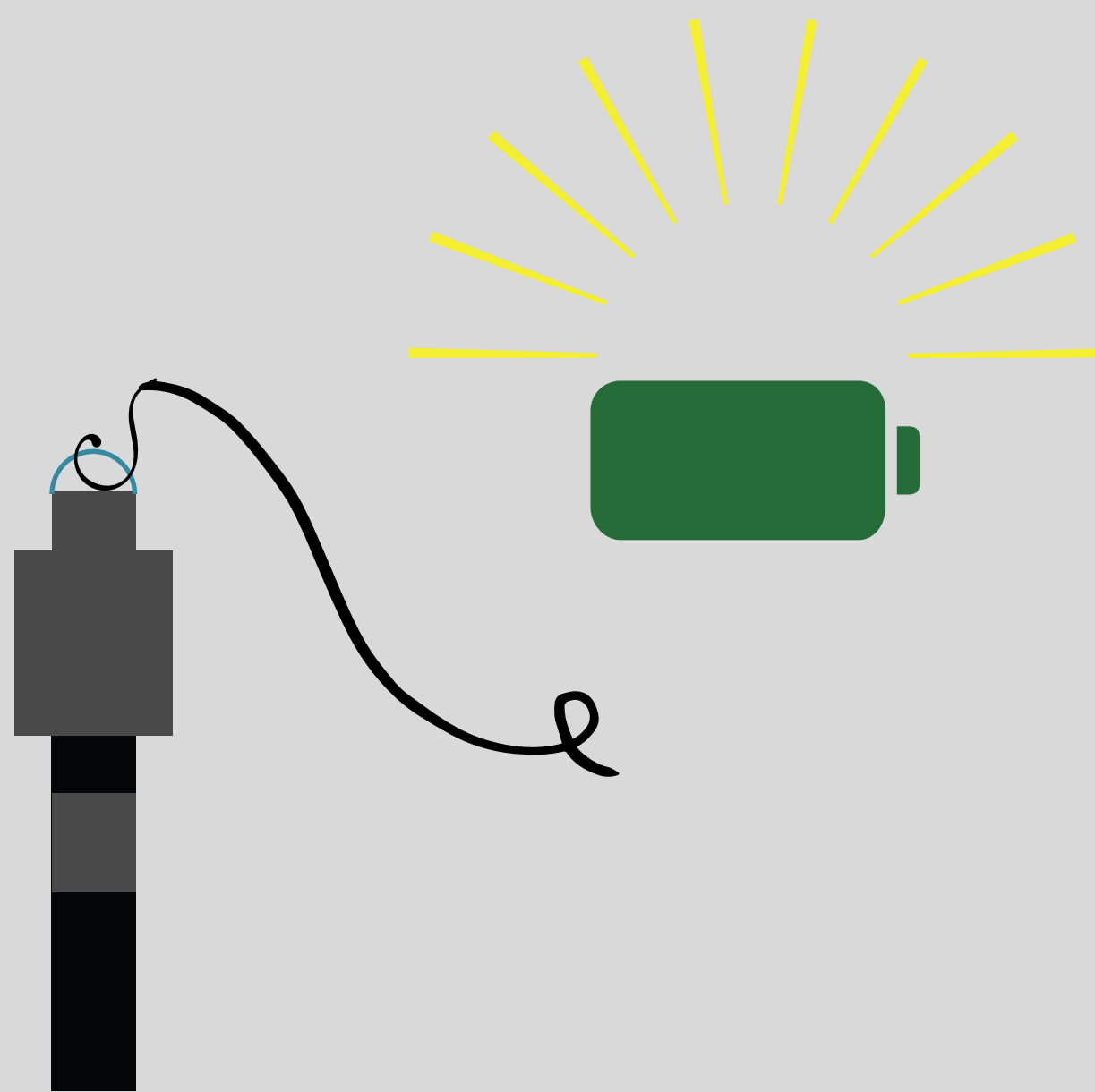
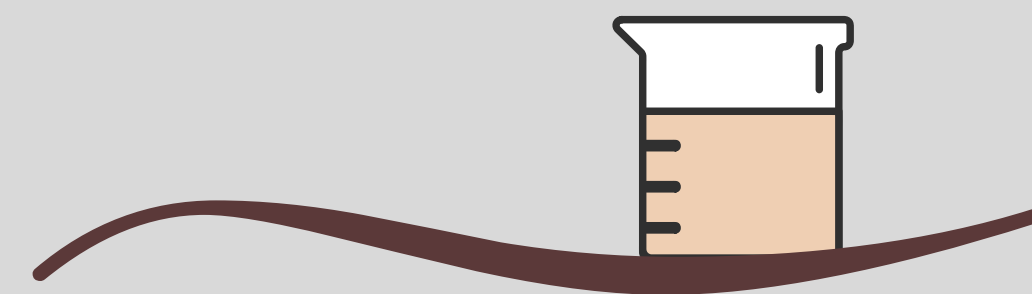
# CONDUCTIVITY METER TIPS

***NOTE: If the air temperature is below 0°C (32°F), the conductivity/temperature reading will take a lot longer to stabilize (3-5 minutes).***

- The conductivity meter is **not** able to read temperatures below 0°C (32°F).



- Feel free to **pour some of your sample in your beaker while streamside** and let your meter rest in it while you fill out your data sheet.



- Always make sure the batteries in the meter are fresh!
- **Keep your meter warm** prior to monitoring.
- To prevent dropping your meter in the stream, **consider tying a string or shoelace to your meter** and dip the meter into the stream.

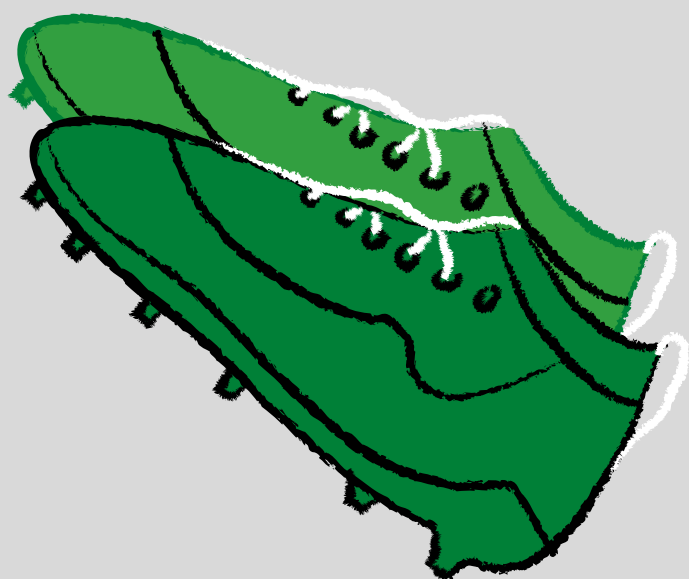
# GEAR RECOMMENDATIONS



***If you are looking for gear to help with your winter monitoring, these items allow for a warmer and drier field experience!***



- Shoe gripper attachments (Yak Traks, Due North Grippers, etc.)
- Shoes with built-in grips or spikes (old or thrifted cleats)
- Neoprene chest or hip waders
- Gloves: Dishwashing (to keep *dry*) and fleece (to keep *warm*)
- Walking Stick/Trekking Poles/Sampling pole



***Your safety is our number one  
priority. Thank you for  
monitoring!***



**Dickinson**

**FOR MONITORING-RELATED QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT US AT  
[ALLARM@DICKINSON.EDU](mailto:ALLARM@DICKINSON.EDU)**