

## Recommended Guidelines for Wadable Streams\*

**Streamflow:** 10-30 cfs is the average

**Temperature:** 10-16 degrees Celsius is typical for spring fed, summer temperatures range from 24 degrees Celsius average for good canopy – 32 degrees Celsius for no canopy; >30 degrees Celsius is unsatisfactory; <20 degrees Celsius is a cold water fishery (Trout); > 21 degrees Celsius is a warm water fishery (Bass)

**Turbidity:** typically ranges from <20 NTUs; after storm events is usually >50 NTUs; consistently muddy streams are undesirable and may range between 50-100; <.05 NTUs is the standard for drinking water

**Conductivity:** 50-500 umhos/cm is a normal range in streams; 0.5-2 umhos/cm is the range for distilled water

**Total Solids:** ranges between 5-10mg/L in most streams; >10 mg/L is undesirable

**Total Dissolved Solids (TDS):** <500 mg/L is desirable in streams

**pH:** ranges between 6.5-8.5; with no canopy and go as high as 9; less than 6 is undesirable for fish

**Dissolved Oxygen (DO):** DO is dependent on temperature; 5-10 mg/L is typical in summer; trout require >6 mg/L; other fish require >3 mg/L

**Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD):** usually ranges between 1-5 mg/L; >10 in natural streams is undesirable; wastewater treatment plants are permitted to discharge 30 mg/L

**Phosphorus:** 30-60 ugm/L is the typical range; >60 ugm/L can cause problems such as algal blooms in streams with low flow

**Nitrates:** .05-0.5 mg/L is the typical range; >0.5 can cause problems if the stream also has high phosphorus levels; >10 mg/L is a health hazard in drinking water

**Fecal Coliform:** standards vary depending on water use; drinking water is 0 colonies per 100 mL; body contact recreation is <200 colonies per 100 mL; cattle watering is <1000 colonies per 100 mL; fish and aquatic life is <1000 colonies per 100 mL

\***Source:** Tennessee Valley Authority Fall Workshop Guide