

MAKING A SECCHI DISK

It is recommended that the 8 inch diameter Secchi Disk be made out of 1/8 inch thick steel plate. The disk could be made out of Plexiglas, but the Plexiglas does not hold up well in use. In addition, weight(s) would need to be added to make sure that the disk sinks properly.

Drill a center hole 1/4 inch in diameter for the eye bolt to which the measuring tape is attached.

Paint both sides of the disk with a good quality black anti-rust gloss enamel. After the primer has thoroughly dried, paint the alternate quadrants with white antirust gloss enamel.

Secure a waterproof tape, with a minimum length of 50 feet, from a biological supply company and attach firmly to the eye bolt. Secure the eyebolt to the disk by placing a nut on both sides of the plate as shown in the diagram below. Hammer the end of the eye bolt to prevent the nut from dropping off. (By Ralph Vogel).

