**What is pH (per hydrogen)?**

pH is a measurement of how acidic or basic a solution is. pH is measured on a scale of 0-14. Solutions with a pH less than 7 are said to be “acidic”, solutions with a pH greater than 7 are “basic” or “alkaline”, and a pH of 7 is “neutral”.

**Why we measure pH…**

pH measurement is an indicator of acids and bases. By knowing a water sample’s pH, we can determine if it is acidic, basic, or neutral. pH levels can indicate healthy waters for plants and animals. Most living things depend on a proper pH level to sustain life.

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**How to use a Hach pH testing kit…**

1. Collect a new water sample, and fill tube to the 5-mL line.
2. Place tube in the top left opening of the color comparator.
3. Fill another tube to the 5-mL line with sample water.
4. Add 6 drops of indicator solution to second tube.
5. Cap and invert or swirl to mix.
6. Place second tube on top right opening of the color comparator.
7. Hold comparator up to a light source (sky). Look through the openings in front.
8. Rotate the color disc until color matches in the two openings. Read pH in scale window.