



PROJECT OCEANOLOGY



Standard Ranges for Fresh and Salt Water Chemistry

Temperature- Celsius (°C)

1-24 °C Range for Long Island Sound

Salinity- Parts per thousand (ppt)

Fresh Water 0 ppt

Long Island Sound 28 ppt

Open Ocean 35 ppt

Dissolved Oxygen- Milligrams per liter (mg/L)

Lethal 0-3 mg/L

Stressful 3-5 mg/L

Healthy 5-14 mg/L

pH

Acidic 0-6.9

Neutral 7.0

Basic 7.1-14

Sea Water 7.4-8.5

Carbon Dioxide (CO₂)- Milligram per liter (mg/L)

Low 0-14 mg/L

Normal 14-20 mg/L

High >20 mg/L

Coliform Bacteria- per 100ml sample

Drinking Water < 1 colony

Shell Fishing < 14 colonies geometric mean

Beaches SW < 104 colonies

Beaches FW < 235 colonies

Turbidity- Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (ntu)

< 0.3 ntu bottle drinking water

< 5.0 ntu public drinking water

Secchi Disk

Disappears at 10-20% of available Surface light.

>2.28 m (A- to A+)

2.12 to <2.28 (B- to B+)

1.95 to <2.12 (C- to C+)

1.8 to <1.95 (D- to D+)

0 to < 1.8 (F)

**calculated by Save the Sound*

Forel Ule Color Scale

Blue I

Green VII

Yellow XIV

Brown XXII

Organic Carbon

Open Ocean

Normal .5%

High > .5%

Near Shore

Normal 1.3%

High > 1.3%

Chlorophyll a- Milligrams per cubic meter

normal 3-20 mg/m³

Density

Fresh water 1.000

Long Island Sound 1.021

Ocean 1.026



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Ammonium Concentrations (NH₄⁺)

Fresh Water	Normal	< 0.1 mg/L
	High	0.1 mg/L
	Enriched	> 0.1 mg/L

Long Island Sound

Normal	0-0.2 mg/L
High	0.2-0.4 mg/L
Enriched	>0.4 mg/L

Phosphate Concentrations (PO₄⁻)

Fresh Water	Normal	< 0.1 mg/L
	High	0.1-5.0 mg/L
	Enriched	5.0-30.0 mg/L

Long Island Sound

Normal	< 1 mg/L
High	>1 mg/L
Enriched	5.1- 30.0 mg/L

Nitrate Concentrations (NO₃⁻)

Fresh Water	Normal	0-2.5 mg/L
	High	2.5-3.7 mg/L
	Enriched	>3.7 mg/L

Long Island Sound

Normal	0-0.5 mg/L
High	0.5- 1.0 mg/L
Enriched	>1.0 mg/L