

Stormwater Monitoring Worksheet – Color, Odor & Visual Indicators

City	
Outfall	
Date	
Time	
Volunteers	

Photos Taken?	
YES	NO



Observations					
Color Severity Index	#	Odor Severity Index	#	Visual Indicators Severity	#
Faint color in sample	1	Faint odor	1	Few/slight	1
Color clearly visible in sample	2	Odor easily detected	2	Moderate	2
Color clearly visible in outfall flow	3	Odor noticeable from a distance	3	Excessive/severe	3
Brown to Reddish Brown		Musty		Excessive Vegetation	
Orange-Red		Rotten Eggs		Dead Vegetation	
Dark Red or Purple		Rotten/Spoiled		Fish Kills	
Blue Green to Brown Green		Sewage		Dried White Mat-like Residue	
Black		Soapy/Perfume		Algae Bloom	
Gray to Milky White		Kerosene or Gasoline		Bubbles or Suds with Rainbow Sheen	
Yellow to Bright Green		Yeasty		Petroleum Sheen	
Other - Explain		Beer, Alcohol		Fats, Grease, or Oils	
Orange-Red		Sharp, Acrid		Deposits, Staining	
Dark Red or Purple		Chlorine		Sewage Signs – Toilet Paper	
		Sweet, Musty		Other - Explain	
		Other - Explain			

Do Odor/Color/Other Visual Indicators suggest possible pollution?	CIRCLE ONE
Unlikely	NO
Potentially – presence of two or more indicators; suggest increased observation	MAYBE
Suspected – one or more indicators with a severity of 3; suggest further investigation	YES

Notes & Questions:
