



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



February 13, 2018

Water Summary

Barr Lake is sampled twice a month between March and October and monthly between November and February. The Barr Lake and Milton Reservoir Watershed Association coordinates all of the efforts to monitor, test, and improve the water quality in Barr Lake. Regular lake sampling started in 2002 and will continue into the future. It is important to closely monitor water quality to observe any major changes that would impact wildlife, park users, or downstream water users.

February – For the second year in a row, Barr Lake has been ice free by mid-February. Typically, Barr Lake has ice until early March. When ice comes off, Barr Lake is the same temperature top to the bottom so it is fully mixing. The water is a chilly 36 degrees and slowly warming up. Total Phosphorus (TP) level in January was 0.29 mg/L (aka parts per million) or 290 µg/L (aka parts per billion). The goal is to not go over 100 µg/L during the summer. We will see how TP does in the spring. TP can settle out of the water or be released from the dam. TP can also increase because of inflows and from internal loading from the sediments.

Just like fertilizers, it is best to keep salt out of our lakes and streams. If you do use salt, please use it sparingly and even consider sweeping it up after the snow melts.



Watershed News

Does your car leak oil? Does your truck drip power steering fluid? From windshield fluid to gasoline, automobile fluid leaks all end up on the street. Snow and rain then wash those contaminants to your river and lake. Do your part and fix your car leaks, it will help your car out and the watershed.

Join BMW Association

BARR LAKE AND MILTON RESERVOIR ASSOCIATION

The BMW Association's mission is to improve the water quality by encouraging cooperation, involvement, and awareness with people living near and upstream of Barr.

You can learn more about the lake and what is going on in the watershed by going to www.barr-milton.org.

Contact Amy Conklin, watershed coordinator, at amy.conklin@comcast.net or 303-795-5925.

Cooperation, Involvement, and Awareness



Water Quality Stats (as of 02-13-18)

Maximum Depth: 34.5 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 36.4° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 9.8 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 58.4% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.13 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <4 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

Barr Lake Total Phosphorus in January

