



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



April 26, 2017

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.

April – April has been a month of changes at Barr Lake. From April 11th to the 26th (just 15 days) water clarity doubled, percent oxygen went from 105% down to 52%, and pH dropped from 9.19 to 8.62. The diatom bloom in early April is over and zooplankton are consuming the algae. Grazing by zooplankton has created a large oxygen demand in the past 15 days. Barr Lake's water temperature is the same top to bottom and is fully mixing. oxygenated surface water with bottom lake water. When the % oxygen is below 100%, photosynthesis is less than the decomposition and respiration in the lake.

Water Quality Stats (as of 04-26-17)

Maximum Depth: 33.5 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 55.5^o F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 6.6 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 52% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.62 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <10 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

That time of year when people fertilize their yards. In some states, it is the law to sweep any fertilizer that gets on your sidewalk or driveway. Do your best to keep fertilizer from getting to Barr Lake.



Watershed News

Watershed bike tours along the S. Platte are scheduled for June 6th and 7th. New Picture Post has been installed at the boat ramp, check it out. Graduate students from CU-Denver will be presenting watershed project results. Presentations will be on May 10th at the Nature Center.

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



Average Secchi Depth by Month, Barr Lake

