



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



August 14, 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.

August – Summer seems to be winding down – shorter days, cooler mornings, and even the cottonwood trees are showing some yellow leaves. The water level is also down which is a typical indication that the summer growing season is coming to an end. Barr Lake is one meter (or just over three feet) lower than average for this time of year and about 6 feet lower than one year ago. The state park continues to relocate the floating dock weekly to keep up with the receding water. The lower water level is allowing for the placement of some much needed shoreline armoring next to the boat ramp. This addition of large boulders will reduce the risk of further erosion at the high water mark. Water quality is great with no signs of any issues with algal blooms, low oxygen or high pH

Water Quality Stats (as of 08-14-18)

Maximum Depth: 20.7 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 71.7° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 5.9 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 97.3% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.83 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <30 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

Be algae aware. Summer is the time when blue-green algae like to grow. They are the only algae that can float to the surface and form harmful scums. Be algae aware and avoid contact with the scum.



Watershed News

Welcome our new intern, Samantha Mills. Come to a BMW event this summer and say hi to her. The annual BBQ and Stakeholder meeting is coming up in September. Come enjoy some good food and hear what the BMW Association has been up to for the past year. This is a great time to learn about watershed activities and water quality conditions in Barr and Milton.

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

