



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



September 26, 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.

September – The 2018 growing season for lakes in is officially over. Although July through September is defined as the official growing season, Barr Lake has been known to grow algae beyond that period. The average lake depth is about 5 feet and still dropping. The island that occasionally appears in the middle of the lake is now exposed with waterfowl and shorebirds taking advantage of the new lake front property. The last time Barr Lake was this low was in 2014. There are no current signs of an algal bloom with clarity around 2 feet, pH below 9.0 and oxygen below 100%. The boat ramp is officially closed for the season. A total of 1,249 carp were removed from Barr Lake this week using a baited box net. The net will be used a couple of more times this fall to remove as many carp as possible.

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

BMW is participating in a watershed workgroup organized by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) to look at the impacts of adding phosphorus to Denver Water's drinking water system. Adding phosphorus helps to reduce lead in drinking water. But, the added phosphorus can aggravate the problem of downstream algae blooms.

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 09-26-18)

Maximum Depth: 13.5 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 64.9° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 2.5 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 73.2% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.38 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <40 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

Average Depth by Month, Barr Lake

