



# Barr Lake Water Quality Report



October 9, 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.

**October** – Barr Lake is the same depth as two weeks ago. Last week, a large box net baited with cracked corn successfully corralled 1,249 carp. The fish were removed and composted. A second round of carp removal was planned for early October, but cancelled due to cooler weather. Over the last two weeks of cooler weather, water temperatures have dropped more than 10 °F to almost 11.5 °C (52.9 °F). Carp stop eating around 10 °C (50 °F) so it is hard to lure the carp into the net with corn. The lake water is typically around 13 °C (55 °F) for this time of year. The water clarity is not great, but there are no signs of algal blooms. Oxygen is above 5.0 mg/L, and the pH is well within the standard range of 6.5 to 9.0.

*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](http://www.barr-milton.org).

Contact Amy Conklin, watershed coordinator, at [amy.conklin@comcast.net](mailto:amy.conklin@comcast.net) or 303-795-5925.

*Cooperation, Involvement, and Awareness*



## Water Quality Stats (as of 10-09-18)

Maximum Depth: 13.8 feet (between dam outlets)      Water Temperature: 52.9° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 1.8 feet (≥ 3 feet is good)      Dissolved Oxygen: 83.1% (>80% is good)

pH: 7.61 (between 6 and 9 is good)      Chlorophyll-a: <20 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

