



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



November 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.

November – Barr Lake is filling with S. Platte River water. The current surface area of Barr Lake is 994 acres, and the volume is close to 9,930 acre-feet, which is close to 28% full. Despite the cooler weather and shorter days, algae are still growing in Barr Lake. This biological activity is keeping the oxygen well above 100%, and the pH above 9.0. We are in the winter season for sampling so Barr Lake will be sampled monthly until March of 2019.

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 evaluate 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 11-13-18)

Maximum Depth: 18.7 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 40.6° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 2.0 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 125.7% (>80% is good)

pH: 9.26 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <50 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

