



# Barr Lake Water Quality Report



December 12, 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.

*December* – Ending the year on a good note, the water clarity jumped up to 1.7 meters or 5.6 feet. This was deeper than a year ago but still slightly shallower than average for this time of year. The clarity is driven by the amount of algae growing in the water, which are mostly diatoms that like cooler water. The mild weather so far this winter has not changed the reservoir. The surface water temperature is slightly above average, but first ice typically forms in January. The pH and oxygen values are good and the greenness (or Chlorophyll-a) is also meeting the goal of 25 ppb or less.

Rain water only goes down the storm drain. No dumping. BMW Association is helping Denver mark storm drains. Notice in the photo the stain of oil leading to a drain.



## Watershed News

The BMW Association is looking into what it will take to install a new storm water monitoring station just upstream of the Burlington Head Gate. The goal would be to sample storm water that is coming down the S. Platte River and entering the Burlington Ditch. The new station will be up and running by next spring.

### 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 12-12-17)

Maximum Depth: 32.8 feet (between dam outlets)      Water Temperature: 40.2<sup>o</sup> F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 5.6 feet (≥ 3 feet is good)      Dissolved Oxygen: 78.6% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.88 (between 6 and 9 is good)      Chlorophyll-a: <20 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

