



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



March 29, 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.

March – The month is ending with some wet weather. March is typically the snowiest month for Barr but there has only been a trace recorded at DIA for March this year. Since early March, the water has warmed up 5 degrees and the clarity diminished slightly. Lower oxygen and pH could indicate less diatom growth compared to the beginning of the month. We will be noting whether the larger, native zooplankton (Daphnia or waterflea) begin to keep the diatoms in check. Grazing on algae will help increase water clarity and reduce pH.

Water Quality Stats (as of 03-29-17)

Maximum Depth: 33.5 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 49.1^o F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 2.1 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 97.8% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.76 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <20 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

That time of year when people fertilize their yards. In some states, it is the law to sweep any fertilizer that gets on your sidewalk or driveway. Do your best to keep fertilizer from getting to Barr Lake.



Watershed News

Watershed bike tours along the S. Platte are scheduled for June 6th and 7th. A watershed intern has been hired for the summer to help with educational projects. Graduate students from CU-Denver will be presenting watershed project results. Presentations will be on May 10th at the Nature Center.

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



Average pH by Month, Barr Lake (0.5-2.0 m)

