



Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report



April 26, 2017

Water Summary

Milton Reservoir (aka Pelican 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 Milton. 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.

April – Blue skies and blue waters at Milton. The clearing phase is here for Milton. Water clarity was almost 11 feet compared to April 11th's two feet. In 15 days, the clarity improved by 9 feet due to zooplankton grazing on diatoms. Since there is more respiration by zooplankton than photosynthesis by algae, the oxygen is well below 100%. pH is still above the standard of 9.0, but it has decreased since early April. The water temperature has increased by three degrees Fahrenheit in the past 15 days. The water temperature is about four degrees Fahrenheit above average for this time of year.

Water Quality Stats (as of 04-26-17)

Maximum Depth: 26.8 feet (dam outlet) Water Temperature: 57.6° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 10.8 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 44% (>80% is good)

pH: 9.07 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <10 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 Milton.



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 Lake and Milton Reservoir.

You can learn more about the lakes 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



04-26-17

03-29-17

