



Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report



July 11, 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.

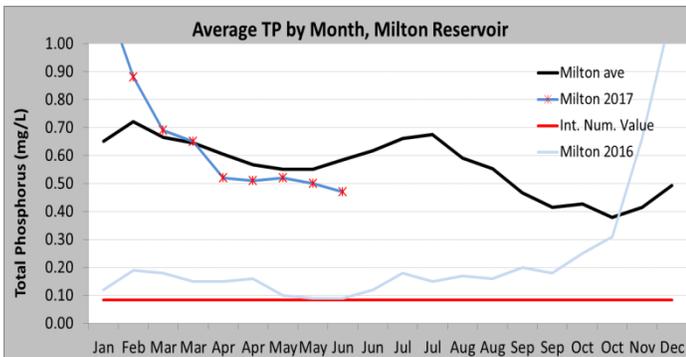
July – A year ago, phosphorus (main nutrient that algae use to grow) was close the goal of 100 ug/L or 0.10 mg/L. With the reservoir refill in November of 2016, Milton’s phosphorus concentrations increased dramatically in the winter but have been declining since. Current phosphorus concentrations are still high at about 500 ug/L. The prevailing winds blow west to east so aquatic plants, duckweed, filamentous algae, and blue-green blooms tend to concentrate on the east side of the lake. The algae bloom seems to be declining slightly from last week based on lower oxygen and pH values. The water is also warm. Algae blooms will surface more when there is no wind disturbance.

Water Quality Stats (as of 07-11-17)

Maximum Depth: 24.0 feet (dam outlet) Water Temperature: 77.6° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 6.6 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 205% (>80% is good)

pH: 9.24 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <80 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

July is National Lake Appreciation Month. It is a great time to give back to Milton Reservoir. Spend a few minutes cleaning up the shoreline or making sure there are no impacts to water quality caused by erosion near the shoreline. The water summer season is here, be algae aware and avoid contact with algae scums.

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

