



Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report



December 11, 2018

Water Summary

Milton Reservoir 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, lake users, or downstream water users.

December – Milton Reservoir has started to refill. The current surface area of Milton is 926 acres, and the volume is close to 4.437 acre-feet, which is about 20% full. Algae seem to be slowing down some for Milton with lower pH and dissolved oxygen values. The ice was about 2 inches thick by the dam, just strong enough to hold two people and a sampling boat. Phosphorus concentrations for most of 2018 were well below the 17-year average. December phosphorus values should reflect the beginning of the fill season.

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 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



Water Quality Stats (as of 12-11-18)

Maximum Depth: 21.7 feet (dam outlet) Water Temperature: 37.2^o F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 3.1 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 105.5% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.75 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: 45 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

