



Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report



December 12, 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.

December – Milton’s water clarity is amazing for December at just over 17 feet deep. This clarity trend started in October. Milton has had clearer water in December – 5.7 meters in 2004, 6.15 meters in 2011, and 5.95 meters in 2014. This clarity results from very little suspended solids and algae growth. The zooplankton was probably the variable affecting clarity the most. Zooplankton consisted mostly of daphnia. With little to no algae, the pH is below 9.0 but still on the high side for the range of 6.5 to 9.0 for pH in warmer water lakes and reservoirs. The total phosphorus concentration was 140 ppb and 100 ppb in the soluble form.

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 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 12-12-17)

Maximum Depth: 24.6 feet (dam outlet) Water Temperature: 38.9^o F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 17.7 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 83.0% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.49 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <5 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

