



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



April 24, 2019

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.

April – Barr Lake drastically changed in the past two weeks. Water clarity increased from 2.5 feet at the beginning of April to over 12 feet by the end of April. Zooplankton (daphnia) are eating the diatoms to the point where there is better water clarity and respiration is greater than photosynthesis and DO is well below 100%. pH for the first time since October is below 9.0 for Barr Lake. There can be a crash/boom cycle of diatoms and zooplankton or just a long period of good water clarity and no booms of algae in the spring. There is lots of organic material that can settle to the lake bottom, creating low oxygen levels near the sediment.

Water Quality Stats (as of 04-24-19)

Maximum Depth: 32.8 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 56.1^o F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 12.8 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 62.1% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.79 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <10 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

Runoff from snow and thunder storms this spring creates lots of flow from our streets, parking lots, and driveways. Do your part by keeping the drains clear of trash and debris



Watershed News

The new auto-sampler monitoring station is active and has captured samples during the March and April storms. The station is also collecting weekly 24-hour composite samples to better understand what is coming down the ditch towards Barr Lake.

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



Barr Lake Dissolved Oxygen Profiles (2019)

