



# Barr Lake Water Quality Report



January 9, 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.

*January* – Barr Lake is entering 2019 the same way it left 2018, filling from the S. Platte River and growing plenty of algae. Water clarity under about 5 inches of ice is right at 1 meter or 3.3 feet deep. Algae growth under the ice is normal, especially when Barr Lake refills a large volume of water during the winter months. Both oxygen and pH are elevated because of the prolong growth of algae. 2018 was a good year at Barr Lake in regards to phosphorus. Total Phosphorus was at or below the 17-year average for all of 2018. What is noteworthy is the December TP value. Typically, TP increases from refilling but has decreased in 12/2018.

*Just like fertilizers, it is best to keep salt out of our lakes and streams. If you do use salt, please use it sparingly and even consider sweeping it up after the snow melts.*



## Watershed News

*To avoid dumping holiday trash around the watershed, make sure you take advantage of local Christmas tree recycling programs or use your tree for composting, mulch, or firewood. Please do not dump your tree along the roadside. Most trash eventually finds its way into Barr Lake and other water ways in the watershed.*

### 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](http://www.barr-milton.org).

Contact Amy Conklin, watershed coordinator, at [amy.conklin@comcast.net](mailto:amy.conklin@comcast.net) or 303-795-5925.

*Cooperation, Involvement, and Awareness*



## Water Quality Stats (as of 01-09-19)

Maximum Depth: 27.6 feet (between dam outlets)      Water Temperature: 37.6° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 3.3 feet (≥ 3 feet is good)      Dissolved Oxygen: 213.4% (>80% is good)

pH: 9.15 (between 6 and 9 is good)      Chlorophyll-a: <60 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

