



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



April 14, 2016

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.

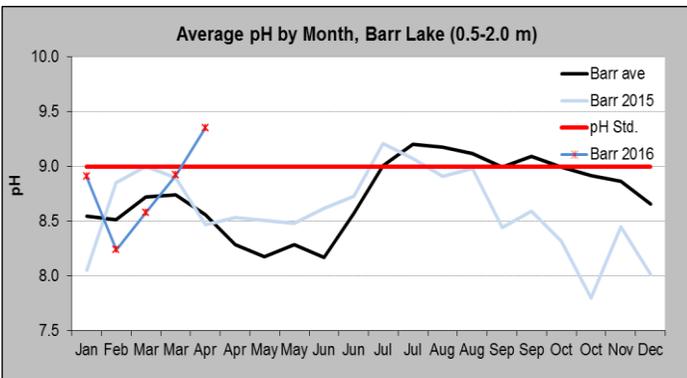
April – Despite the spring storms, the water is warming up like normal. The surface is close to 60 F. The warmer water brings faster growth of algae and the diatoms are still growing strong. Low clarity, high oxygen percent, and pH above 9.0 are indicative of the peak diatom season. The pH standard allows the pH to go above 9.0 only 3 times each year (20 samples/year and the 85% is 17 samples below 9.0 and 3 above 9.0). This was the first one for the year above 9.0. Hopefully it will come back down for the next sampling event on April 27.

Water Quality Stats (as of 04-14-16)

Maximum Depth: 33.5 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 57.3^o F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 1.6 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 228% (>80% is good)

pH: 9.35 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: >75 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)



Spring has sprung. Do your best to keep fertilizers off of the sidewalk, roads, and driveways. You want your lawn green, not the lake.



Buy phosphorus-free fertilizer and keep our water clean.

Runwater can quickly wash phosphorus from lawns into our water system. Phosphorus is the junk food for algae, causing it to grow out of control, turning our waters green, lowering water quality and even killing fish. Use phosphorus free lawn fertilizers to keep it clean.



Watershed News

BMW Association has a college intern this spring and summer to work on various educational projects around the watershed. Shursteen Sharpe is working on a DIA display and an Adopt-a-Watershed program.

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

