



# Barr Lake Water Quality Report



May 8, 2018

## 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.

May—Barr Lake never fails to surprise. With a rapid shift over the last two—weeks, Barr Lake is experiencing a large algal bloom. It is not blue-greens, but a form of green algae. Clarity has decreased by 12 feet from two weeks ago, pH is back above 9.0, and the dissolved oxygen is over 250%. Clearly the reservoir is experiencing significant algal growth, but the lake still looks good. The question is why. Is it because of spawning season for carp? Is it because of all the rains from last week? May typically exhibits the best water clarity, so this month is a departure from the norm. We will look to June to see if the spring algae bloom is able to keep the blue-greens from taking hold during the summer.

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

Two great events are being planned for this coming June. June 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> there is the annual free bike tour that will follow Sand Creek from Bluff Lake to the S. Platte River. Then June 26<sup>th</sup> is the annual watershed tour. This year's tour will highlight the big changes going on around the Western Complex and the S. Platte River.

## 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 05-08-18)

Maximum Depth: 32.8 feet (between dam outlets)      Water Temperature: 60.8° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 2.8 feet (≥ 3 feet is good)      Dissolved Oxygen: 269% (>80% is good)

pH: 9.31 (between 6 and 9 is good)      Chlorophyll-a: <60 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

