



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



August 9, 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.

August – pH is above the upper limit of 9.0 this month. Besides the higher pH, water quality is good for this time of year. First half of August is usually the peak for water temperatures and then the shorter days start cooling off the water. Oxygen above 10 mg/L or about 150% indicates a large algal bloom. There have been no major, lake-wide algal blooms this summer making the overall aesthetics better than previous years. The reservoir is fully mixing which might be controlling the algae. Mixing helps keep the water moving from the surface, where there is plenty of light, down to the lake bottom where it is dark. Blue-green algae prefer stagnant water and lots of light.

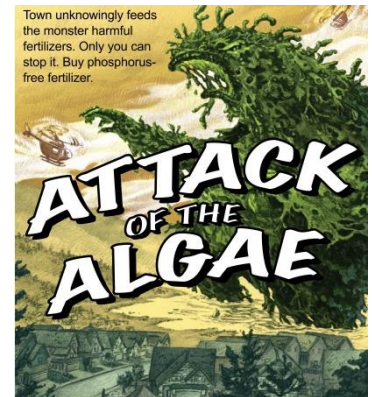
Water Quality Stats (as of 08-09-16)

Maximum Depth: 26.9 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 79.3^o F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 4.3 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 127% (>80% is good)

pH: 9.14 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <25 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

Fertilizers, pet waste, dirt on the road, and leaky cars can send nutrients and other chemicals to the lake. Do your best to keep them out of the water and keep the algae monster under control.



Watershed News

Save the date for the Annual Stakeholder meeting and BBQ – September 27th at Barr Lake. This is a great time to catch up on BMW activities and vote for new board members. Plus, there will be great food.

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



D.O. Average by Month, Barr Lake (0.5 - 2.0 m)

