



Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report



March 29, 2017

Water Summary

Milton Reservoir (aka Pelican 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 Milton. 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.

March – Milton is now full. Diatom growth is in full swing for the spring. Diatoms prefer cooler water and can make the water look brownish. They do not create much chlorophyll-a so the water is not that green. Milton is above the pH standard of 9.0 for the month of March. We will be observing whether the larger, native zooplankton (Daphnia or waterflea) will start to keep the diatoms in check. Grazing on algae will help increase water clarity and reduce pH. Every year, the reservoir is different. Milton did not have any pH values above 9.0 for all of 2016.

That time of year when people fertilize their yards. In some states, it is the law to sweep any fertilizer that gets on your sidewalk or driveway. Do your best to keep fertilizer from getting to Milton.



Watershed News

Watershed bike tours along the S. Platte are scheduled for June 6th and 7th. A watershed intern has been hired for the summer to help with educational projects. Graduate students from CU-Denver will be presenting watershed project results. Presentations will be on May 10th at the Nature Center.

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 Lake and Milton Reservoir.

You can learn more about the lakes 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



Water Quality Stats (as of 03-29-17)

Maximum Depth: 26.8 feet (dam outlet) Water Temperature: 49.4° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 1.5 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 114% (>80% is good)

pH: 9.33 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <40 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

