



Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report



July 25, 2018

Water Summary

Milton Reservoir 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, lake users, or downstream water users.

July – Milton is fully mixing because of recent storms near the reservoir. Winds have been strong enough to de-stratify the entire 20-foot water column. This mixing can help oxygen bottom water, reduce blue-green algae that prefer calm waters, and keep the pH below 9.0. Mixing can also bring up stored nutrients from the bottom water. Milton may thermally re-stratify when the weather becomes calmer and warmer. This alternating pattern of mixing is called polymitic. This occurs because of the shallow depth that is easily influenced by weather patterns. Phosphorus has increased in Milton since early June. With little to no flows coming in, this phosphorus most likely came from the lake sediments. There were no blue-green algae scums present during sampling.

Be algae aware. Summer is the time when blue-green algae like to grow. They are the only algae that can float to the surface and form harmful scums. Be algae aware and avoid contact with the scum.



Watershed News

Welcome our new intern, Samantha Mills. Come to a BMW event this summer and say hi to her. Lakes Appreciation Day celebration is coming soon – BMW Association will have a booth at the Adams County Fair on August 3rd. Stop by and get a free t-shirt that you can color yourself. Be on the lookout for the poop balloon that encourages people to pick up after their pets.

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 07-25-18)

Maximum Depth: 20.3 feet (dam outlet) Water Temperature: 77.3° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 2.8 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 96.5% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.98 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <40 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

