



# Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report



September 12, 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.

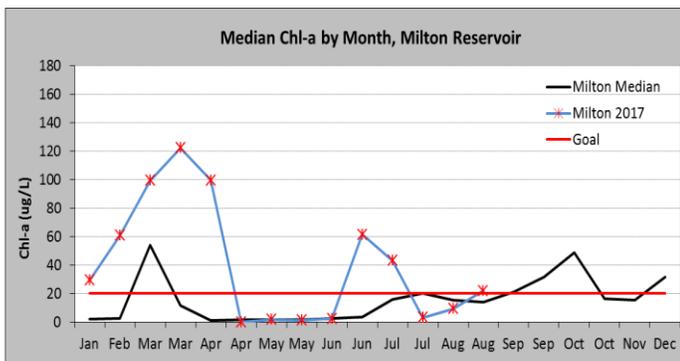
*September* – Milton is experiencing its second major blue-green algae bloom of the summer season. The first bloom was in late June, lasted about two weeks, and Chl-a peaked around 60 ppb. On average, Milton sees some kind of algal bloom in late September or early October. Conditions that support a late season bloom are: hot weather, calm conditions, high phosphorus, and close to zero nitrogen. The blue-greens thrive under these conditions (especially being nitrogen limited) and can use the nitrogen from the air unlike other algal species. The two main species of blue-green growing are aphanizomenon and microcystis.

## Water Quality Stats (as of 09-12-17)

Maximum Depth: 16.7 feet Water Temperature: 74.4° F  
(dam outlet) (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 3.0 feet Dissolved Oxygen: 136.0%  
(≥ 3 feet is good) (>80% is good)

pH: 9.07 Chlorophyll-a: >60 ppb  
(between 6 and 9 is good) (How green, ≤ 25 is good)



Rain water only goes down the storm drain. No dumping. BMW Association is helping Denver mark storm drains. Notice in the photo the stain of oil leading to a drain.



## Watershed News

The annual BMW stakeholder meeting and barbecue is scheduled for September 26<sup>th</sup>. Come hear about news in the watershed and get an update on the water quality. Free lunch and boat rides are included.

## 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](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*

