



Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report



September 25, 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 ended the growing season with a 10 F drop in water temperature. Early September was warmer than average but ended with slightly cooler than average temperatures. Large weather changes and a large drawdown from last year has had an impact on overall water quality. The reservoir is fully mixing top to bottom because the water temperature is all the same. There is plenty of oxygen in the entire water column. The higher phosphorus levels in Milton in 2017 are contributed to the phosphorus levels in the S. Platte River during December of 2016, when the reservoir was filled and because of the amount of water that was needed to refill the reservoir.

Water Quality Stats (as of 09-25-17)

Maximum Depth: 16.4 feet (dam outlet) Water Temperature: 60.0⁰ F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 2.8 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 93.2% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.83 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <30 ppb (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 BMW Association is looking into what it will take to install a new storm water monitoring station just upstream of the Burlington Head Gate. The goal would be to sample storm water that is coming down the S. Platte River and entering the Burlington Ditch. The new station will be up and running by next spring.

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

