



# Barr Lake Water Quality Report



October 23, 2019

## 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.

*October* – Barr is beginning to slowly refill. The lake has come up two feet in the past two weeks. Algae continue to grow causing low clarity. A total of 2,590 carp were trapped and removed from Barr this year. Phosphorus is what we like to focus on, and it is clearly lower in the fall for the past two years. The phosphorus mainly comes from the S. Platte River. Then in the summer when there are no flows coming into the lake, the phosphorus settles out as a particulate and/or gets consumed by algae. Once the refill begins, the phosphorus typically increases. Phosphorus can also come from the lake sediments during the summer.

Runoff from snow and thunder storms this spring creates lots of flow from our streets, parking lots, and driveways. Do your part by keeping the drains clear of trash and debris.



## Watershed News

Denver is currently encouraging residents to pick up their leaves and drop them off at several leaf drop-off stations. It is good to pick up leaves and not just rack or blow them into the street. Leaves are a source of nutrients and can clog storm drains. Please remember to pick up your leaves and compost them.

## 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](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*

## Water Quality Stats (as of 10-23-19)

Maximum Depth: 21.0 feet (between dam outlets)      Water Temperature: 50.1<sup>o</sup> F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 1.8 feet (≥ 3 feet is good)      Dissolved Oxygen: 131.5% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.96 (between 6 and 9 is good)      Chlorophyll-a: >20 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

