



Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report



October 8, 2019

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, park users, or downstream water users.

October – Fall is here and so is winter. Water temperatures are quickly dropping, and the water depth is remaining steady. The phosphorus concentrations have declined for the most part since January (more noticeable since July) when the reservoir was refilling. Algae uptake and no inflows contributed to the decline in phosphorus since late July. The key to the phosphorus concentrations is the winter-time levels in the S. Platte River at the Platte Valley Canal head gate during the refill period. This determines how much phosphorus comes in for the year. Algae are still growing indicated by the >100% dissolved oxygen levels, but still no algae blooms so far for 2019.

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 Water, CPDHE, and EPA have been working on a plan to reduce lead in drinking water without the use of phosphorus. A decision will be made this fall. The plan is to have Denver Water remove 60,000+ private lead lines, increase alkalinity to avoid corrosion, and hand out free water filters for the next few years.

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 10-08-19)

Maximum Depth: 16.4 feet (dam outlet) Water Temperature: 57.8° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 2.1 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 133.2% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.77 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: >25 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

