



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



December 17, 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.

December – 2019 and this decade comes to an end. We wrap up the sampling for this year with a filling reservoir and a healthy crop of algae. Problem is still too high of pH. Barr Lake did not meet the pH or dissolved oxygen standard for this year. This is an indication that the 30% reduction in annual phosphorus loading is not enough, and we need to continue to reduce the loads. In summary for 2019, Barr Lake had more water in it through the early summer. This fuller lake condition created deeper water that allowed for more build-up of internal loading of phosphorus from the sediments. The July algae bloom was bigger than usual this year.

Water Quality Stats (as of 12-17-19)

Maximum Depth: 27.9 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 35.2^o F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 1.5 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 126.2% (>80% is good)

pH: 9.17 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <100 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

Just like fertilizers, it is best to keep salt out of our lakes and streams. If you do use salt, please use it sparingly and even consider sweeping it up after the snow melts.



Watershed News

To avoid dumping holiday trash around the watershed, make sure you take advantage of local Christmas tree recycling programs or use your tree for composting, mulch, or firewood. Please do not dump your tree along the roadside. Most trash eventually finds its way into Barr Lake and other water ways in the watershed.

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.

Contact Amy Conklin, watershed coordinator, at amy.conklin@comcast.net or 303-795-5925.

Cooperation, Involvement, and Awareness



Barr Lake Bottom Temperatures

