



# Barr Lake Water Quality Report



January 13, 2020

## 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.

*January* – Barr Lake is close to being full since it started refilling in October. The weather has been mild and dry for the Front Range since late November. There is a large amount of the lake that is open with no ice. There is plenty of algal growth occurring this winter. A Chl-a of 243 ug/L is extremely high. Some of the winter/spring time maximums are much larger than the summer time algae blooms. This growth is keeping the pH above 9.0. The 2019 phosphorus data was similar to the past three years. The average Jul-Sep value was 308 ug/L and the annual average was 372 ug/L.

## Water Quality Stats (as of 01-13-20)

Maximum Depth: 30.5 feet (between dam outlets)      Water Temperature: 34.6° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 1.5 feet (≥ 3 feet is good)      Dissolved Oxygen: 145.0% (>80% is good)

pH: 9.25 (between 6 and 9 is good)      Chlorophyll-a: 243 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](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*

