



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



February 12, 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.

February – Winter has showed up again with plenty of colder temperatures and snow. Barr Lake just iced over this week with very thin areas of ice. The overall water temperature has increased since January though. The big question each year is how much algae will we have in the summer. Is there a way to predict summer time algae levels based on the winter time water quality data? If phosphorus is the driver for algae, then the two things that determine phosphorus levels is the amount of water that is brought in during the winter and the TP concentrations in the S. Platte River at the Burlington Head Gate. Things look promising for 2020.

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

BMW is planning out 2020 activities. We are in the process of hiring 1 or 2 interns this summer, we just confirmed the bike tour date (6/18), Lake Appreciation Day at Barr is July 11th, and a big shoreline clean-up will be on National Public Lands Day (9/26). Next Stakeholder meeting is February 25th at Barr Lake.

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

Water Quality Stats (as of 02-12-20)

Maximum Depth: 26.9 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 37.1^o F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 1.5 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 173.0% (>80% is good)

pH: 9.24 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: >75 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

Barr Lake (Winter TP, refill depth, & Chl-a)

