



Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report



April 29, 2020

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.

April – Milton’s surface water increased over 10° F in the past two weeks. This month has been relatively warm and dry to allow this kind of temperature increase. This is a major transition because of this large temperature increase. The lake is temporarily stratified, in that the warmer, lighter water will remain isolated from the cooler bottom water as long as there are no major wind storms. This helps with warming the top 10 feet of water faster. The bottom water has also increased in temperature so that is an indication that the lake has mixed all the way to the bottom recently. We will see just how clear the lake gets in the coming month when it typically has a clearing phase.

Water Quality Stats (as of 04-29-20)

Maximum Depth: 25.3 feet (dam outlet) Water Temperature: 60.7° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 3.1 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 64.7% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.85 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: >50 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

Do your part. Keep fertilizers off the road, driveway, and sidewalk. Use phosphorus-free lawn fertilizers if you can. Composting is lake friendly.



Watershed News

BMW is planning out 2020 activities. Stay tuned for our upcoming events this year. We are still planning some great events like the watershed tour, bike tour, and shoreline clean up. Go to www.barr-milton.org to get the latest updates on all of our events and information. If plans change due to the current pandemic, we will post them on our website.

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



Milton Reservoir Temperature Profiles (Jan-Jul)

