



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



July 7, 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.

July – Barr Lake’s cyanobacteria growth seems to be less than in late June. Aphanizomenon is still dominating the algal community and forming smaller scums near shore when it is calmer and later in the day. Early morning and next to shore where the water can still flow there seems to be less algae. The warmest water typically occurs in late July. Cyanobacteria prefer the warmest weather so this is peak algae season. The pH levels are remaining below 9.0 in Barr despite the algal growth. It is slightly on the rise as the growing season continues. No major flows have entered Barr Lake for a few weeks. The lake is about 3 feet below average.

Water Quality Stats (as of 07-07-20)

Maximum Depth: 24.6 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 72.1^o F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 2.2 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 102.0% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.69 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <30 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

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



Watershed News

This month is National Lakes Appreciation Month. It is a great time to give back. Here is a short list of things you can do for Lakes Appreciation Month: do a shoreline clean up, make sure pick up pet waste, use only phosphorus-free fertilizers, conserve water and reduce runoff, and keep invasive species from spreading.

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



Average pH by Month, Barr Lake (0.5-2.0 m)

