



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



July 22, 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 – Water depth is the story for Barr Lake. Barr Lake is 21.3 feet deep at the dam. One year ago this week, Barr Lake was 31.2 feet deep. That is a 10-foot difference. Change in depth, timing of inflows and outflows, and other reservoir management decisions can have significant impacts to how Barr Lake looks year to year. The summer algae bloom is behaving itself. The bloom is not causing any serious issues but it is maintaining a steady growth of algae. Chl-a concentration is 28 parts per billion (ppb). The goal is to stay below 25 ppb. Chl-a can be as high as 400 ppb.

Water Quality Stats (as of 07-22-20)

Maximum Depth: 21.3 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 74.0^o F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 3.6 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 92.1% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.62 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: 28.0 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

Do your part. Keep trash out of Barr Lake. Tires, mattresses, oil cans, Styrofoam, and just about anything else ends up at Barr Lake. Keep trash out of the storm drains by picking up trash you see.



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

