



Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report



June 22, 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.

June – Milton did not have any signs of a cyanobacteria bloom. Milton still has lower water clarity from algal growth. Dissolved oxygen is going well throughout the lake. Total phosphorus is close to 250 ug/L which is still above the goal of 100 ug/L or less. The downward trend in surface oxygen is a good sign that there are no major algal blooms in the near future. pH is staying below 9.0 which is another good indication of water quality. Wind storms and boating can mix the water to the bottom. This helps with aeration but can also release phosphorus from the sediment and increase turbidity. Overall, water quality in Milton is stable but has not cleared up yet for the spring or early summer.

Water Quality Stats (as of 06-22-20)

Maximum Depth: 24.0 feet (dam outlet) Water Temperature: 69.7° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 2.0 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 115.8% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.97 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: >40 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

Next month is National Lakes Appreciation Month, and Barr Lake is a great place to celebrate it. Come help give back to Barr Lake on July 11 am 8am to 1pm. 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

