



Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report



July 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.

July – Milton still has no signs of cyanobacteria for the summer. Algae are growing and are causing elevated oxygen and lower water clarity but the species are not troublesome. Even the color of the boat wake shows that at a Chl-a of 38.0 parts per billion, the color of the water is not too green. Unlike Barr Lake, Milton Reservoir's water depth is right at the 18-year average. Milton is lower by 4.5 feet from one year ago. Overall, Milton Reservoir is having a great water quality year. Total phosphorus levels are staying below 200 ppb and the dissolved version of phosphorus that the algae use is close to 150 ppb. The pH is slightly up but is still below 9.0.

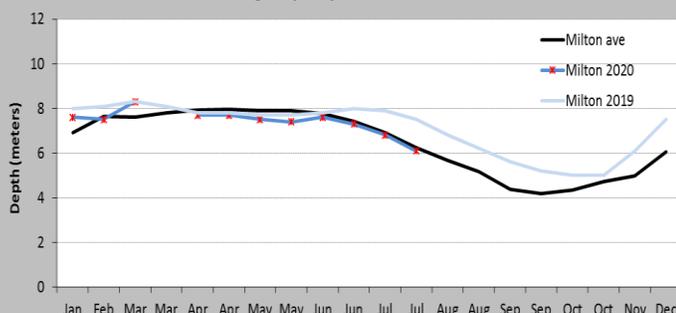
Water Quality Stats (as of 07-22-20)

Maximum Depth: 20.0 feet (dam outlet) Water Temperature: 74.9° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 2.0 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 133.2% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.84 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: 38.0 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

Average Depth by Month, Milton Reservoir



Do your part. Keep trash out of Milton. Remember to pick up your trash and keep it bagged so it doesn't blow around. Pick up any trash you see. Trash always ends up in the water.



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 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

