



Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report



August 11, 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.

August – Milton is at its warmest and will begin to cool off by the third week of August. Still no signs of cyanobacteria blooms but there are lots of algae growing. Water clarity, pH above 9.0, and dissolved oxygen over 150% all indicate that algae are going strong. Milton, being shallow and a warm-water reservoir, is supposed to be green, especially during August. What is promising is to see that there are no major floating cyanobacteria scums so far during the summer months. Water depth is right at average for this time of year. The dissolved phosphorus is at 100 parts per billion. This is lower than average but still needs to get even lower in order to control algal growth.

Water Quality Stats (as of 08-11-20)

Maximum Depth: 17.1 feet (dam outlet) Water Temperature: 76.3° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 1.6 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 170.4% (>80% is good)

pH: 9.05 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: >50 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

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

The BMW Association has formed a committee to update the pH TMDL Implementation Plan. The Plan was written in 2011 and it due for an update. The Association has conducted a few studies and will update the Plan with results, new studies, and a new schedule for implementing the pH TMDL.

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

