



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



August 26, 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.

August – Barr Lake’s depth has been below average all summer long. It is almost as low as it can get, 3.8 meters deep. When Barr gets this low, the overall water quality is degraded because of the shallow depth. There is only 25% of the total volume in the lake right now. The algal growth through June and early July was steady and now it has funneled to the current 400 acres. That is a large amount of biomass that is now in a small puddle. This is causing low oxygen levels from all that decomposition. Algal growth is down and there are no cyanobacteria blooming. The extra warmer weather has also kept the water warmer allowing for less oxygen to be in the water.

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

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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



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

Maximum Depth: 12.5 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 73.6° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 0.9 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 19.8% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.39 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <35 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

Average Depth by Month, Barr Lake

