



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



September 08, 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.

September – Barr Lake continues drop but because of cooler waters and a recent storm the dissolved oxygen is on the rise. Barr Lake is closer to the original buffalo wallow than the 32,000 acre-foot reservoir. The average lake depth is close to 4 feet right now. While the reservoir is down, it is an opportunity to see what the lake bottom looks like. Mostly firm sand. Only in areas that typically never dewater, does the sediment turn muddy and soft. When the reservoir is lowered like this, it tends to funnel most of the organic matter to the deepest areas leaving behind a firm sandy loam. The 120-year-old train track bend on the west side is still visible in areas showing the lack of sedimentation.

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

The annual Stakeholder meeting is coming in September (September 22nd). This is a great opportunity for to check in to see what BMW has been up to for 2020. We are busier than ever and there is lots to talk about. Check the www.barr-milton.org site to get all the details.

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 09-08-20)

Maximum Depth: 11.1 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 65.3^o F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 0.8 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 50.5% (>80% is good)

pH: 7.70 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: 3.3 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

D.O. Average by Month, Barr Lake (0.5 - 2.0 m)

