



# Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report



October 29, 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.

*October* – October ended on a chilly note for Milton. The reservoir was covered with a thin layer of ice; only time seeing ice on Milton in October in the last 18 years. Despite colder water, the algae had their second biggest growth in early October. This has been a trend for both Barr and Milton to see just as much or even more growth during the fall/winter versus the summer growing season. Diatoms prefer cooler water and can grow in masses equal to blue-green algae. Diatoms cannot change their buoyance so they do not form a scum on the surface. With a bigger drawdown in 2020, there will be a need to bring in more water for 2021 water season which will also mean more nutrients.

*Do your part. Keep leaves out of Milton. Don't rake leaves in the street or wait for the wind or street sweeper to make them disappear. Leaves in the street can end up at Milton. Rake it.*



## Watershed News

*Next up is the annual board retreat. This fall, the board of directors will work for half of a day to talk about big topics and go over future projects. We are busier than ever and there's lots to talk about. Check the [www.barr-milton.org](http://www.barr-milton.org) site to stay up to speed on projects and other water topics.*

## 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](http://www.barr-milton.org).

Contact Amy Conklin, watershed coordinator, at [amy.conklin@comcast.net](mailto:amy.conklin@comcast.net) or 303-795-5925.

*Cooperation, Involvement, and Awareness*



## Water Quality Stats (as of 10-29-20)

Maximum Depth: 10.2 feet (dam outlet)      Water Temperature: 38.2° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 1.0 feet (≥ 3 feet is good)      Dissolved Oxygen: 113.5% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.76      Chlorophyll-a: 96 ppb (between 6 and 9 is good) (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

