



Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report



February 9, 2021

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.

February – Milton starting refilling since the last monitoring visit in mid-January. This is the typical pattern having Barr Lake begin the refill first followed by Milton sometime in February. Milton is close to 50% full and is on track to be at full pool. With a large refill this year, the phosphorus levels will reflect the conditions in the S. Platte River near Ft. Lupton. This summer's algae levels and overall water quality will reflect this month-long refill period. Again, Milton's water quality for this year will be defined by a refill period on the order of a month and based on water quality conditions in the S. Platte River. It is like starting over again, especially in years like this when there is a major refill.

When snow and ice melts, the salt goes with it, washing into our lakes, streams, wetlands and groundwater. Once in the water, there is no way to remove the chloride. Less is more when it comes to applying salt. Chloride can harm the fish and plant life in our waters.



Watershed News

Milton has yet to begin refilling for the new year. February is the next BMW stakeholder meeting. 2020 WQ updates will be available in early 2021. Check the www.barr-milton.org site to stay up to speed on projects and WQ updates. Anyone is welcome to attend all BMW meetings.

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



Water Quality Stats (as of 02-09-21)

Maximum Depth: 21.0 feet (dam outlet) Water Temperature: 34.4° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 2.0 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 130.8% (>80% is good)

pH: 9.11 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <60 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

Average Depth by Month, Milton Reservoir

