



# Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report



March 24, 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.

*March* – The 27” snow storm on March 13-14 provide plenty of water for the watershed but not much entered Milton Reservoir. The reservoir depth did not change since early March. The spring algae are in full growth creating dissolved oxygen well above 100%. All of this oxygen is coming from photosynthesis and the fact that colder water can hold more oxygen. The pH is above the standard of 9.0 because of this growth. The water column is slowly warming up all the way to the bottom of the reservoir. The top temperature was 6.45 C, and the bottom temperature was 5.85 C. On warm, calm days, Milton will stratify, but on cooler, windy days the entire water column will mix fully.

After months of winter buildup and no street sweeping, old leaves and grasses can be thick at the curb. Spring snow storms are some of the largest runoff events and are first flushes of our curbs. Try to remember to clean your curb in front of your house before any storm events.



## Watershed News

March is the month of large snowfalls and warmer, spring-like weather. City and County of Denver has recently received a new storm water permit from the state (MS4 permit). This updated permit is important for the city and for the watershed. Storm water has an important role when it comes to filling up both lakes.

## 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 03-24-21)

Maximum Depth: 25.3 feet (dam outlet)      Water Temperature: 43.3<sup>o</sup> F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 1.5 feet (≥ 3 feet is good)      Dissolved Oxygen: 182.5% (>80% is good)

pH: 9.24 (between 6 and 9 is good)      Chlorophyll-a: <75 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

