



# Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report



August 24, 2022

## 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 the efforts to monitor, test, and improve the water quality in Milton. Regular lake sampling started in 2002.

*August* – Lower water levels, cooler waters, and much lower dissolved oxygen where the main highlights at Milton. The deepest location at the dam is just 13.5 feet deep. There is zero dissolved oxygen below 6.0 feet. With both pH and DO low, that indicates there is more decomposition than photosynthesis, so the algae seem to be not growing as much as before. Hopefully wind and isolated afternoon storms can assist with reoxygenating the water column. These isolated low oxygen levels occur in late summer under specific conditions: very calm water after a major large mass of algae settle to the lake bottom to decompose. There is just more decomposition taking up oxygen than what is being replaced by the atmosphere and algal growth.



## Watershed News

*Annual Stakeholder meeting and BBQ will be September 27<sup>th</sup> at Barr Lake State Park. Come tour the inlet, get a 2022 update, and enjoy a free lunch.*

## 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 08-24-22)

Maximum Depth: 13.5 feet (dam outlet)      Water Temperature: 73.0<sup>o</sup> F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 1.0 feet ( $\geq 3$  feet is good)      Dissolved Oxygen: 58.5% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.28 (between 6 and 9 is good)      Chlorophyll-a: <50.0 ppb (How green,  $\leq 25$  is good)

