



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



December 20, 2022

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

December – The final sampling of 2022. Twenty sampling events occurred in 2022, and water quality summaries will be generated in early 2023. There was six inches of clear, hard ice on Barr. There was a major increase in diatom growth since November. Both pH and dissolved oxygen were typically very high due to the algal growth. The water depth increased by 2 meters since early November. Water clarity averages have changed over the years. Due to the shift in algal growth and species, Barr Lake seems to be less clear in the winter/spring but have slightly better water clarity later in the early summer. This is caused by the delay in blue-green algae blooms in recent years.



Watershed News

Heading into winter, there is a major effort to keep tree leaves out of our streets and storm drains. Leaf Drop Off programs are important for watershed residents to participate in. Keep leaves out of the street. They end up triggering algae blooms downstream in Barr/Milton.

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 Sami Miller, watershed coordinator, at sami.miller2019@gmail.com.

Cooperation, Involvement, and Awareness



Water Quality Stats (as of 12-20-22)

Maximum Depth: 23.3 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 35.3° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 2.3 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 182.6% (>80% is good)

pH: 9.31 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <75.0 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

Average Secchi Depth by Month, Barr Lake

