



Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report



January 10, 2023

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.

January – Milton Reservoir remains iced over since mid-December. Ice thickness near the dam was 14” with about 2” of snow on top. Noteworthy observations include the depth of ice and the increase in water depth since December. Ice is typically thicker at Milton than Barr Lake. pH and dissolved oxygen have come way down since December indicating less algal productivity. Milton did have zero oxygen at the lake bottom which allows for internal loading of phosphorus. A bottom water sample was collected to compare top water and bottom water phosphorus concentrations.



Watershed News

South Platte Renew, wastewater treatment plant for Littleton and Englewood, started tertiary treatment at the end of November 2022. Phosphorus levels have steadily dropped in the S. Platte River, especially soluble reactive phosphorus that algae prefer to use.

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 01-10-23)

Maximum Depth: 13.8 feet (dam outlet) Water Temperature: 35.6° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 1.5 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 99.8% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.17 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <50.0 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

