



# Barr Lake Water Quality Report



July 11, 2023

## 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. This monitoring effort started in 2002.

*July* – A great way to know when there is an algal bloom or sudden increase in algal growth is to look at the dissolved oxygen. Barr Lake is clearly in the middle of an algal bloom, and this can be seen by how high the oxygen levels are. 254% is caused by photosynthesis from the algae. Hopefully, this is the peak of the July bloom, and algal levels will decrease. Dissolved oxygen then dips post bloom because of decomposition of all that organic matter that settles to the lake bottom. The oxygen highs and lows do a great job of tracking algal growth. Overall, the water is green but there seems to be no major scums in the open water. Calm, hot weather are the best conditions for cyanobacteria blooms. Be algae aware and avoid any algal scums.



## Watershed News

*Avoid the algae. Just a remind that we are now in the heat of the summer algae growing season. If you see a scum in the water, do your best to avoid it. If you do come into contact, rinse off and clean your equipment. Keep pets and animals from drinking the water when there is a scum. Not all algae are toxic.*

## 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](http://www.barr-milton.org).

Contact Sami Miller, watershed coordinator, at [miller.sami@outlook.com](mailto:miller.sami@outlook.com).

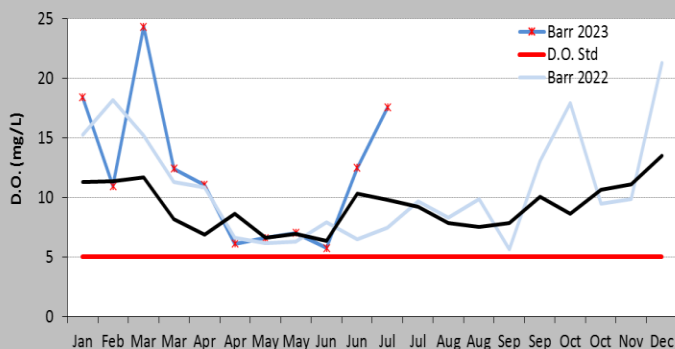
## Water Quality Stats (as of 07-11-23)

Maximum Depth: 32.2 feet (between dam outlets)      Water Temperature: 75.30° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 5.7 feet (≥ 3 feet is good)      Dissolved Oxygen: 254.0% (>80% is good)

pH: 9.18 (between 6 and 9 is good)      Chlorophyll-a: >75.0 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

D.O. Average by Month, Barr Lake (0.5 - 2.0 m)



*Cooperation, Involvement, and Awareness*

