



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



July 26, 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 – Barr Lake is experiencing above average water depths and water temperatures. The last two years show that the water temperature in Barr is several degrees Fahrenheit above the historical average (see graph below). At the same time, Barr Lake is close to 8 feet deeper than the average for the end of July. The algal bloom seems to be staying under control. There are cyanobacteria dominating the algal community, but they are not cause major scums or severe concentrations. One major change is the large area of emerging aquatic plants (smartweed) growing around the lake edge. Smartweed is doing very well with the higher water levels.



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.

Contact Sami Miller, watershed coordinator, at miller.sami@outlook.com.

Cooperation, Involvement, and Awareness



Water Quality Stats (as of 07-26-23)

Maximum Depth: 31.8 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 77.8° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 7.9 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 141.0% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.94 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <40.0 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

Average Water Temperature by Month, Barr Lake (0.5-2.0 meters)

