Barr Lake Water Quality Report

August 9, 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.

August – Barr Lake is still experiencing a low-grade cyanobacteria bloom, and it seems to be on the decline since late July. Algal masses are getting concentrated among the smartweed and near shore. Other than those areas, there are no signs of surface scum. Oxygen and pH levels indicate a decline in algal growth. Total phosphorus levels this year are down. Likely due to the wetter spring and summer. The key will be just how much phosphorus comes out of the sediments during anoxic conditions. With the lake being deeper, it is allowing for more thermal stratification and buildup of no oxygen along the sediment. Internal loading of phosphorus is important because of the timing and not because of the overall quantity.

Water Quality Stats (as of 08-09-23)

Maximum Depth: 30.5 feet
(between dam outlets)

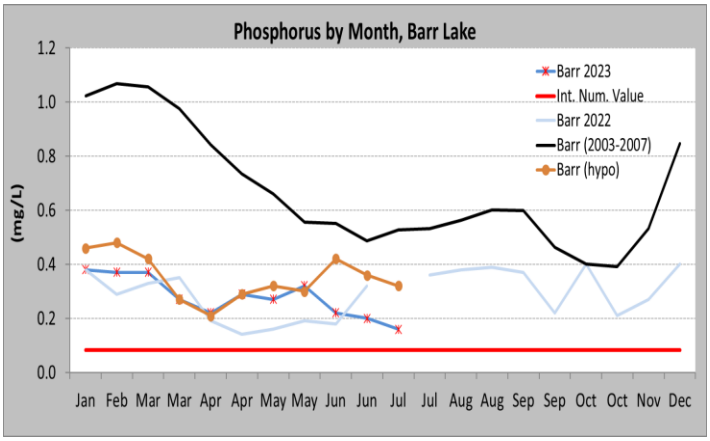
Water Temperature: 73.9° F
(taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 6.5 feet
(≥ 3 feet is good)

Dissolved Oxygen: 102.0%
(>80% is good)

pH: 8.72
(between 6 and 9 is good)

Chlorophyll-a: <30.0 ppb
(How green, ≤ 25 is good)



ZERO PHOSPHORUS On Your Lawn

H2O ONLY KEEPITCLEAN

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