Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report

August 9, 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.

August – Milton Reservoir showed no signs of cyanobacteria present. Open water dredging was still going on, and the western half of the reservoir seemed to have a different water color. With the lack of a bloom and decomposition of the algae from the past month, the entire water column had oxygen levels below 100% from surface to the bottom. With more decomposition than photosynthesis, the pH levels were well below the standard and even below 8.0 for most of the water column. Internal loading is not as great as Barr Lake but the hypolimnion phosphorus was noticeably higher than the top water for early July. For the first time ever, Milton's total phosphorus concentration was below the summer time maximum of 0.10 mg/L.

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

Maximum Depth: 24.0 feet
(dam outlet)

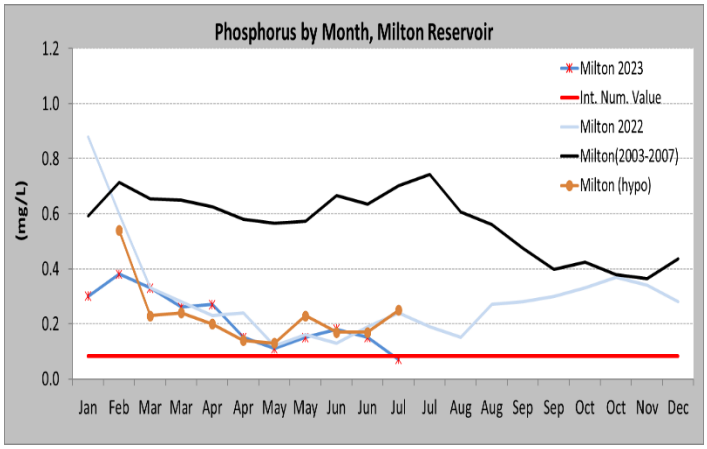
Water Temperature: 74.1^0 F
(taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 3.0 feet
(≥ 3 feet is good)

Dissolved Oxygen: 72.7%
(>80% is good)

pH: 8.06
(between 6 and 9 is good)

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



ZERO PHOSPHORUS On Your Lawn

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

Cooperation, Involvement, and Awareness