Barr Lake Water Quality Report

October 25, 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.

October – Water temperatures are quickly dropping due to the recent cold weather. This rate of temperature decline is appropriate for this time of year, but the overall water temperatures are still above average for this time of year. The water is about 5 degrees F above average. Warmer water does allow for more algal growth and lower oxygen levels. Can climate change and warmer weather have an impact on the overall water quality in a reservoir? Lake experts across the U.S. are noticing longer and warmer growing seasons with shorter ice cover periods. Lakes are also experiencing more "browning" effects caused by climate change. Local weather extremes and trends will continue to impact freshwater management and water quality.

Water Quality Stats (as of 10-25-23)

Maximum Depth: 24.0 feet
(between dam outlets)

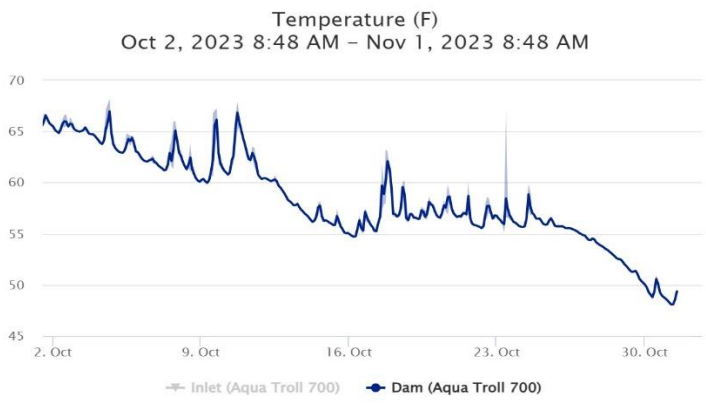
Water Temperature: 56.3^0 F
(taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 2.6 feet
(≥ 3 feet is good)

Dissolved Oxygen: 135.9%
(>80% is good)

pH: 8.53
(between 6 and 9 is good)

Chlorophyll-a: <30 ppb
(How green, ≤ 25 is good)



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Watershed News

On September 12th, BMW hired experts to install and maintain continuous monitoring equipment both at the dam location and the center of the lake. Data is being collected every 30 minutes and sent to the internet. It will help show how changes occur over 24 hours. The sensors will come out by November 24th, 2023.

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