



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



January 9, 2024

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. Regular lake sampling started in 2002.

January – Barr Lake still has open waters. A year ago, Barr iced over in early December. Open water helps with keeping the water column mixing and oxygenated. For 2023, the chl-a median for July through September was one of the lowest in the past 20 years. There is a clear, downward trend for chl-a concentrations for the summer. For pH, this is the second month in a row where the entire water column is below 8.0. A year ago, the pH was above 9.0. Most of the ditch water was bypassing Barr Lake and going to Horse Creek Reservoir. This typically doesn't occur until February or March after Barr is filled. Barr still has a couple of feet to go to be at full pool.



Watershed News

First, Second, and Third creeks were sampled 20 times in 2023 and phosphorus loads are about equal to the amount coming from the three upstream reservoirs. These creeks and the Beebe Pipeline will be monitored again in 2024.

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 01-09-24)

Maximum Depth: 28.9 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 35.6° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 3.2 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 132.9% (>80% is good)

pH: 7.59 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <30.0 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

Barr Lake Chlorophyll-a Trend (Jul-Sept Median)

