



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



March 27, 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.

March – Barr Lake State Park will officially open the boat ramp to boating on April 1st and that is no joke. Water temperature is right at average for this time of year with cool water algae growing. Just be aware that the water is still very cold even when we have a hot spring day. Make sure you wear a life jacket in the spring. The water depth is close to an all-time deepest. This is the time of year when the reservoir becomes thermally stratified with warmer, lighter water floating on top of cooler, heavier water. Storms can mix the column and allow for the deeper waters to gradually warm up.



Watershed News

Spring is here which means mud season and plenty of wet snow and runoff. Smaller creeks in the watershed can add up to a large source of turbid, nutrient-rich waters that add to the overall load to Barr and Milton. Runoff from muddy fields, construction sites, and from roads can get to smaller creeks that eventually get to the S. Platte River or directly to the inlet ditches.

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 03-27-24)

Maximum Depth: 35.1 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 48.7° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 2.8 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 156.8% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.07 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <30.0 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

Average Depth by Month, Barr Lake

