



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



July 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.

July – Barr Lake had the lowest pH for this time of year for the top water since regular sampled started in 2002. This lower pH was confirmed with both probs at the inlet and the dam location that record every hour. Primary productivity (aka photosynthesis) that drives pH up is not as intense yet. There are algae growing including blue-green algae. The rate and intensity are just not there. This is all a good sign that Barr Lake’s water quality keeps improving. July is the first of three summer growing season months, so pH is sure to increase as the algae continue to grow. It has been 10 months since Barr Lake had pH above the standard of 9.0. We will see how pH changes as the lake is drawn down.



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



Water Quality Stats (as of 07-09-24)

Maximum Depth: 29.9 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 73.5° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 9.8 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 82.9% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.06 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <15.0 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

