



# Barr Lake Water Quality Report



July 24, 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 is finally experiencing this summer’s algal bloom. In early July, Chl-a was below 10 ug/L. Now in late July, aphanizomenon and microcystis are peaking. Oxygen levels are well over 100%, and pH is above 9.0 for the first time this year. The big question is when will the bloom end. This is expected every summer when the water is at its warmest from calm, hot weather and when nutrients are still relatively high. Barr Lake will always be a warm-water reservoir that can grow algae. The intensity and length of blooms is what is important to understand. We will see how long this bloom lasts, and how green it will get.



## 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](http://www.barr-milton.org).

Contact Sami Miller, watershed coordinator, at [miller.sami@outlook.com](mailto:miller.sami@outlook.com).

*Cooperation, Involvement, and Awareness*



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

Maximum Depth: 26.9 feet (between dam outlets)      Water Temperature: 75.3° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 2.6 feet (≥ 3 feet is good)      Dissolved Oxygen: 227.9 % (>80% is good)

pH: 9.20 (between 6 and 9 is good)      Chlorophyll-a: >150.0 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

