Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report

July 24, 2024

Water Summary

Milton Reservoir 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 Milton. Regular lake sampling started in 2002.

July – Everything was murky at Milton. The air quality was impacted by wildfires in the west, and water quality was impacted by algal growth. Milton was not experiencing an algal bloom like Barr Lake, but the peak water temperatures and weather are creating prime conditions for algal growth. Milton has slightly lower nutrients levels than Barr Lake so maybe that is enough to make a difference in algal blooms. Either way, Milton is still considered eutrophic. Water temperatures are well above normal. Water temperature can be a major factor when it comes what species of algal can take hold. Blue-greens prefer the warmest water. Milton seems to be having a better year than compared to 2023. Chl-a in 2023 went well above 100 ug/L four times.

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

Maximum Depth: 21.3 feet
(dam outlet)

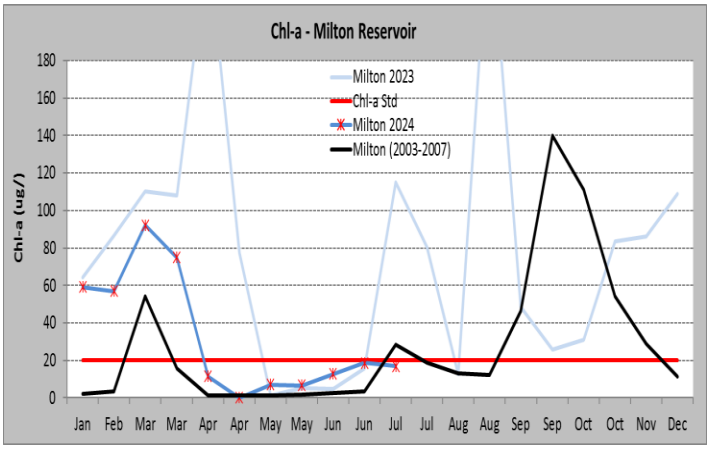
Water Temperature: 75.4^0 F
(taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 2.5 feet
(≥ 3 feet is good)

Dissolved Oxygen: 129.8%
(>80% is good)

pH: 8.52
(between 6 and 9 is good)

Chlorophyll-a: <25.0 ppb
(How green, ≤ 25 is good)



ZERO PHOSPHORUS On Your Lawn

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 Lake and Milton Reservoir.

You can learn more about the lakes 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