Barr Lake Water Quality Report

August 13, 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.

August – Barr Lake's algal bloom seems to be on the downside. Both pH and oxygen levels are lower. Visually, there was less biomass in the open water near the sampling station. Cyanobacteria is still growing and the decaying algal mats on shore are not pleasant to smell. The afternoon storms help break up the algae and forces full lake mixing. With clarity of only 2.4 feet, the water is completely dark after about 4 feet deep. Only algae in the top 4 feet of water are growing. Hopefully the algae will continue to decline through August as the water cools. Often Barr has two blooms, so the growing season is not over.

Water Quality Stats (as of 08-13-24)

Maximum Depth: 23.0 feet
(between dam outlets)

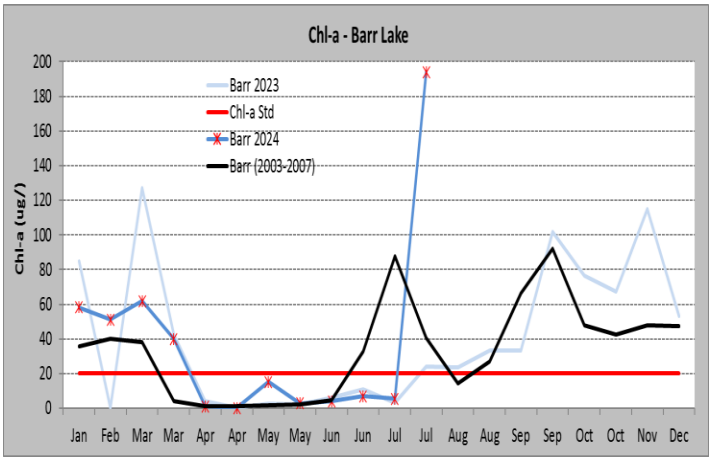
Water Temperature: 72.7^0 F
(taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 2.4 feet
(≥ 3 feet is good)

Dissolved Oxygen: 119 %
(>80% is good)

pH: 8.94
(between 6 and 9 is good)

Chlorophyll-a: >35 ppb
(How green, ≤ 25 is good)



ZERO PHOSPHORUS On Your Lawn

H2ONLY KEEPITCLEAN

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