Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report

August 13, 2024

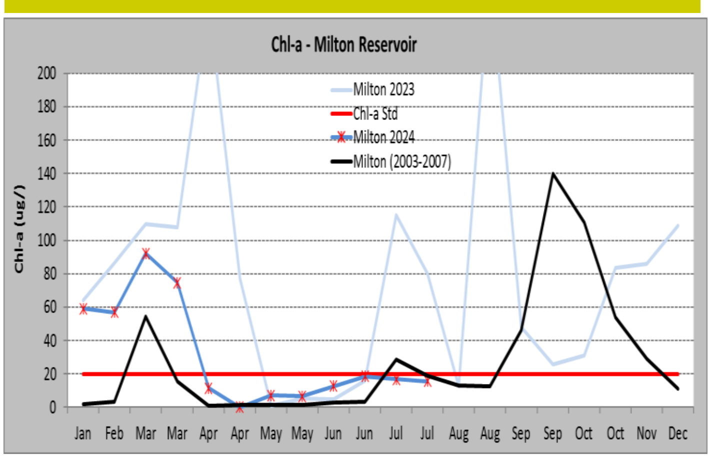
Water Summary

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.

August – Milton Reservoir is still not showing signs of any major algal bloom like on Barr Lake. The water is green but there seems to be no dominance of cyanobacteria. Milton is now below the average depth and volume for this time of year. Chl-a has remained below the standard of 20 ug/L for the growing season. Once reason for less cyanobacteria might be because of lower phosphorus levels. Total phosphorus has been below 90 ug/L since the end of April. More importantly, Milton's Nitrogen:Phosphorus ratio has been greater than 15 since March. This means that Milton has been phosphorus limited which helps keep cyanobacteria under control.

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

Maximum Depth: 16.7 feet (dam outlet)	Water Temperature: 72.1^{0} F (taken 3 feet below surface)
Water Clarity: 2.1 feet (≥ 3 feet is good)	Dissolved Oxygen: 122.0% (>80% is good)
pH: 8.32 (between 6 and 9 is good)	Chlorophyll-a: <20 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)



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