



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



July 08, 2025

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 made it through the Fourth and is experiencing the typical yoyo of algal growth. One week ago, the clarity was over 4 meters deep and then this week it is just 1.5 meters. One impressive trait for cyanobacteria is that they can grow fast and crash fast. Either way, we are in full algae mode. Hot, calm weather brings very warm surface temperatures, and cyanobacteria thrive in calm waters. Inflows are all but done for the growing season so the only nutrient inputs that can sustain this large algal growth is from internal loading and the natural recycling process within the reservoir. The hottest water should come in early August and then the water will start cooling.



Watershed News

Memberships are due by mid-July for the 2025/26 year. BMW Association has a great board of directors that include at-large positions. Contact BMW coordinator, Sami, if you are interested in joining BMW or want to be on the board. Keep up to date on Barr Lake and Milton Reservoir activities by going to www.barr-Milton.org.

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 07-08-25)

Maximum Depth: 30.5 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 73.0° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 4.9 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 168.8% (>80% is good)

pH: 9.06 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: >50.0 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

