



Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report



March 25, 2026

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.

March – Milton Reservoir exceeded the winter chronic water temperature standard for the first time ever. The top mixing layer temperature was 56.5 F. This is well above the March average. This water temperature is basically May temperatures. We are about a month early in how warm we are. Milton has been filling and is at full pool. Algae were growing causing DO to be over 225% above saturation. Because of this growth, the pH was well above 9.0. The clearing phase is still to come, and we will see how much the algae slow down during the spring. Basically, Milton is experiencing May/June right now.



Watershed News

Keep your eyes out for the 2026 BMW watershed tour. The annual tour is in June, and we plan to have a stakeholder meeting along with the tour. These tours give folks an opportunity to learn and see new parts of the watershed.

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



Water Quality Stats (as of 03-25-26)

Maximum Depth: 26.2 feet (dam outlet) Water Temperature: 58.7° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 2.0 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 225.7% (>80% is good)

pH: 9.26 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <50.0 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

