



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



May 28, 2026

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. Routine lake sampling started in June of 2002.

May – Barr Lake's algae community this year has been a steady crash-n-boom cycle since February. Water clarity has fluctuated by 10 plus feet in a matter of two weeks. Barr Lake is in the middle of a bloom, the third of the year so far. Starting in June, we will be visiting Barr Lake on a weekly basis to see how fast things change. In April, the clarity went from 18 feet to 4 feet in a matter of two weeks. Some of this sporadic growth patterns have to do with the weather. March was very warm with a heat dome and then a couple of May snowstorms cooled the water back down to normal. One thing is clear, conditions at Barr Lake can change quickly and the reservoir system is trying its best to be a lake.



Watershed News

Keep your eyes out for the 2026 BMW watershed tour. The annual tour will be on June 23rd from 9am to noon. We will be having the tour and stakeholder meeting at the Bluff Lake Nature Center located in Central Park. The focus will be on education and information efforts and a walking tour of Bluff Lake. Lunch will be provided.

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 05-28-26)

Maximum Depth: 28.5 feet Water Temperature: 63.2° F
(between dam outlets) (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 6.6 feet Dissolved Oxygen: 112.2 %
(≥ 3 feet is good) (>80% is good)

pH: 8.50 Chlorophyll-a: <30 ppb
(between 6 and 9 is good) (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

Average Secchi Depth by Month, Barr Lake

