



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



June 9, 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.

June – Barr Lake is in summer mode with warmer and shallower waters. The algae are noticeable but are not the main story. The blue-greens are not blooming to the point of lake-wide surface scums. Instead, the algae are visual but not surfacing. Clarity and the DO levels tell the story that the algae are staying in check, for now. The water depth is slowly slipping away and is slightly below average for this time of year. We should see the water level slowly recede for the summer. Inflows will start back up in October and then the water year begins in November. Phosphorus levels are the lowest that have been measure in the past 20 years. We will see how phosphorus does over the course of the summer.



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 06-09-26)

Maximum Depth: 26.9 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 68.4° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 7.2 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 98.6 % (>80% is good)

pH: 8.55 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <30 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

Barr Lake Total Phosphorus Trend (Jul-Sept Mean)

