General description of the bathing water in non-technical language

Krossinsee is situated on the south-eastern state border of Berlin in the Berlin-Fürstenwalder Spree Valley Lowland, in a side channel of the River Dahme, which it joins in the south via the "Grosser Zug". To the north east the channel joins Wernsdorfer See, with which Krossinsee is connected. The Oder Spree Canal crosses in between.

Krossinsee has a surface area of 163ha and a maximum depth of 5m. The deepest part is situated in the eastern area. The average depth is 2.9m. Stable temperature layering does not occur. In the south east, Krossinsee receives and inflow from the Wernsdorfer Luch. The catchment area is approximately 9.6km² and 58% it is forest, whilst 18% is residential areas.

The southern shore of Krossinsee is completely populated. The former fishing village of Wernsdorf borders onto the lake, together with the Ziegenhals residential area.

Due to its small catchment area, Krossinsee naturally has a good set of conditions for having only a moderately nutrient-rich state, despite the lack of temperature layering. The lake, which is monitored by the Brandenburg State Office for Environment as part of a long-term environmental programme, is still very nutrient rich, despite extensive renovation of the waste water treatment facilities in the catchment area. Although the nutrient content has now been greatly reduced, it is still within a range which leads to periods of very high plankton growth during the summer. The signs are an extremely high oxygen content at the water's surface and at the same time acute oxygen deficiency in deep water, blue-green algae blooms in the summer and water transparency levels which in open water during the summer are on average only 1m.

The lake district around Wernsforf is connected with the lakes Seddinsee and Zeuthener See and is a popular recreation area, above all for water sports enthusiasts. It is designated a Federal Waterway and therefore may be used by motorboats. The populated southern shore is lined with numerous individual and multiple jetties.

The "Wernsdorf" bathing area at Krossinsee, which is tested every four weeks by the local Office for Health as per the Brandenburg Bathing Water Regulations, there were no exceedances of single values of the microbiological parameters e.coli and intestinal enterococci. Sometimes blue-green algae can be observed. People who are sensitive to the algae should refrain from bathing.

Text: Kerstin Wöbbecke, Büro enviteam

Sources

Arp, W. & B. Koppelmeyer (2011): Biologisches und chemisches Monitoring zur Indikation des ökologischen Zustandes gemäß EU-WRRL in 43 Seen im Land Brandenburg. – final report on behalf of the Brandenburg State Office for Environment

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