

## General description of the bathing water in non-technical language

Wolziger See is a lake situated around 14km south east of Königs Wusterhausen in the Dahme Lake District, a landscape which has numerous lakes, and belongs to the “Dahme Heathland Lakes” Nature Park. It is part of the Storkow Lake Chain, which, coming from the direction of Scharmützelsee, consists of Storkower See, Wolziger See and Langer See, and which is connected to the Storkow Canal and flows into the Dahme.

Besides the Storkow Canal, the Mühlenfließ (a stream) flows into Wolziger See and which comes from Gross Schauener See. The total catchment area of Wolziger See is 384km<sup>2</sup>, around half of which is forested and 28% is arable land.

The almost round water's surface of Wolziger See is 529ha in size and it thereby belongs to the larger lakes in Brandenburg. The maximum depth is 13.2m. Stable temperature layering forms in summer, but which can break up in strong winds.

Wolziger See has large areas of extensive reed populations, which have been intersected by vistas and boat jetties, primarily close to the residential areas. Wolzig and Wolzig residential area are situated at the northern end of the lake. Kolberg is situated in the south, and in the west Blossin borders onto the lake. Görsdorf is located close to the lake in the south east.

Due to its heavy exposure to the wind, which does not permit stable summer temperature layering, and its large catchment area, Wolziger See naturally has a tendentially nutrient-rich state with medium water transparency levels and underwater vegetation which is rich in species. However, due to intensive fish farming and insufficiently treated waste water, in the past it had an excess of nutrients far beyond this natural amount. Intensive plankton growth with blue-green algae and the complete disappearance of the underwater vegetation were the consequences. By the middle of the 1990's the average transparency levels during the summer were largely below one metre. In the years following Wolziger See recovered considerably. In the year 2000 the summer transparency levels were over 1.4m on average and since then have been stable.

The Storkow Lake Chain is a Federal Waterway which connects the River Dahme with the Scharmützel Lake District and also has a connection to the Teupitzer Lake District via the Dahme. The entire area is therefore heavily frequented by boat users from Berlin. On the shores there are many boat jetties, a yacht harbour, and a wind surfing school. Near Kolberg there is a camping site.

The “Wolzig” bathing area, which is tested every four weeks by the local Office for Health as per the Brandenburg Bathing Water Regulations. 2019 there was a singular exceedance of the microbiological parameter intestinal enterococci. Further exceedances of the microbiological parameters e.coli and intestinal enterococci were not measured. The bathing area is evaluated with “sufficient”. Blooms of blue-green algae have not been observed. Sometime there is the risk of contracting swimmer's itch (cercarial dermatitis). Therefore, attention should be paid to the warning notices of the Office for Health.

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### Sources

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