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Press office

## Blue-green algae: Bathing ban in Aasee

## City closes bathing bay due to possible health hazards // Keep pets away from water

Swimming in the Bocholt Aasee is prohibited with immediate effect. The reason is bacteria caused by blue-green algae. They can cause health hazards for humans and animals. The bathing ban applies until further notice. All contact with the water should be avoided.

This decision was taken by the city of Bocholt after measurements confirmed increased algae formation in the Aasee during regular sampling.

The red flagging on the signal mast in the area of the bathing bay as well as signs around the Aasee indicate the bathing and swimming ban.

The administration also advises caution in other parts of the lake and recommends avoiding contact with the water.

Dog owners walking around the Aasee should take care of their animals and keep them away from the water. They could fall ill and, in the worst case, die due to a possible toxic effect of the bacteria.

The cause of the increased algae growth is probably related to the weather conditions. Since the growth of blue-green algae depends on temperature and precipitation, no statement can be made about the duration of the closure at the moment. The lake is continuously monitored by means of water samples.



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The bathing bay at Lake Bocholt Aasee © Stadt Bocholt



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