

Further Information

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Elblag Environment

Elblag is a medium-size city with 130 000 inhabitants located in north - eastern Poland close to the Bay of Gdansk. The City of Elblag has considerably improved the state of its environment during recent years. This article presents the current state of the environment in Elblag in a nutshell.

WATER AND WASTE WATER

As far as the bacteriological aspects of drinking water are concerned, the sanitary requirements are met in Elblag. However, the rivers and water-courses flowing through the city are classified as polluted. Waste waters are treated at the mechanical-biological sewage treatment plant, which reduces organic pollutants by 93% and total suspensions by 89%. A future modernization of the plant will be necessary in order to improve the nitrogen and phosphorous removal efficiency.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

A total of approximately 350 000 m³ of municipal wastes require liquidation annually. A considerable part is medical waste from hospitals. A major investment solving the waste problem has been the establishment of the Plant of Wastes Utilization (P.W.U.) It is capable of liquidating all wastes groups ranging from ordinary municipal waste to harmful industrial waste, used cars, sewage sludge, etc. In addition, the plant recycles useful raw materials and has a power station for biogas utilization. The City of Elblag would be interested in exchanging experiences with regard to similar plants in other UBC member cities.

OTHER POINTS OF ATTENTION

Air pollution and noise issues do not pose severe problems at the moment. However, a big future challenge is - as in many other Baltic cities - the contamination of soils. It is difficult at present to assess the



degree of contamination due to lack of information, but presumably the ground at most industrial and military sites is at least to some extent contaminated.

In spite of the problems mentioned, the state of the environment has progressively improved during the past few years. This is a combined result of growing environmental awareness on the part of the city inhabitants and authorities and from applied environmental investments. Elblag has also started its Local Agenda 21 activities in cooperation with the Swedish Municipality Rönneby.

WELCOME TO HOLD
YOUR BALTIC MEETING IN
ELBLAG!

The Elblag City School of Ecological Education may be of interest to other UBC cities. It is a compound equipped with laboratories, lecture halls and accommodation facilities for holding seminars and courses. So far the school has been used for holding courses on ecological subjects regarding the local flora and fauna as well as the Baltic Sea itself. However, it would also be a perfect place for holding international conferences, conventions and Baltic cities related youth meetings.