

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

Neuendorfer See is a lake situated between Berlin and Cottbus on the edge of the Spreewald Biosphere Reserve in the Malxe-Spree Lowland. In the north the Dahme Heathland Lakes Nature Park borders onto the lake shore.

The River Spree flows through the 4.3km long lake. It flows into the lake at the southern tip and leaves it at around 2/3 down the length in an easterly direction. Its catchment area at 4650km<sup>2</sup> is therefore very large. A good half of the catchment area is used for agriculture (predominantly for arable land) and a third is forested. The body of water of Neuendorfer See is exchanged around every two to five days.

Neuendorfer See has a surface area of 3km<sup>2</sup>, but is only a maximum of 3.8m deep. The average depth is 1.9-m.

Due to its large catchment area and its shallow depth the natural state of Neuendorfer See, which is monitored by the Brandenburg State Office for Environment as part of a long-term environmental programme, should be a tendentially nutrient-rich lake with comparatively low water transparency, but with species-rich biocoenoses in terms of shore vegetation and plankton. The wealth of nutrients in Neuendorfer See goes beyond this natural amount.

The shore of Neuendorfer See is completely lined with narrow reed belt which is approximately 1m wide and which is mainly made up of rushes. Around half of the shoreline is intensively used for recreation. The reed population in these areas is largely interrupted by boat jetties and trodden-down paths. Four camping sites are located on the lake's shore.

The entire Neuendorfer See is, as with the River Spree above and below it, designated as a protection area under the European Habitats Directive, as this section of the Spree is of prominent importance for the preservation and prevalence of otters, beavers, and numerous species of fish. Furthermore, numerous nature protection areas, mainly wet meadows with important silted-up areas, border onto the shore of Neuendorfer See.

The "Hohenbrück" bathing area at Neuendorfer, which is tested every four weeks by the local Office for Health as per the Brandenburg Bathing Water Regulations. 2021 there was a singular exceedance of the microbiological parameter e.coli. Further exceedances of the microbiological parameters e.coli and intestinal enterococci were not measured. Blooms of blue-green algae have not been observed.

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### Sources

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