

## 37. Vattenledningsområdet



**South-west of Jönköping is an open-air recreation area with much water. With the Åsendammen Lake, the Fontändammar ponds, many brooks and headstreams, the area has been important in the history of the town.**

The western shore at Åsendammen is rocky and hilly with areas of bare rock and pine forest of old trees. Apart from that, mixed oak and pinewood is most common in the open-air recreation area. Here also are many areas resembling wooded water meadow that are sometimes flooded, and woodland brooks. A characteristic species for the area is remote sedge, a plant that thrives in headstreams.

The woodland of the open-air recreation area is very varied, and was originally wooded pasture. Apart from oaks and spruce trees there are pine,

mountain ash, hazel, a few maple, cherry and crab apple and birch. On the edge of the woods are aspen trees. The woods are good for mushrooms and fungi, one can find such species as penny bun and chanterelle. Many birds are found here. Noteworthy are black woodpecker, lesser spotted woodpecker, nutcracker and marsh tit. Wrens are common.

The eastern side is steep and the brooks have rapids and waterfalls. Here is dead wood in the form of fallen tree trunks, steep rock faces, and murmuring waterfalls when there has

been much rain.

The heritage of the Vattenledningsparken – The Water Pipe Park is important in that Jönköping's first waterworks were built here, when industrialisation reached the town in the 19th century. The choice for the source of water for the town was the Junebäcken brook, which had clean water and was high above the town. The waterworks were completed in 1865 and gave Jönköping its drinking water for almost 100 years.



#### WORTH KNOWING

Above Gråshagen is the Vattenledningsparken, with fountains and a beautiful view. There are barbecue sites and picnic areas with benches. Several paths begin in the park, the shortest of which goes round the Åsendammen Lake, and some longer paths go past Odensberg in the south. Many paths lead to the open-air recreation area from the Tokarp, Gråshagen and Mariebo.

**HOW TO GET THERE:** From Åsensvågen there is a sign to Vattenledningsparken. Or take Åsensvågen through Mariebo and turn left after the buildings end. After 500m you are at the western entrance of the open-air recreation area.

**PARKING:** Available in Vattenledningsparken and at the western entrance.

**BUS:** Bus towards Mariebo to Vattenledningsvägen bus stop and walk to the Vattenledningspark. Bus towards Tokarp to Karlavågen bus stop or Norra Tokarp bus stop, walk up to the railway embankment, then paths to the area.

**DIFFICULTY:** ● *Medium*



Boletus erythropus

