



Lake Chillisquaque, an important flood control resource

Lake Chillisquaque in the center of the Montour Environmental Preserve is cooperatively managed with the state Fish and Boat Commission as a self-sustaining fishery. Members of the Pennsylvania Waterways Anglers Association and the Habitat Improvement Division of the commission conduct projects each year to improve the lake's habitat for fish.

Scenic Lake Chillisquaque in the Montour Environmental Preserve is a needed backup water source for the Montour power plant and offers a variety of educational and recreational opportunities, including hiking, nature observation and photography, birding, boating and fishing.

It also provides valuable flood control benefits to the area by storing water that would normally channel into the Chillisquaque Creek during heavy rains.

Montour power plant employees constantly monitor weather conditions to determine the appropriate level for Lake Chillisquaque. Employees slowly release water from the lake shortly before expected periods of high rainfall to increase the lake's storage capacity.

"During heavy rains, we hold back water for as long as possible," said Michael Munroe, Montour plant manager. "On the rare occasions when the lake is full, we have no choice but to perform a controlled release to keep water from overflowing the banks, but even when we have to make those controlled releases, downstream effects are less than they would be if the lake were not there."

The plant works very closely with the Montour County Emergency Management Agency and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection whenever the lake's water levels reach the point when a release of water from the lake becomes mandatory. The releases do not affect the operation of the power plant.

Routine overhauls of plant equipment boost local economy

Keeping Montour's two coal-fired units operating safely and efficiently requires routine maintenance and regular upgrades to plant equipment. Much of this work is carefully scheduled to be completed with a unit shut down for several weeks.

"We recently completed one of our largest overhauls that will improve the efficiency of Unit 2," said Dom Agatone, Montour's outage manager.

This spring, about 600 contract workers, mainly from the local area, joined the ranks of Montour's experienced work force to complete a number of large projects. The influx of contractors boosted the local economy by using local hotels, restaurants and shops.

Recent upgrades included replacing the lower section of the unit's cooling tower, replacing large sections of the boiler, and upgrading the digital control system that displays the status of plant equipment. The digital displays enable plant operators to monitor and control systems throughout the plant from computers in the Control Room.



Emergency drill demonstrates Montour plant employees are prepared

Montour power plant employees demonstrated during an emergency drill held in February that they are prepared to take actions that protect the safety of employees and the public.

Plant employees used new computer equipment to model an emergency event, which requires an accounting of everyone on site.

They also invited a vendor that specializes in environmental cleanups, Minuteman Spill

Response Inc., to participate in the drill. In the past, interactions with the vendor during drills were simulated.

“We were able to promptly account for everyone on site and were able to fine-tune our coordination with the vendor,” said John Tripoli, safety, health and environmental compliance manager for the power plant.

Montour holds emergency drills several times a year to prepare for a variety of events including spills, fire and flooding. Local emergency responders

take part in those drills. Tripoli said they are an important part of the plant’s emergency preparedness and commitment to public safety.

“Our local fire companies and other emergency responders provide a very valuable service to the plant and to the community, and it is a great comfort to know that they are always there should we need them,” Tripoli said.



During the drill, First Aid responders provide initial treatment to workers like Adam Frederick (on the backboard) who pretend to be hurt. First aid team members from left are Dave Brady, Eva Belles and Mark Gulliver.



Do you know this Montour employee?

Rodney Lynn, a lead mechanic at the Montour power plant, has been involved with a variety of community organizations over the years including:

- Chairman of the Montour County’s Relay for Life event for the American Cancer Society this year.
- Scout Master for Boy Scout Troop 33 in Riverside for 29 years until stepping down eight years ago.
- Continues to support Scouting events as needed.
- A certified lay speaker at St. Peter’s United Methodist Church, Riverside.
- Active supporter of the Special Olympics in both Pennsylvania and Maryland, along with his son.

Columbia County United Way thanks PPL, employees

PPL and its employees earned the Presidential Recognition award from the Columbia County United Way for the largest combined corporate and employee contribution to the agency. The combined contributions, pledged during the 2009 campaign, totaled \$88,555. PPL and its employees also contributed more than \$27,000 to the Danville Area United Way.

“The United Way has always been very grateful for the generous

donations from PPL and its employees that will help sustain needed programs throughout this year,” said Teri MacBride, regional community relations director, who received the award on behalf of PPL.

PPL supports United Way agencies across its service territory and in some outlying regions.

John Thomas, president and chief executive officer of the Columbia County United Way presents a certificate to PPL’s Teri MacBride.



PPL gives grants and awards to promote environmental awareness

PPL employees and community organizations are constantly coming up with innovative ways to improve the environment. To help foster creativity and personal responsibility, PPL offers grants and awards for environmental education and innovation.

To encourage environmental awareness among the public, PPL gives educational grants to schools in the communities it serves through its Project Earth Environmental Education Grants program.

Columbia-Montour Area Vocational Technical School and Bloomsburg Christian School each received one of these grants. Students at Columbia-Montour will use the grant to build solar panels that will help generate power for an electronics technology lab. Bloomsburg Christian students will study several local streams and present their findings to a local watershed association.

PPL also offers free energy and environmental programs and hosts school competitions at its environmental preserves. This year, Montour Preserve hosted the Pennsylvania Envirothon in May. PPL is a co-sponsor of the statewide program that involves high school students from all 67 counties in Pennsylvania.

Montour power plant employees recently earned an award at PPL's annual Environmental Forum for their innovative "green" solution to limiting algae in the plant's stormwater retention basins.

The presence of algae can cause the water's pH to become more

continued on p. 4



Bruce Lamotte, a chemical technician for the Montour plant, holds an onion bag filled with straw used in a stormwater retention basin. The basin filters rainwater running off parking lots and field areas before it is discharged into the Chillisquaque Creek.



Plant updates community leaders about improvement projects

PPL employees updated local officials and community leaders about the status of projects and events at the Montour power plant in March.

"Meeting regularly with our Public Advisory Committee is a good way to help community leaders better understand what is happening at the Montour plant and how the plant contributes to the local economy," said Teri MacBride, regional community relations director for the Montour area, who organizes the meeting twice a year.

Plant Manager Michael Munroe kicked off the March meeting with a general update about the plant. He discussed several planned plant improvements that will cost about \$130 million, and how plant work benefits the local economy.

Larry LaBuz, PPL supervisor-Coal Combustion Products, discussed the status of a regulation being developed by the Environmental Protection Agency that could affect how power plants handle byproducts of the coal combustion process.

PPL does not oppose federal regulation of coal combustion products, he said, as long as it preserves options for beneficial use. PPL has been safely using coal ash for beneficial purposes for more than a decade with permission from the state Department of Environmental Protection.

The ability to recycle coal combustion products has enabled PPL to stop using basins for disposal. PPL plans to retire and reclaim the

remaining basins at the Montour plant, with approval and oversight by the state Department of Environmental Resources, in the next couple of years.

Scott Schafer, US Gypsum plant manager, discussed the effects of the economy on the drywall plant and his company's commitment to continuing its presence in the area. Jon Beam, PPL senior naturalist, highlighted upcoming programs at the Montour Preserve. Don Bernhard, PPL manager-Community and Economic Development, shared information about customer choice options for PPL Electric Utilities customers. More information about customer choice can be found at www.pplelectric.com/choice/.

PPL Montour
18 McMichael Rd.
Washingtonville, PA 17884

Environmental awareness

continued from p. 3

acidic than allowed by the Department of Environmental Protection.

Bruce LaMotte, Kathy Maylath, Chris Rinaldi, Jeff Lytle and Catherine Gibson received a Personal Responsibility Award for their low-cost algae control method that does not require power or chemical additives. The simple but effective solution, using barley straw stuffed into onion bags, saves the plant an estimated \$30,000 per year.

“PPL emphasizes personal responsibility and the important role every employee plays in helping the company conduct its business in an environmentally responsible manner,” Plant Manager Michael Munroe said.

PPL has spent more than \$600 million in environmental upgrades to the Montour plant over the past several years, including the scrubbers.

PPL Montour Preserve



Peregrine falcons, once an endangered species, are making a comeback in central Pennsylvania thanks to preserved

habitats like the Montour Preserve. The state Fish and Game Commission recently banded these two chicks.

Try these free environmental education programs PPL offers:

Butterfly Count

Sunday, July 11 - 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Nature Sketching

Saturday, July 17 - 10 a.m. to noon

Wildflowers of Field and Meadow

Saturday, July 31 - 9:30-11 a.m.

You can find more information about programs at: www.pplpreserves.com.

Flocking to online networks

Need a quick way to learn what's happening at PPL's Environmental Preserves?

Sign up for Twitter, a free online service that lets you keep in touch with short messages.

Then follow us at <http://twitter.com/pplpreserves> to get the latest news on how we preserve the land, care for endangered species and habitats, and provide opportunities for people to learn about and enjoy nature's beauty near PPL's generating facilities.

