



PPL manages lake levels to best serve the community

Lake Wallenpaupack serves many interests: electricity generation, flood control, drought relief, tourism and recreation, regional economy, and environmental stewardship.

In keeping with our license from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, lake levels are managed to meet seasonal power demands and provide recreation and flood control.

- We slowly draw down the lake in late winter to increase water storage capability for the expected spring rains and snow melt.
- We raise the lake level in the spring for the summer recreation season.
- Throughout the summer and early fall, we draw down the lake to increase water storage capability for the hurricane season.
- We let the lake level gradually rise from late fall to early winter to retain rain that falls in those months.

Current lake level targets (in feet above sea level) under normal conditions:

January	1,183
February	1,182
March	1,181.5
April	1,182.3
May	1,185.6
June	1,187
July	1,185 - 1,186.5
August	1,183
September	1,181
October	1,179
November	1,181
December	1,182

The top of the spill gates at Lake Wallenpaupack are 1,190 feet above sea level; the walkway across the dam is 1,200 feet above sea level.

Storm moved up fall drawdown

When we change lake levels, we balance varied interests such as recreation, flood control and power generation.

To increase the water storage capability of Lake Wallenpaupack in advance of Tropical Storm Ernesto, PPL lowered the lake level in August 2006 – a week before a scheduled drawdown that had been previously announced for dam maintenance.

“We changed the drawdown plans in view of the weather forecast to increase the lake’s water-storage capacity,” said Paul Canevari, regional community relations director for PPL. “We reduced the lake sooner than planned and right before a major holiday weekend. It’s all part of how we balance varied interests, in this case to enhance flood control.”

The drawdown was to begin after Labor Day to accommodate routine maintenance and testing required by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The commission requires PPL to operate the spill gates through their full travel every five years. Lake front homeowners were notified of the drawdown in advance.

PPL reduced the lake level by generating electricity, even though the power was not needed at the time by the region’s electricity customers, Canevari said. Running the power plant lowers the lake level and increases water-storage capacity because the plant is powered by water from the lake.

The higher lake level in December resulted from the high amount of rainfall in November. Additionally, PPL had only one operating unit available in November as extensive repairs were completed on Generator 1.



Store your dock if you haven't done so

If you haven't removed your dock from the lake by now, please do so. You can store your docks on PPL property above 1,195 feet if you do not need to remove trees, plants and other foliage.

It is possible to store your dock below that elevation, but you must meet certain conditions and have permission from PPL. Owners of residential docks should contact AnnaLisa Black at 570-226-8597 or ablack@pplweb.com. Owners of commercial and community access

docks should contact Frank Gillette at 570-348-1525 or fmgillette@pplweb.com.

The new policy, effective since June 2006, requires you to move your dock and other floating structures to an elevation of at least 1,195 feet above sea level by Dec. 1 or prior to the formation of ice on the lake.

The policy also states that docks may not be placed back in the lake before April 1 or until all ice has melted from the lake.

Wallenpaupack Public Advisory Committee addressing concerns

PPL's Lake Wallenpaupack Public Advisory Committee, which brings together elected officials, community associations, government representatives and local business leaders, is making steady progress on several issues that affect the quality of life of residents in the lake region.

Since forming in November, the committee has addressed issues related to fees for shoreline licensing agreements and permits. The committee also has worked on improving public notification in the event of an unplanned water release.

In addition, the committee has

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Land transfer for visitors' center moving forward

PPL is working with Palmyra Township officials and other groups to give about eight acres of PPL land to the township. The land includes an existing public beach and will be the home of a new lake area visitors' center.

Because the land is part of the federally regulated Lake Wallenpaupack Hydroelectric Project, the transfer requires a detailed application procedure. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has approved the land transfer and is reviewing the application for the visitors' center.

The process is moving forward. We are reviewing information presented by the township concerning sewage treatment. We'll keep you posted on the land transfer.



Pike-Wayne Earth Day Festival

PPL Wallenpaupack Environmental Learning Center

Saturday, April 21, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

<http://www.pikewayneearthday.org/>

Help us celebrate Earth Day. Don't miss this unique learning experience as local conservation groups and PPL join forces to bring you activities and events for all ages throughout the day. Learn more about the organizations in your own backyard and how you can get involved. Please bring your used household batteries, cell phones and printer cartridges to be recycled for good causes. Volunteers of all ages needed. For more information, please contact PPL at 570-251-6196 or pplpreserves@pplweb.com.

Dam passes FERC-mandated test

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the government agency that licenses Lake Wallenpaupack, mandates that PPL test the spill gates at the dam every five years. We took advantage of this regularly scheduled test, which requires lowering the lake level, to inspect the dam and flow line and complete needed maintenance.

The FERC test involves lowering the lake to below the sill of the spill gates. By reducing the lake level, we are able to open the spill gates without releasing water from the lake.

We tested the gate on Oct. 3 using normal electrical power and on Oct. 16 using the emergency generator. No problems were found.

In addition, we took advantage of the lower lake level to inspect the dam, the flow line, the intake to the flow line, the surge tank and turbines.

We also made several improvements that will make this valuable source of renewable energy more efficient.



Operating data

Month	Normal Target Level First of Month (Ft. elevation above sea level)	Actual Level First of Month (Ft. elevation above sea level)	Monthly total Rainfall (inches)	Water Flow for Generation (Billions of gallons)
August	1183.0'	1182.0'	4.75"	4.695 BG
September	1181.0'	1180.3'	5.08"	14.897 BG
October	1179.0'	1176.3'	3.29"	5.185 BG
November	1181.0'	1177.4'	4.71"	7.797 BG
December	1182.0'	1183.7'	1.38"	8.667 BG
January	1183.0'	1182.8'	2.80"	10.390 BG

Shoreline management protects property values



PPL's management of the Lake Wallenpaupack shoreline plays an important part in keeping the lake beautiful and clean for all who use it and protects property values for all front-lot property owners.

We put most of our efforts in the second half of 2006 on processing nonstandard permits and violations. Nonstandard permits are required for work such as dredging of the lake bed, shoreline stabilization and work below the high-water mark.

Because dealing with nonstandard permits delayed the processing of standard shoreline use permit requests, PPL waived the fee for 2006 residential standard shoreline use permits.

This year we will be focusing on issuing standard use shoreline permits for residential front-lot owners and real estate licenses for commercial and community access front-lot property owners on Lake Wallenpaupack.

If you have questions about the Public Lake Use and Shoreline Use Permitting Policy, please call AnnaLisa Black at 570-226-8597 or e-mail ablack@pplweb.com.

Commercial and community access front-lot owners who have not applied for a PPL license agreement should contact Frank Gillette at 570-348-1525 or e-mail fmgillette@pplweb.com

PPL offers cure for cabin fever

PPL's Wallenpaupack Environmental Learning Center is offering fun, family programs to cure your cabin fever. Among the programs that you'll want to get out of the house to attend are:

- **Mammals of Northeast Pennsylvania:** Enjoy the photography of local naturalist and author John Serrao and learn about 56 species of mammals that inhabit our area; 1:30-3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18.
- **Basic Boating Safety Class:** Get an early start on the boating season by taking a safe boating course; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 3.
- **Native American Dance and Drum:** Learn about Native American culture from Frank Little Bear, a musician, artist, professor and member of the Cree Nation; 1:30-3 p.m. Saturday, March 24.

For more information about the programs PPL is offering and to register, visit the Wallenpaupack Environmental Learning Center or contact us at 570-251-6196 or pplpreserves@pplweb.com.

PPL provides these programs as part of PPL Project Earth, an initiative through which the company educates the public about energy resources and the environment.



Advisory Committee

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addressed concerns regarding insurance requirements for use of PPL land and resolved complaints about winter dock storage and gasoline tank requirements.

Still, PPL and the committee members recognize this is just a start. The committee and the company have much more to do.

"While we haven't resolved all the issues, we're making progress and I'm encouraged that PPL has opened a meaningful dialogue to improve emergency communications and establish flood mitigation measures," said Tom Zeterberg of The Lackawaxen River Conservancy.

The committee continues to review various issues that affect shoreline management and the future environmental and economic viability of Lake Wallenpaupack such as flood mitigation, permitting and emergency communication.