

Applications to perform work during the 2011 drawdown accepted until March 31

PPL encourages lake-front property owners who are considering having work done during the drawdown to apply for a nonstandard permit. Applications for the permits are being accepted until March 31.

The drawdown, done every five years, lowers the level of Lake Wallenpaupack about five feet more than normal and enables the company to perform maintenance and testing at the dam and associated facilities. It also gives front-lot owners an opportunity to perform certain work

or activities on PPL property that is not normally accessible. Please remember that all work on PPL-owned property requires prior written approval.

The drawdown is planned to start at the beginning of September 2011 and stops at about an elevation of 1,174 feet in early October.

For more information on the drawdown or the types of work that can be done, contact the Lake Office at 1-877-PPL-LAKE (1-877-775-5253).

Remember: store docks above the normal high water mark

Don't forget to store your docks for the winter above elevation 1,187, which is the high water mark the lake usually reaches by June 1. PPL requires docks to be stored above the lake's high point to prevent them from being frozen in the lake during the winter and damaged during the spring thaw. Broken docks not only represent a loss to their owners, but they also pose a hazard for others using the lake and could potentially damage the hydroelectric dam.

Community spotlight:

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission promotes safe use of lake

Two waterways conservation officers for the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission work hard to help PPL's Lake Wallenpaupack a safe place to enjoy the area's natural beauty.

Curt Tereschak, who lives in Panther Township, has been patrolling the Wallenpaupack area for more than 13 years. He is joined by Bob Plumb of Blooming Grove, who has served the region for four years. Their office is next to PPL's Environmental Learning Center.

The officers are specially trained in all aspects of fisheries conservation and watercraft safety. Although their favorite part of the job is being outdoors on the lake, their focus is on ensuring Lake Wallenpaupack and nearby water sources are used safely and in an environmentally sound manner by the people who come to enjoy them.



Curt Tereschak, left, and Bob Plumb can be reached by calling their regional office at 570-477-5717.

"The officers enforce state laws on Lake Wallenpaupack to help protect public safety and the conservation of natural resources," said Paul Canevari, regional community relations director for the Poconos. "PPL appreciates the



work they do to make sure all of us can use the lake safely.

"They do a great job, and it's up to everyone who uses the lake to obey laws and regulations, and act responsibly so we can continue to enjoy a safe and clean Lake Wallenpaupack," he said.



Keep the lake clean for everyone to enjoy

Help showcase our area's natural beauty by keeping the lake clean for its many visitors and natural inhabitants. Your pride in a clean lake will ensure visitors will return or recommend the spot to others, which helps our economy.

Every summer, PPL partners with the Lake Wallenpaupack Watershed Management District to hold an annual Lake Cleanup Day where front-lot property owners can bring old dock parts and Styrofoam® for disposal. This year's cleanup was held on June 5 and more than 14 tons of dock material was collected including Styrofoam, wood and metal. This year, the organizations also collected and recycled old tires.



"I know many of our local residents truly care about the cleanliness of the lake by the large amount of debris they brought to the cleanup this year," said Katie Lester, manager of community relations for the lake. "I appreciate all of the volunteers and residents who took advantage of the opportunity. Help get the word out so next year's cleanup day will be equally successful."

Kipp Island eagle nest update



This year marked the first known bald eagle nest on Lake Wallenpaupack. Because the bird of prey is federally protected, PPL closed Kipp Island, where the nest was located, until the end of July. Kipp Island is once again open for public recreation.

Because eagles tend to return to the same nest year after year, PPL may need to close the island to public access between Jan. 1 and July 31 as long as the pair continue to breed.

One healthy eaglet was raised and learned to fly in early July. Thank you to everyone who reported sightings and helped protect this majestic national bird.

Do not feed the waterfowl



Lake Wallenpaupack is a beautiful place to live or visit. You may be tempted to feed wild geese and ducks, but what seems like kindness can be very harmful. Not only is feeding these wild birds bad for their health, but it also increases the amount of droppings around the lake, which is harmful to you and your family.

Many birds become sidetracked when they stop to rest in lakes and marshes along their migratory route and start to feed on handouts. Feeding the birds encourages them to become permanent residents, which harms the ecosystem.

One way to avoid having geese on the shoreline is not to mow within 25 feet of the water's edge.

If you care about waterfowl and public health, do not feed the geese or ducks.

Have you met Heather Hopkins?

A land management contractor at Lake Wallenpaupack for the past five years, Heather Hopkins was hired earlier this year as PPL's new Lake Wallenpaupack policy supervisor.

Hopkins is responsible for upholding PPL's Public Lake Use and Shoreline Use Policy and conducting shoreline inspections of the lake, often with help from summer college interns. She is also responsible for handling all standard and nonstandard permitting and meeting with front-lot owners.

"Complying with PPL's lake and shoreline use policy is important because it protects the environmental, recreational and scenic integrity of the shoreline," she said. "I appreciate the cooperation and support of front-lot owners in preserving this great resource."

Over the past three years, the office has been performing full inspections of front-lot properties.



"Our new federal license requires us to do more inspections and follow up more effectively with front-lot property owners than in the past," she said. "Compliance inspections are an important and necessary part of managing Lake Wallenpaupack and in meeting the requirements of our license."

When problems are found during inspections, the lake office sends letters to front-lot property owners about items that need to be brought into compliance with PPL's

policy and licensing requirements.

"We've increased our efforts to reach out personally to neighbors over the past couple years and we will continue that effort," she said.

Hopkins' office is on the lower level of the Environmental Learning Center, in the PPL lake office. To make an appointment to speak with her about a question or concern you have, please contact the office at 1-877-PPL-LAKE (1-877-775-5253) or e-mail hhopkins@pplweb.com.

E-mail List

Would you like to be notified by e-mail about upcoming workshops held by the Lake Office? Please contact us with your e-mail address at 1-877-775-5253 or lakewallenpaupack@pplweb.com.

Did you know?

Children in the 1930s made ice cream using icicles that formed from leaks in the old wooden flow line. The wooden flow line was replaced in the mid-1950s by a steel line.

New Lake Wallenpaupack trail now open to the public

Residents and visitors to the Lake Wallenpaupack area have another way to catch wildlife in action and enjoy the natural beauty of the area. A new joint walking trail near the lake was officially opened to the public this summer.

"The new trail offers nature lovers another way to enjoy the many benefits of our local area," said Eric Ehrhardt, supervisor for Palmyra Township in Pike County. "We appreciate the help from everyone who supported and built the trail."

The 2.1-mile-long trail is composed of two shorter trails, one built by the township and one by PPL. PPL's trail is called Wallenpaupack Creek Trail and connects directly to the township trail,

called Wallenpaupack Lake Trail.

"We're pleased to have had the opportunity to work with the township to provide another way for visitors and residents to enjoy the lake area, and add to the lake's many contributions to the local economy," said Paul Canevari, PPL's regional community relations director for the Poconos who attended the ceremony. "Building the trail is one example of PPL's commitment to work with communities surrounding the Wallenpaupack hydroelectric plant."

Signs along the trail offer information about local history, the environment, and the creation of electricity from a clean and renewable resource.



PPL's Regional Community Relations Director Paul Canevari, left, and Manager of Community Relations Katie Lester join Eric Ehrhardt, supervisor for Palmyra Township in Pike County, on the new trail.



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Lake Wallenpaupack Environmental Preserve

Soak Up the Sun

Wednesday, Oct. 6, 6-7:30 p.m.

Presenters: Steve Gelderman, CalCat Solar,
and Meg Welker, PPL

PPL Wallenpaupack Environmental Learning Center Auditorium

Wondering about solar energy and how it can work in our region? What happens on a cloudy day or during the winter? Have you heard about state and federal incentives and want to know more about Solar options? All of these questions and more can be answered by Steve Gelderman, certified Pennsylvania Sunshine Solar PV installer and owner of CalCat Solar. Also learn about electric choice and PPL's programs to help customers save energy and money over a cup of coffee and a sweet treat. After the presentation, you are invited to visit East Shore Lodging's solar panels that were installed in June. They are just down the road across from the Tafton Dike. For more information, visit www.calcatsolar.com. This program is free and open to the public. No registration necessary. For more information, contact Meg Welker at 570-253-7076.

The Science of Snow

Thursday, Dec. 9, 6-7 p.m.

Carissa Longo, environmental educator

PPL Wallenpaupack Environmental Learning Center Auditorium

As winter's chill descends, some may celebrate while others are bracing themselves for what is to come. Bring your children and join Carissa Longo, environmental educator, to investigate the science behind snow. We'll experience some hands-on activities to learn how blubber protects animals from the cold, how to preserve snowflakes and make our very own edible snowflake. Leave your snowsuits at home because this program will be held indoors. This program is free and open to the public. No registration necessary. For more information, contact Meg Welker at 570-253-7076.

Hold the date:

Saturday, March 5, 9-11 a.m., 2011 Drawdown Workshop for Contractors. (Front-lot owners welcome to attend.)

Tuesday, March 22, 9-11 a.m., Realtors Workshop.

To register for either of these free workshops, contact Katie Lester at PPL at 570-251-6196.