

Operations at Lake Wallenpaupack met the many weather challenges

Although the wet and wild weather in late summer and fall altered operational plans at Lake Wallenpaupack, the hydroelectric power plant proved its effectiveness in helping manage the lake level and storage capacity from heavy rain and storm runoff.

"PPL manages Lake Wallenpaupack for a variety of purposes year-round in ways that best serve the entire Lackawaxen and upper Delaware watersheds," said Paul Canevari, PPL community relations director for the Pocono region.

"The scheduled drawdown of the lake, to conduct required testing of the dam and related facilities, had to be postponed because of September's rainfall and high water levels," he said. "In preparation for those storms, we operated both units at its Lake Wallenpaupack hydroelectric plant to keep the lake elevation as low as possible to allow for greater water storage capacity."

After each of the two major rainfalls, PPL released some of the stored water from the lake in a controlled manner through the spillway gates, first to restore the lake to the level it was at before Hurricane Irene, then to allow for the inspection

and maintenance work required under the license granted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

The heavy rain delayed the drawdown until early October.

"We had to wait until Mother Nature cooperated with us, but we managed to bring the lake down a bit to allow lake-front property owners to do maintenance and enable the company to complete required inspections under its federal operating license," Canevari said. "We appreciate the cooperation and understand-

ing of our shoreline neighbors during the ever-changing weather earlier this year."

PPL created the 5,700-acre lake in northeastern Pennsylvania when it built the 44-megawatt power plant in 1926. The dam is 1,275 feet long and 70 feet high. Water from the lake travels to the power plant through a 3.5-mile pipeline that is more than 14 feet in diameter.

In addition to its role as a source of renewable energy generation, the man-made lake is a popular location for year-round outdoor recreation.



Community spotlight

Game Commission conservation officers

Helping to keep the lake region a safe place to enjoy the area's natural resources are two wildlife conservation officers for the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

Jim McCarthy, who lives in the Prompton area, has been assigned to this area for more than eight years. He covers part of Wayne, Lackawanna and Pike counties. His partner, Mark Kropa of Greentown, has served the northern Pike County area for three years. Their regional office is in Dallas, Pa.

Once known as game wardens, wildlife conservation officers dedicate their lives to enforcing the laws that protect our natural resources and regulate outdoor recreation. They are assigned a district of about 600 square miles and primarily enforce Pennsylvania's game and wildlife code and federal laws and state regulations governing natural resource conservation.

In the northeast region of Pennsylvania, wildlife abounds so it helps to have someone available to handle nuisance wildlife complaints, provide conservation education and administer the Hunter-Trapper Education Program.

"The officers enforce state laws in the region to ensure public safety and the conservation of natural resources," said Paul Canevari, PPL's regional community relations director for the Poconos. "PPL appreciates the work they do to make sure all of us can use the wonderful resource safely."



Wildlife Conservation Officers Mark Kropa, left, and Jim McCarthy can be reached by calling their regional office at 570-675-1143.

New license agreements

In March, all current commercial and community access license agreements will expire. PPL will be renewing the license agreements for another five-year term. They will be sent out in late 2011 for review and signature by the owner/president of each property.

The new licenses will include minor formatting changes to make it easier to understand your permitted uses on PPL property. There will also be minor insurance changes for certain properties. All properties with insurance changes were notified by letter in May 2011. PPL's rates will remain the same.

Automobiles and trucks not permitted on ice

As a reminder, automobiles and trucks are not permitted on the ice. With water being drawn out from underneath for hydroelectric power throughout the winter, the ice is not safe to drive a vehicle on. Please stay safe and keep vehicles off the ice.

Cabela's contest lured anglers to Lake Wallenpaupack

For fishing enthusiasts, this spring and summer offered another incentive, possibly worth \$1 million, for anglers to dip their lines in Lake Wallenpaupack, a 5,700-acre lake in the heart of Pennsylvania's Pocono Mountains that provides the water to power PPL's Wallenpaupack hydroelectric plant.

The lake was part of the nationwide "Wanna' Go Fishing for Millions?" contest sponsored by Cabela's, a leading outfitter of hunting, fishing and outdoor equipment. The contest ended July 14.

Lake Wallenpaupack was one of eight lakes in Pennsylvania and one of 67 bodies of water nationwide in the Cabela's contest that was stocked with fish bearing prize-winning tags. Anglers from across the country searched the waters for a fish with a \$1 million tag and other tagged fish that qualified for other valuable prizes.

According to Cabela's, more than 17,000 anglers registered for the contest in Pennsylvania. One lucky angler caught a tagged smallmouth bass worth \$900 in Lake Wallenpaupack

Don't forget to store docks above normal high water mark

Thank you to everyone who has been doing a great job storing your docks in winter above elevation 1,187 (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 also pose a hazard for others using the lake and could potentially damage the hydroelectric dam.

The need to store things above the normal high water mark was never more evident than the rainfall received at the end of last September, when more than 6 inches of rain fell. Because most docks were stored properly, the amount of debris in the lake was kept at a minimum. Most of the docks



that were floating around the lake were marked with their PPL permit number, so the owner was contacted to retrieve them.

Please continue to ensure that docks are stored properly in the winter months.

Kipp Island eagle nest update

A local eagle pair made Lake Wallenpaupack their home once again this year. Because the species is federally protected, PPL closed Kipp Island, where the nest was located, until the end of July. Kipp Island is now once again open for public recreation.

Two healthy eaglets were raised and learned to fly in early July. Thank you to everyone who reported sightings and helped protect this majestic national bird.





PPL Lake Wallenpaupack
PO Box 122
Hawley, PA 18428
lakewallenpaupack@pplweb.com
1-877-775-5253

For more information about PPL programs at Lake Wallenpaupack , visit www.pplpreserves.com.

Motorized versus non-motorized watercraft

Many front-lot owners this summer placed small watercrafts such as kayaks, catamarans, jet skis and rowboats on the shoreline as well as wooden rails or boat cradles. Placing these types of items below the normal high water mark of the lake is an obstruction of the shoreline and is not permitted under PPL's policies.

As a compromise, PPL is willing to allow non-motorized watercraft and boat cradles to remain on the shore during the summer months. When not in use for long periods of time, these items should be placed inland of the normal high water mark or removed from PPL property. All items of this nature must be removed from PPL property during the winter season.

If the watercraft is motorized (such as small fishing boats or jet skis), the watercraft must be placed on the dock or removed from PPL property altogether. Motorized watercraft may not be beached on the shoreline.

Please note that jet ski ramps, when attached to a dock, are included in the overall width or length, as noted on your Standard Shoreline Use Permit or License Agreement, so it is important that they do not cause the dock to go over that size. Community access or commercial front-lot owners should be reminded that all motorized watercraft (such as small fishing boats or jet skis) are counted in your total number of permissible slips, as permitted on your License Agreement.

PPL will limit the number of non-motorized watercraft that are being placed on the shoreline if the number is excessive and is causing a major obstruction of the shoreline or other safety issues.

