



## Frequently Asked Questions

### PPL's Public Lake Use and Shoreline Use Permitting Policy

Under its FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) license, it is PPL's policy to manage its lands and waters at Lake Wallenpaupack in accordance with federal, state and local laws and ordinances; to protect the scenic, recreational and environmental values of the lake; and to restrict the uses of its lands and waters to promote their full use and enjoyment by the general public.

Listed below are some of the most frequently asked questions regarding our policy. For an online copy of the policy, please visit [www.pplweb.com/ppl+generation/hydro+plants/ppl+wallenpaupack.htm](http://www.pplweb.com/ppl+generation/hydro+plants/ppl+wallenpaupack.htm).

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#### General

**1. What is the difference between the PPL Project Line (FERC Boundary) and the normal high water mark?**

In most locations, PPL owns the basin of the lake and a strip of land that runs along the edge of Lake Wallenpaupack. The strip of land owned by PPL around Lake Wallenpaupack is not always the same width. The PPL Project Line is the same as the FERC Boundary in *most* locations around Lake Wallenpaupack.

The normal high water mark is the level that the lake normally reaches by June 1 of each year (Elevation 1187).

**2. I heard that the PPL property fronting my property was inspected. How do I find out the results of that inspection?**

Inspection results are normally in writing and are sent to you by mail.

**3. How does PPL measure land encroachments?**

When measuring land encroachments, PPL takes into consideration the total encroachment on PPL property. For instance, when measuring a path, any border placed along the sides of the path is included in the total measurement.

**4. What are the guidelines for burning on PPL property?**

Any fire burned on PPL property must be contained in a loose stone fire pit or circle. Burning in the fire pit or circle is subject to local ordinances and restrictions. Only natural materials such as leaves and vegetation matter may be burned on PPL property. Any burning of garbage or household waste in the fire circle is strictly prohibited. Burning is not permitted below the normal high-water mark (Elevation 1187) of the lake. The fire pit or circle must not exceed a total encroachment size of 4 feet wide by 4 feet long and 1 foot high.

**5. What does it mean to allow something to "naturally regress"?**

To allow something to return to its original state over time.

**6. Am I allowed to store gasoline on my dock?**

The storage of gasoline, oil, propane or any other combustible material is strictly prohibited on docks or on PPL property for environmental as well as safety reasons.

**7. Why does PPL prohibit the use of winches on its property?**

Because PPL's property is open to the public, winches pose a safety hazard. They are only permitted along with medical verification that they are necessary. They must be installed inland of the normal high water mark (Elevation 1187) and be mounted on wooden posts at a height no higher than 24 inches.

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| <b>Vegetation - Tree Removal - Landscaping</b> |
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**8. What do I do if there is a dead tree(s) on PPL property?**

If there is a dead tree on PPL property that might affect a home or other structure, please contact PPL's consulting forester to arrange a site visit. Dangerous trees or limbs as determined by our forester will be removed by PPL. Any other vegetation that might affect a permitted encroachment must be assessed by the PPL forester. When appropriate, a permit will be issued to the eligible front-lot owner authorizing the removal. Front-lot owner is financially responsible for removal, once permit is issued.

**9. Do I need a permit to remove vegetation within the lake?**

For any issues pertaining to vegetation removal, PPL's consulting forester must be contacted.

**10. As a front-lot owner, how can I possibly improve my view from my home at Lake Wallenpaupack?**

Under PPL's vegetation removal permit system, there are two types of "vista view" permits granted to improve a front-lot owner's view of the lake. Front-lot owners can request one of the following:

- Ground level to 10' - This permit will allow front-lot owners to remove side branches on trees located on PPL land up to 10' above ground level to the extent of their frontage on PPL land as long as it does not affect the health of the specific trees.
- 12' X 12' window - This permit will allow front-lot owners to remove side branches on specific trees located on PPL land to provide an open window measuring 12' square through the forest canopy to obtain a specific view of the lake as long as it does not affect the health of trees in question.

This is the only vegetation-related permit that has a cost associated with issuance. The cost of this permit is \$60, payable when the forester visits the site. Please contact PPL's consulting forester to arrange a site visit.

**11. Can I spray herbicide on PPL property?**

Yes, herbicides containing glyphosate (brand name Roundup) can be used on PPL property but it **requires a vegetation removal permit**. Please contact PPL's consulting forester.

**12. What do I do with all the leaves on PPL property?**

The raking of leaves into the lake basin, i.e. below the normal high-water mark (Elevation 1187) of the lake, is prohibited for environmental reasons. Once in the water, leaves break down and release nutrients which promote excessive algae growth. The leaves can be burned in a loose stone fire pit or circle, raked, or completely removed from PPL property.

**13. Why does PPL not allow its property to be landscaped?**

While PPL can appreciate the aesthetic effect that landscaping can have for a property, PPL's goal for its property is to keep the lake and its surrounding land looking as natural as possible and to preserve the natural beauty that surrounds Lake Wallenpaupack. Broadcasting wood chips, mulch or gravel across PPL property or planting vegetation which is non-native to this area does not preserve that natural beauty nor does it help to maintain the aesthetic character of the project lands; therefore these actions are not permitted.

## Water Uses (docks, mooring buoys and floats)

### 14. How does PPL measure docks? (see sketch illustrating width vs. length)

A maximum dock length of 50 feet per front-lot property is permitted, unless otherwise limited by PPL in the Standard Shoreline Use Permit. Dock length may be limited due to restricted water space. This length is measured from the beginning of the first section containing flotation. The width of the dock is dependent on the front-lot property width at the PPL Property Line. Please refer to table in the “Shoreline Use Permitting Policy”.



### 15. How is the distance between neighboring front-lot owners docks measured?

PPL requires that the dock must be positioned as close as possible to the midpoint of the property. If the dock cannot be placed near the centerline, positioning must be done so as to not impose upon the water frontage of adjacent front-lot owners. PPL will not mediate such disagreements.

### 16. Where do I display the yellow permit tag provided by PPL? Why do I have to mark all sections of my dock, mooring buoy and float with a permit number?

Your yellow permit tag must be affixed to the front of your dock facing the lake. Your permit number must also be displayed on each section of dock as well as any mooring buoy or float. It is the front-lot owner’s responsibility to find the means to mark all permitted water based uses.

All sections of docks, mooring buoys and floats must be clearly marked with a PPL permit number for identification purposes as well as in instances where dock pieces break free and are found to be floating in the lake. PPL can then notify the rightful owner when dock is found.

### 17. I never received a yellow permit tag from PPL, how do I get one?

Please call the PPL Lake Office at 1-877-775-5253. In the meantime, it is the front-lot owner’s responsibility to find the means to mark all permitted water based uses.

### 18. Are personal watercraft (i.e. Jet Ski) docks/ramps included in the total permissible width of my dock?

Yes, front-lot property owners are permitted to install a personal watercraft, i.e. Jet Ski, lift or ramp onto docks as long as the ramp or lift does not extend beyond the permitted dock width as described in the Standard Shoreline Use Permit.

### 19. When do docks and other water encroachments need to be removed from the lake and when can they be put back in?

Docks and other floating structures, i.e. floats and mooring buoys, must be removed from the lake by Dec. 1 and shall not be placed back in the lake prior to April 1.

### 20. I have a floating trampoline. Do I need a permit to put it in the lake?

Yes, a Standard Shoreline Use Permit is required to have a floating trampoline in the lake. Please refer to “Shoreline Use Permitting Policy” for size limits. In addition to a PPL permit, a Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) Floating Structures Permit is required prior to placement of a float in Lake Wallenpaupack because of navigational considerations. The PFBC must be contacted directly. To contact them, please call 570-477-5717 or visit them online at [www.fish.state.pa.us](http://www.fish.state.pa.us).

### 21. I have shallow water at the end of my dock, what can I do?

If you have less than 4 feet of water at the end of your permitted dock, you may qualify for a dock extension. To apply, contact the PPL Lake Office at 1-877-775-5253. Dock extension agreements require PPL to make a site visit to take a depth measurement. Since this service is at your request, there is a \$75 non-refundable fee charged.

**22. I cannot store my dock above Elevation 1187, what can I do?**

Under no circumstance does PPL allow docks to be stored below 1,187 feet (normal high water mark). Alternative arrangements will need to be made.

**23. If I purchase a lakefront property, will I qualify for the same size dock as the previous owner?**

As long as the current property owner is in compliance with PPL's Standard Shoreline Use Permit, the new owner may qualify for the same size dock. The new owner must apply for permits in their name and applications are reviewed on an individual basis. Permits are not automatically transferred to new owners.

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| <b>Permits</b> |
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**24. What is covered under a Standard Shoreline Use Permit?**

This type of permit allows, where applicable, standard land uses as well as a dock, mooring buoy, and float. Standard land uses include gravel or loose stone path, wooden or loose stone steps, wooden or loose stone patio, loose stone fire pit, shoreline lighting, a storage box, and a reasonable amount of lawn furniture. All of these standard uses must be installed inland of the normal high water mark. Standard land uses are subject to the additional requirements in the "Shoreline Use Permitting Policy".

**25. Why do I need a Nonstandard Shoreline Use Permit?**

Front-lot owners interested in doing any work below the normal high water mark or any work which causes more than minor earth disturbances on PPL property requires a Nonstandard Shoreline Use Permit. Examples include, but are not limited to, steps and gravel paths below the normal high water mark and loose stone walls at the normal high water mark. A \$300 non-refundable application fee applies. In most cases, federal, state or local regulatory approval and/or permits will be required.

**26. I have shoreline erosion and would like to do repairs. What approvals or authorizations do I need?**

Front-lot owners may want to install certain structures on PPL property for the purposes of stabilizing the shoreline in order to maintain the aesthetic character of PPL lands fronting their property. To begin this process, you must apply for a PPL Nonstandard Shoreline Use Permit. A \$300 non-refundable application fee applies. As with other nonstandard property uses, the front-lot property owner must acquire additional necessary federal, state and local permits prior to receiving PPL permission for these structures.

**27. When I am paying for my permit fee, can I write instructions or requests on the invoice stub?**

No. For any correspondence pertaining to your invoice and payment, please send separately to PPL Lake Office, P.O. Box 122, Hawley, PA 18428. Examples of this are address change notifications, requests to cancel an item on the invoice, or any other notes pertaining to the shoreline permit invoice.

**28. If I request cancellation of one or more permissions on my Standard Shoreline Use Permit, can I get them back at a later time?**

Once individual permission(s) are removed from your Standard Shoreline Use Permit, they can only be re-activated by your submission and PPL approval of a PPL Application for Permit form. An application fee of \$150 will be assessed to this request (this fee is in addition to the permit fees).