



LAKE WALLENPAUPACK



# NEWS

Spring 2008

## Lake Wallenpaupack valuable flood control resource for region

Record-setting levels of precipitation recently have highlighted the role Lake Wallenpaupack plays in helping control flooding along the Lackawaxen and upper Delaware watersheds.

PPL uses Lake Wallenpaupack to balance many interests. Besides flood control, the lake also provides drought relief, recreation and a source of clean, renewable energy.

PPL manages the lake in a way that best serves the entire watershed.

In the late winter and early spring, lake levels are kept low so that the lake can hold more water from heavy rains and snow melt. During the recent rainy period, PPL operated the Wallenpaupack hydroelectric plant to help manage lake level and maintain the capacity to store water. The hydroelectric plant helps control the lake level because it uses water from the lake to generate electricity.

In addition, PPL has been discussing water level management, flood mitigation and other issues with an advisory panel of key community leaders and area residents and officials.

## Pike-Wayne Earth Day Festival

Spend a day having fun at PPL's Wallenpaupack Environmental Learning Center when the Pike-Wayne Earth Day Festival returns from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 19.

Don't miss this unique learning experience as PPL and local conservation groups join forces to bring you activities and events for all ages throughout the day.

PPL is co-sponsoring this event, where you can learn more about the organizations in your backyard and how

you can get involved.

Activities include a kayaking demonstration, geocaching, bird walks, butterfly puppet shows and a recycling relay.

The festival will feature numerous displays, food and refreshments. The event will be held rain or shine.

Volunteers are needed. For more information, contact PPL at 570-251-6196 or [pplpreserves@pplweb.com](mailto:pplpreserves@pplweb.com).

The PPL Wallenpaupack Environmental Learning Center is off Route 6 near Hawley, Pa. The entrance is just east of the intersection of Routes 590 and 6. The educational center is operated in conjunction with PPL's Wallenpaupack hydroelectric plant.

In addition to PPL, sponsors of the Pike-Wayne Earth Day Festival are DCNR-Promised Land State Park, Delaware Highlands Conservancy, Himalayan Institute, Lacawac Sanctuary, Lake Wallenpaupack Watershed Management District, Mariposa Gardens, National Park Service-Upper Delaware, Northeast Pennsylvania Audubon Society, Northeast Sports, Pike County Conservation District, Pocono Avian Research Center, Pocono Greens, Wallenpaupack High School, Wallenpaupack Historical Society and Wayne County Master Gardeners.

Earth Day at PPL ...  
**Empowering**  
you to make  
a difference.





# Spring is in the air

## *Arrival of cliff swallows signals new season*

Spring is in the air and that means we'll soon be spotting cliff swallows at Lake Wallenpaupack, where they build their nest on the Wallenpaupack Dam.

Cliff swallows are small, long-winged songbirds measuring about 5 inches in height. They have dark throats and orange rumps.

These small birds spend their winters in South America. In late winter and early spring they begin their northward migration through Central America and Mexico.

Swallows migrate during the day and catch flying insects

along the way. They will not visit regions unless temperatures are warm enough – 60 to 70 degrees Fahrenheit or warmer – for flying insects to be available for food.

Arriving here in late spring, the cliff swallows spend their days eating insects off the surface of the lake.

Although the cliff swallow can nest solitarily, it usually nests in colonies. Colonies tend to be small in the East, but farther west they can number up to 3,500 nests in one spot. Their gourd-shaped nests are usually placed under an overhang and are made of mud pellets, with a small entrance tunnel on one side.

## Requesting permit changes? Here's how

To request additional permits, residential owners should submit an application for Shoreline Use Permits indicating the changes and additions requested.

There's no need to request permission for encroachments if you already have a permit. To cancel a permit, submit a notice to PPL in writing.

For more information or to obtain a permit application, please contact AnnaLisa Black at 1-877-775-5253 or [ablack@pplweb.com](mailto:ablack@pplweb.com).

Commercial and community access front-lot owners who would like to make changes to license agreements should contact Frank Gillette at 570-348-1525 or [fmgillette@pplweb.com](mailto:fmgillette@pplweb.com).

In addition, annual bills for residential permits for 2007 and 2008 will be mailed soon.

Commercial and community access front-lot owners who have been issued license agreements have already received invoices for 2007 and should expect 2008 invoices soon.



## Don't forget to display dock permits

Please display your permit numbers on permitted and licensed docks. PPL provides a tag to be placed on a section of the dock where it will be visible from a boat on the lake.

Owners are responsible for marking the remaining sections of the dock with the PPL permit number.

# Walk on the **WILD SIDE**

The PPL Wallenpaupack Environmental Learning Center has plenty to offer nature enthusiasts who want to learn about wildlife at the lake and beyond.

Some of the programs this spring include:

## **Cougars in the Northeast**

**1:30-3 p.m. Saturday, April 12**

Cougars are leaving their known range in the West and are heading across the prairies, especially through river valleys in search of habitat, cover and food. But besides the Florida panther, are there really cougars that exist east of the Mississippi River? Discuss this controversial mystery with Kerry Gyekis, vice president of the Eastern Cougar Foundation. Registration is required. To register, contact PPL at 570-251-6196 or [pplpreserves@pplweb.com](mailto:pplpreserves@pplweb.com).

## **Waterfowl of Pennsylvania**

**1:30-3 p.m. Sunday, May 18**

Discover the world of waterfowl at this presentation by wildlife technologist, John Levitsky. Learn how to identify various water birds in the area including resident and migratory ducks and geese. Hear about the Pennsylvania Game Commission's work to band these birds. Enjoy some good photos and even better stories.

## **Ledgesdale Mushroom Walk**

**1:30-3 p.m. Saturday, June 14**

Enjoy this leisurely walk with local herbalist, Nathaniel Whitmore, as he identifies local mushrooms found in PPL's Ledgesdale Natural Area. Whitmore will discuss how to differentiate between poisonous and nonpoisonous mushrooms, and in what types of environments they can be found. With any luck, the moist weather has brought an array of mushrooms in this old hemlock forest. Local wild edible plants will also be discussed. This program will meet at the Ledgesdale Natural Area.

All programs are free and will be held at the PPL Wallenpaupack Environmental Center, unless otherwise noted. Registration is required.

For more information about the programs PPL is offering and to register, contact us at 570-251-6196 or [pplpreserves@pplweb.com](mailto:pplpreserves@pplweb.com).

To learn more about the programs and activities available at all of PPL's environmental preserves, visit [www.pplpreserves.com](http://www.pplpreserves.com).





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# We have a new phone number

The Lake Wallenpaupack office now has a toll-free number you can call to contact the lake superintendent or the permit office: **1-877-PPL-LAKE** (1-877-775-5253).



**Normal lake level targets for the next quarter are:**

<b>March 1</b>	1,181.5
<b>April 1</b>	1,182.3
<b>May 1</b>	1,185.6
<b>June 1</b>	1,187