



LAKE WALLENPAUPACK



NEWS

Fall 2009

Meet PPL's new manager of community relations at Lake Wallenpaupack

Katie Lester, a familiar face at the Lake Wallenpaupack and the Environmental Learning Center, has been named PPL's manager of community relations for Lake Wallenpaupack.

A PPL naturalist at Lake Wallenpaupack for the past four years and a resident of Honesdale, Lester has led programs for the public and local schoolchildren about the lake and the wildlife and recreational opportunities.

While remaining devoted to the lake's natural resources, her new, expanded duties will also include the management of PPL's shoreline program and streamlining the permitting process for residents living on the lake.

Lester will also manage the operation and maintenance of the Wallenpaupack Environmental Learning Center as well as

PPL's local trails for hiking, bird watching, photography and public enjoyment of the scenery.

She will also continue to assist with program planning, school trips, and tours of the hydroelectric plant and dam.

"I'm looking forward to embarking on this new adventure and working with all of our neighbors at the lake," she said. "I love spending time at Lake Wallenpaupack and want to be sure that it's kept as clean and safe as possible for the public to enjoy."

Lester's office is located on the upper level of the learning center, above the



Katie Lester

lake office. Please feel free to drop by and introduce yourself. She can be reached by e-mailing kelester@pplweb.com.



Osprey family grows, thrives

Our resident osprey pair were again successful in raising their family here in the lake region.

This year was the first time they used the new nest on the opposite end of the dam, nearest to the Wallenpaupack Environmental Learning Center. Three healthy – and vocal – hatchlings were raised. They learned to fly in mid-July.

This fall, the pair will begin their migration south for the winter, hopefully to return again around March to April.



Protecting shoreline is everyone's responsibility

During the 2009 season, 521 full inspections and 352 follow-up inspections were completed by PPL lake office staff.

Violations were found on nearly three out of four properties inspected. See below for a list of the top five violations found. For details on these items, please refer to the Public Lake Use and Shoreline Use Permitting Policy. It is available at www.pplweb.com by clicking About < PPL Generating Plants < Wallenpaupack.

If you don't have Internet access and need a copy of the policy book, you can call the lake office at 1-877-PPL-LAKE.

Top 5 violations:

- Permit tags or permit numbers not displayed on dock, float or buoy.
- Oversized docks.
- Debris on PPL property.
- Oversized paths.
- Burning violations (uncontrolled, below normal high water mark or oversize fire pits).

Shoreline is open for public use

Don't forget that most of PPL's lands around the lake are open for public use, including the shoreline property between private homes and water's edge.

This policy is required by the terms of PPL's license with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and in keeping with PPL's public-use policy of the lake. Front-lot owners may not post or otherwise attempt to prevent the public from using PPL's property.

"We strive to maintain the land and natural resources around the lake for everyone's enjoyment and safety," said Katie Lester, PPL's community relations manager at the lake. "We value the cooperation of our neighbors to make sure the lake and its many resources are used responsibly."

Enjoy the color and natural bounty of autumn

Fall is full of beauty, with bright leaves lighting the landscape.



Waterfowl migration peaks around the second week of November, and later in the month black bears enter their winter dens. About mid-December, listen for great horned owls hooting as they establish territories. Check out the Nature Notebook for other events you can observe outside. Visit www.pplpreserves.com and click on "Nature Notebook."

You can also learn about the natural world in the lake community at PPL's Wallenpaupack Environmental Learning Center, adjacent to the dam on Route 6 in Hawley and operated in connection with the Wallenpaupack hydro-electric plant. In 1926, PPL completed construction of the Wallenpaupack dam and power plant, located along the Lackawaxen River. In addition to its capacity to generate 44 megawatts of electricity, the 5,700-acre man-made lake plays a critical role in regional water management and is a popular location for year-round outdoor recreation. Camping, hiking, fishing, boating and water-skiing are just some of the attractions.

For more information, please call 570-253-7076 or e-mail pplpreserves@pplweb.com.

Lakewatch celebrates 10 years

Congratulations to Lakewatch for celebrating its 10th anniversary of patrolling Lake Wallenpaupack and encouraging safe boating.

The group, which began in 1999, is led by volunteers and strives to maintain a safe environment out on the big lake.

"With the ever-growing population in the area, it helps to have a great organization like Lakewatch out there assisting people," said Katie Lester, PPL's community relations manager at Lake Wallenpaupack. "The group works very closely with the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission and the Tafton Fire Company to assist with issues ranging from broken down boats to radio communications."

She said Lakewatch has made great strides in serving the boating public. However, it continues to need additional volunteers. If you have a few extra hours a month to commit to help monitor lake activities, contact Andy Anderson at 570-689-2266.



Remember to store your docks by Dec. 1

Front-lot owners are reminded that docks should be removed by Dec. 1. You can store your dock on PPL property above 1,195 feet if you do not need to remove trees, plants and other vegetation.

For permission to store your dock below that elevation, please contact PPL at 1-877-775-5253. Under no circumstance does PPL allow docks to be stored below 1,187 feet (normal high water mark).

The lake policy, which has been in place for many years to protect the shoreline, states that you must move your dock and other floating structures to an elevation of at least 1,195 feet above sea level by Dec. 1 or before ice forms on the lake. Docks should not be put back in the lake before April 1 or until all ice has melted from the lake.



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Lake Wallenpaupack Environmental Preserve

Geocaching

Saturday, Nov. 7 10-11:30 a.m.

PPL Wallenpaupack Environmental Learning Center

Presenter: Katie Lester, PPL

A treasure hunt for the 21st century, geocaching is a trend growing in popularity with the increasing availability of handheld GPS devices. Join Katie Lester as she shows you firsthand what geocaching is and how to get involved. Take a relaxing hike to a nearby cache to see what treasures await you.

There will be some GPS units available to borrow. This free program will be held rain or shine. For directions, please visit www.pplpreserves.com, click on "Lake Wallenpaupack," then select "Directions."

Creatures of the Night

Saturday, Nov. 7, 1:30-3 p.m.

PPL Wallenpaupack Environmental Learning Center

Presenter: Pocono Wildlife Rehabilitation Center

Learn more about some of the animals that venture out when most of us are fast asleep during this program from 1:30-3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 7, at PPL's Wallenpaupack Environmental Learning Center. Kathy Uhler of the Pocono Wildlife Rehabilitation Center will bring her furry friends to demonstrate some of the adaptations they have developed to help them get around easier in the dark. This program is free; however, attendees are encouraged to make a small donation to aid the recovery of the Pocono Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, which was damaged by a tornado in July. For directions to this event, please visit www.pplpreserves.com, click on "Lake Wallenpaupack" then select "Directions."