



New era of environmental commitment begins at PPL Montour



The first of two scrubbers at PPL's Montour power plant began operating in March, signaling a new chapter in PPL's commitment to the environment and to the long-term viability of this major coal-fired generating plant.

The second scrubber will begin operating in the near future.

The scrubbers remove up to 97 percent of sulfur dioxide from plant emissions. Sulfur dioxide is a byproduct of coal combustion that contributes to the formation of acid rain.

Michael Munroe, plant manager, said it took extraordinary hard work and cooperation among Montour plant employees, PPL Generation's Engineering And Construction group, and contractors to bring the project in on schedule.

"Everyone here at Montour is looking forward to their role in improving air

quality by reducing emissions from the plant," Munroe said. "I'd like to commend the excellent effort of PPL employees and all of the workers who contributed to getting the system constructed and running on schedule."

For area residents, the most visible change at Montour since the scrubber went into operation is the white water vapor coming out of the 700-foot emission stack. It looks the same as the water vapor that comes out of the cooling towers.

Another visible change is the green siding around the tall metal buildings housing the new scrubber equipment and the resurfaced roadways in front of the new limestone handling building.

As part of the final phases of the project, both scrubber absorbers have been filled with 2 million gallons of water each.

In wet scrubbers like the ones at

Montour maintenance project includes completion of Unit 1 scrubber

About 1,200 PPL employees and contractors have begun an ambitious maintenance program on Unit 1 at the Montour power plant.

The work will include turbine improvements and completion of the Unit 1 scrubber, which will remove nearly all of the sulfur dioxide from plant emissions. It's expected to begin operating at the end of the project; the Unit 2 scrubber began operating in March.

"Routine maintenance programs such as this are part of PPL's commitment to safe and reliable operations at Montour," said Michael Munroe, plant manager.

Other major projects involve the boiler, main electrical generator, steam piping and other plant equipment.

Montour, a mixture of water and pulverized limestone is sprayed onto the exhaust gases, created when the plant burns coal to produce electricity.

The result is cleaner air and a byproduct, synthetic gypsum, which will be used to make drywall at a separate manufacturing facility being built by U.S. Gypsum across the road from the power plant. This facility, made possible by PPL's scrubber project, will create 150 news jobs for the community surrounding the plant.

Work advances on recreation project near Montour

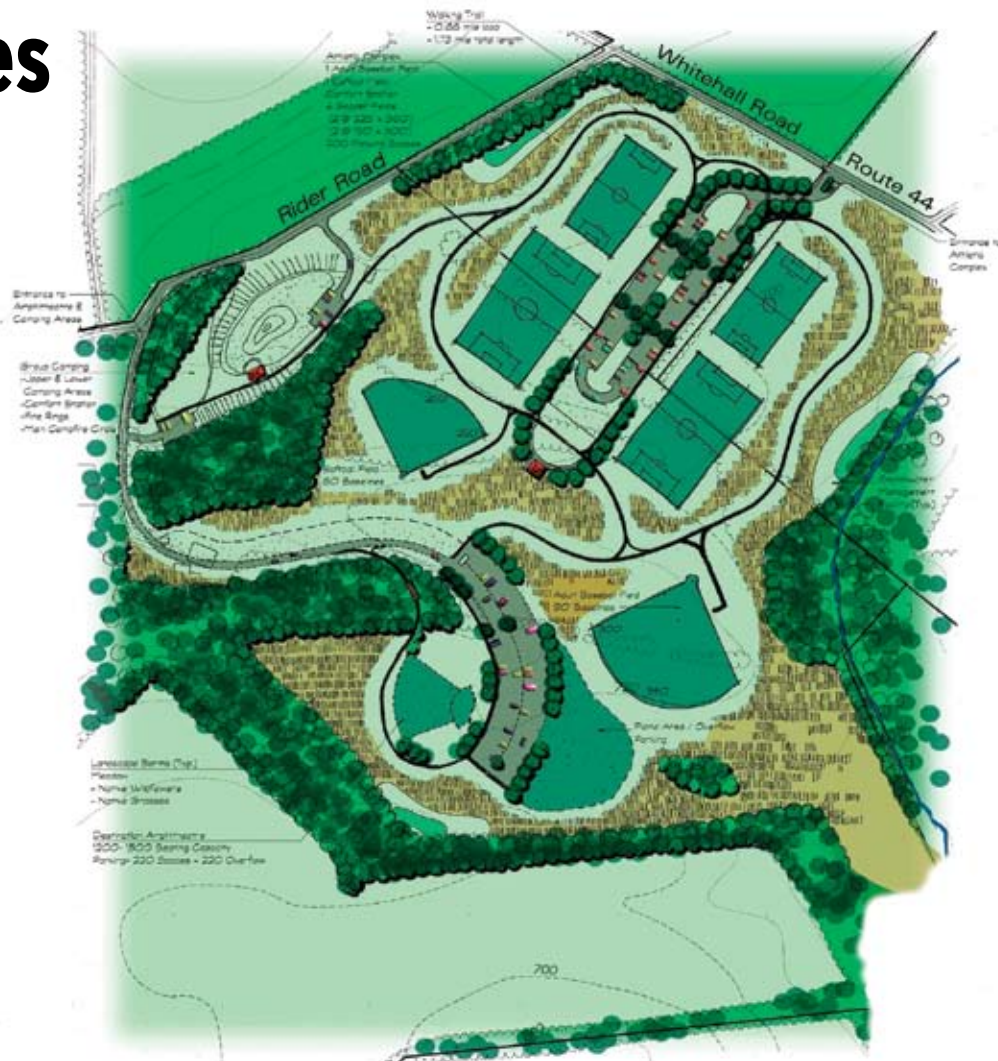
Work has been completed on erosion and sedimentation controls for the first phase of a 200-acre recreation complex being developed by PPL near the Montour power plant.

The first phase of construction will feature soccer and baseball fields, hiking trails, a primitive camping area and amphitheater on PPL land about four miles from the plant.

Once the fields dry out later this spring, PPL will begin shipping Stabil-Fill to build two soccer fields, half of the parking lot and the athletic field comfort station.

Stabil-Fill, a soil-like, environmentally safe material created from coal ash mixed with hydrated lime and water, will be used to flatten the existing rolling landscape. PPL has been converting coal ash from the Montour plant into Stabil-Fill since 1996.

The plan is to complete this phase of the work by the end of 2009 or the beginning of 2010. About 165,000 tons of Stabil-Fill will be shipped this year



Artist's rendering shows plans for a recreation area near the Montour plant.

and another 278,000 tons in 2009.

"Everyone at the plant is pleased to be associated with this project and to be continuing PPL's tradition of community involvement," said Michael Munroe, Montour plant manager.

"Providing land and resources for

the project will create more recreation opportunities to benefit many people who enjoy this beautiful area," he said.

When the recreation complex is finished in 2011, PPL will manage the new facilities in conjunction with the PPL Montour Environmental Preserve.

Maple's sweetness draws crowds to PPL's Montour Environmental Preserve

More than 2,100 people sampled one of nature's sweetest sensations at this year's maple sugaring programs at PPL's Montour Environmental Preserve.

About 800 people visited the preserve for PPL's maple sugar open houses on Feb. 23 and March 2, and 1,315 area students attended

school programs held Feb. 19 through March 11.

"My thanks to everyone who came out to the preserve to learn about and enjoy one of nature's confectionary treats," said Kevin Drewencki, superintendent of PPL's environmental preserves in Pennsylvania. "It's been a PPL tradition for more than 30 years."



Since the mid 1990s, PPL has been helping to restore falcons in Pennsylvania, installing nesting boxes at several of its facilities, including the Montour power plant.



Power in the skies

Get a bird's-eye view of the peregrine falcons nesting at PPL Montour Environmental Preserve at PPL's new Web site highlighting birds of prey at its facilities.

A webcam at PPL Montour was recently installed to keep an eye on the peregrine falcons that have taken up residence on the emissions stacks. The falcons began nesting at Montour in 2007, and this year have four eggs expected to hatch around Mother's Day.

Of the 24 known falcon nests in Pennsylvania, four are at PPL

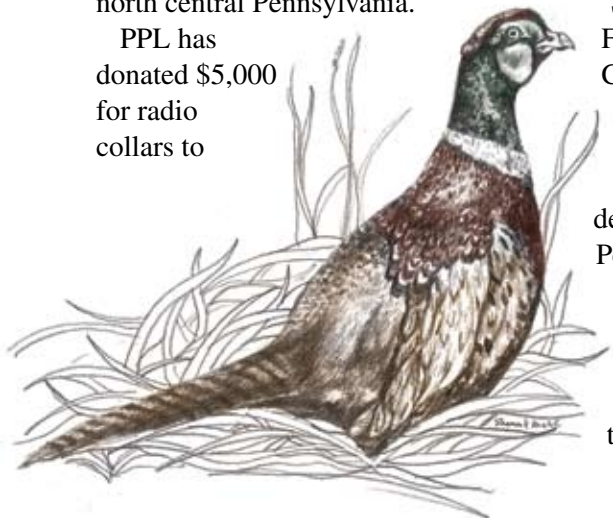
facilities. In fact, PPL has helped restore falcon, osprey, bald eagle and barn owl populations throughout Pennsylvania's skies by dedicating resources to enhance habitat for threatened or endangered wildlife and working with the Pennsylvania Game Commission and other conservationists to monitor their progress.

Learn about our birds of prey, see photos and get the latest news from the nests at www.birdsofpreyatppl.com.

PPL helping restore pheasant population

If you see a wild ring-necked pheasant in the fields around PPL's Montour power plant wearing a radio collar, it's being monitored as part of a program to restore the game bird to north central Pennsylvania.

PPL has donated \$5,000 for radio collars to



track the movement and habitat of 55 hens, which have been released with hundreds of other pheasants in grassy fields in Montour, Northumberland and Columbia counties.

Sponsored by PPL, Pheasants Forever's Central Susquehanna Chapter, the Mellon Foundation and the Pennsylvania Game Commission, the restoration effort began last year to reverse the decline in wild pheasants in central Pennsylvania.

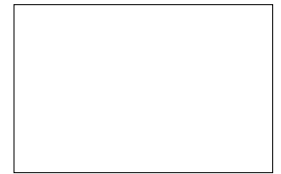
Once a common game bird in Pennsylvania, pheasants have been in decline over the past 30 years. Many wildlife biologists believe the population has been affected by

habitat loss and land-use changes.

"PPL is involved in habitat preservation for wildlife around our facilities," said Kevin Drewencki, superintendent of PPL's environmental preserves in Pennsylvania. "The pheasant restoration project will give biologists a better understanding of how to provide natural habitat and breeding areas for these beautiful birds.

"We greatly appreciate the cooperation of the landowners who are working with us to complete data forms on pheasant sightings in their area," he said.

PPL Montour
18 McMichael Rd.
Washingtonville, PA 17884



Upcoming events at PPL Montour Environmental Preserve

Directions: At Washingtonville, turn right as if heading toward Strawberry Ridge. At the first intersection, turn left onto PPL Road. Continue north on PPL Road past the Montour power plant and a group of greenhouses to the intersection with Preserve Road. Turn right onto Preserve Road. Montour Environmental Preserve's office and visitors center will be on the left.

SPRING WOODLAND WILDFLOWER WALK
Saturday, April 26, 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Meet at Environmental Education Center
Presented by: Jon D. Beam, PPL senior naturalist

The delicate beauty of spring woodland wildflowers brings a special touch to a still dull landscape. These early bloomers have some unique adaptations that allow

them to sprout and bloom in a mad dash to beat the growth of tree leaves. These wildflowers are among the first signs that spring is truly here. Join our naturalist on an exploratory walk through the preserve's woodlands to discover the joy and beauty of spring wildflowers. We'll explore some interesting facts and fascinating folklore about the different species encountered along the way.



EASTERN COUGAR
Saturday, May 10, 2-3 p.m.
Environmental Education Center
Presented by: Kerry Gyekis, Eastern Cougar Foundation

When Europeans arrived in North America, the mountain lion was one of the most widely distributed animals on the continent. By the late 1800s, trapping, hunting, deforestation, and devastation of white-tailed deer populations had all but wiped out mountain lions in the eastern United States. Even so, every year in Pennsylvania there are reported sightings of what people believe to be cougars. Biologists doubt their presence in the state. Join us to learn more about these elusive predators, their role in the environment, and the stories behind some cougar sightings.