

Police Report

July 2020

1. Brian Garis from Sterners Run Rd, Kunkletown was found riding dirt bikes with his 14 yr. old son Jayden on Authority land in Penn Forest Township. Their identity was confirmed and information given over to the Game Commission to cite.
2. Mathew Raken and Joseph Raken of Pennsauken, New Jersey were stopped riding their ATVs on Authority land behind Beltzville Lake Estates. Joe Raken has a vacation home in Beltzville Lake Estates, on East Creek Road. The Authority Deputies had received a complaint, two months earlier, about the ATVs coming from this property and disturbing the area. The Rankens were cited by Game Warden Bentzoni.
3. The City's Wild Creek office took a complaint over the phone about dumping on Authority property along Robin Hood Lake Estates. The complaint was forwarded to the Authority officers to investigate. Officer Yeakel looked into the matter and discovered two different residents on Sherwood Lane in Robin Hood Lake had placed brush and debris on Authority land behind their respective houses. Both homeowners were contacted and advised to cleanup area or be cited. The homeowners were cooperative and Yeakel will follow up at a later time.
4. A Meeting was held with Kevin Yoder, from The Nature Conservancy, and the Bethlehem Authority staff as required as part of the Working Woodlands program. Activity by the Authority over the last year was met with praise from Mr. Yoder.
5. The fence surrounding the four chestnut trees planted behind the Authority office was found knocked open probably by a deer. Opening was discovered by a city employee mowing the area. City staff temporarily repaired fence until Robin Wildermuth was contacted and more permanent repairs were made.
6. Kevin Werner, Game Commission Biologist, contacted the Authority Officer alerting him that Jeff Stratford from Wilkes University will be in the Long Pond area doing the Game Commission's annual post prescribed burn bird study. Stratford was not found and no information forwarded.
7. July 4th at Beltzville State Park, across the street from Wild Creek, had overwhelming crowds of people mostly from NY, NJ urban areas. The people were looking for creeks to swim and picnic. They as of yet have not discovered the Authority property, but numbers increase every year. This may become a future problem. The Authority weekend patrols remained in the Wild Creek area to monitor parking and potential trespass.
8. On July 8, the Authority Officer and Executive Director, led Pocono Raceway Maintenance Director Kevin Henry, and their Facilities Director back to the area of the Tunkhannock forest where the lanterns from their September festival landed. Many lanterns were still visible on the ground, 10 months after the event. No solutions were offered and they realized any future clean-up would be difficult. A meeting with Pocono Raceway CEO Nick Igdalsky will be scheduled in the near future.