

Bethlehem Authority Police Report

APR 2023

Eric Yeakel



1. Two trail cameras were located on our property that caused damage to the trees they were mounted. The mount systems are essentially large screws approximately ½” in diameter that were bored into the side of these trees penetrating the cambium. The cameras were taken for evidence. PA Game Commission (PGC) was contacted and Wardens stated when the camera owners are located citations for tree damage will be issued. No one has contacted myself or the PGC looking for these cameras.
2. The warmer weather is bringing more folks out on to the properties. Especially active are bird watchers since this time of year the forest is not dense with leaves making it easy to view and identify each bird. A variety of warblers are migrating through the area now.



3. Last week, Executive Director Repasch called me stating someone had found abandoned dogs on Authority property. I was forwarded the callers contact information and found that a total of 6 dogs had been located where our property and Weiser State Forest meet. I contacted the PA State Police about these dogs possibly being abandoned and was directed to contact the Carbon County Animal Shelter. I contacted the shelter and met animal shelter personnel, and the caller, where the dogs had been found. The dogs are shepherd mixes approximately 8 months old. Four of these dogs were able to be contained. Two ran away and were not able to be collected. At the time of this report 5 pups have been recovered with one still on the loose. I have not observed the missing pup while on patrol in this area.
4. An individual contacted the Authority on April 6, stating people were camping on our property to the rear of a roadway off route 209. The residences on this road do not border Authority land, rather it is a large private parcel. A check of our property a short distance away was thoroughly checked and camping activity was not found. Numerous attempts to contact the caller for more information failed.
5. City maintenance personnel at the Wild Creek facility began clearing the area along Pohopoco Drive for the fencing project. They also put barriers in place at a few gates. These areas have historically allowed an ATV/ UTV easy means to bypass the access gates. ATV/ UTV traffic still remains rather low. We have a few more gates to tend to with barriers and a few access gates to put in place. These actions will help reduce this illegal activity even more.
6. Monroe County Waste Authority had a group of individuals cleaning loose litter along Long Pond Rd this week. The entire stretch of road which has Authority, Nature Conservancy and private land on all sides looks better now that these other properties have been cleaned.