

Bethlehem Authority Police Report

Jan 2023

Eric Yeakel

1. The first snow of the season caused several traffic issues in the area. One vehicle crashed into the culvert at the Wild Creek facility's utility entrance. No injuries were reported with the crash. The vehicle damaged the concrete portion of the culvert, but the pipe is ok. PA State Police had taken a crash report which contained driver and insurance information. City maintenance personnel were able to repair the culvert this week.



2. A Deputy on patrol during the first snow came across an individual who had slid off the roadway and became stuck. People were present to assist the driver and asked for assistance in towing the vehicle out onto the roadway. The Deputy loaned the people a tow strap. Using their own vehicles, and the strap, the vehicle was successfully pulled back onto the roadway. We were thanked for use of the strap which unfortunately was damaged due to the manner it was fastened. We were told a new strap would be delivered to us but that has not happened yet.

3. The deer firearms season has ended without any issue. The snowshoe hare season which runs between Christmas and New Year didn't have as many people hunting as previous years. This may be due to the extreme cold that was present most of that week. The deer flintlock and extended archery season will end on January 16th. At the end of February, or March, we should be able to get the harvest data for the Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) tags used on our property.

4. A few bird watchers were located one morning along Penn Forest Rd. I invited them into the parking lot near Penn Forest Dam where they would be able to get a look at the different birds on the water. We were able to see a large group of Tundra Swans land on the lake and one Peregrine Falcon that was sitting on a rock along the shore line. While speaking with the bird watchers I found that a new person is in charge of the Audubon Christmas Bird Count coordination. I was able to speak with that individual and found he did not have my contact information. I informed him, that next year he can call and we will gladly assist with access to view birds at other locations just as we have in the past. He will be in touch next year and the sightings from today will be added to the bird count. I have not received any count numbers yet.

5. The snow shoe hare study has reached its end. PA Game Commission (PGC) personnel will not be traveling the property daily to track and gather data anymore. The few collars that are still active will be monitored remotely until they are no longer active. The PGC will continue to check the area after snow storms looking for Hare tracks and other activity.