

Bethlehem Authority Police Report

JUNE 2022

Eric Yeakel

1. The State Fish and Boat Commission conducted their annual rattlesnake survey again this year. They were able to locate 26 Rattlesnakes in total and capture 9. Three of the 9 captured were recaptures from previous surveys. The snakes captured this year did not appear to have any health concerns. The Biologists requested we send photo's and GPS coordinates of any, and all, snakes and turtles.



2. Consumer grade fireworks were found on Hypsie Gap Rd one day last month. The fireworks were located at two locations that were approximately 200 yards apart. All items appear to have been discharged on the roadway.
3. Beltsville State Park traffic appears to be less this year. Myself and Maintenance Supervisor Behler placed additional no parking signs on the transmission line across from the Wild Creek entrance. This area historically has been an issue for parking when Beltsville closes the lots. The park also placed a digital sign board in that same location again this year. At this time we have not had any issues with park traffic.

4. PGC wardens were able to cite 2 ATV riders on Authority land in the Long Pond area over the Holiday weekend. According to PGC wardens one offender was a local who complained that years ago people were aloud to ride ATVs on the property and does not like the current restrictions. ATV traffic in the Wild Creek and Penn Forest areas has been low with Mothers Day and Memorial Day weekend Sunday showing minimal activity. Images captured did not have any identifying markings. Long Pond ATV evidence has been difficult to judge as the Snowshoe Hare study personnel have been using a UTV for daily checks. The UTV is no longer being used so we will be able to judge traffic indications better.
5. The camera at the Wild Creek facility captured an image of a man walking through the main gate at 10:05 pm on June 2nd. Deputy Meixell was notified and able to locate the individual which turned out to be a PP&L employee. The employee was checking a pole that had been replaced at the facility. When challenged about the inappropriate time for such a visit, we found that this is an assignment given to the night shift crews on a regular basis.
6. It has been a good spring for seeing the younger wildlife and various wild flowers in the area. Numerous fawns as well as fox kits have been observed on almost a daily basis. A few brief bear sightings have occurred.

