

Bethlehem Authority Police Report

OCT 2022

Eric Yeakel

1. The Lantern Festival Occurred on September 17 and 18 this year. A check of the Long Pond area on the 19th, showed very few lanterns on our land. Using the Drone we were able to see that almost all Lanterns landed on Race Track property. I spoke with a Sky Lantern representative who informed me that they made changes to the lanterns to limit how far they can travel. I can only think that clean up from last years mess prompted this change as it was an extensive amount of work. The Festival had a clean up crew in the area for the early part of the week.
2. Fall has come to the area as well as hunting activity. All is going well for the most part. One night a PA Game Warden contacted me about a hunter having reported a mistake kill (deer) on the property. The Hunter had become confused as to where he was on the property due to the kill happening late in the day and it now being dark. The game warden was already on scene and speaking with the hunter over the phone. Prior to my arrival the Mapquest app on the hunters cell phone assisted him in returning to his vehicle safely.



3. I located an individual Trespassing with an ATV in the Long Pond area. The individual was properly identified and the PA Game Commission has cited that individual.
4. The contract loggers at the Tunkhannock Twp. sale had observed what they described as a large python crossing the logging road. The loggers did not do anything with the snake and left it alone. I immediately went to the area in an attempt to locate the snake. After a few minutes I was able to find the snake coiled up under some downed tree branches that were still covered in leaves. After a few phone calls I was able to make contact with an individual from the Pocono Snake and Wildlife Farm. This person informed me of the exact type of snake I was dealing with (South American Boa Constrictor). He also informed me that the cold temperatures overnight should make it easier to handle without causing any injury to the snake or others. Two members of the Tunkhannock Twp Vol Fire Company assisted with a garbage can to secure the snake. I was able to get the snake safely into the container and transport it the the Farm.

Later that day I spoke with a few locals who informed me that the snake had been observed in early August, but no one wanted to take care of the issue. The 8 foot snake was obviously an abandoned pet that most definitely would have succumbed to the elements, but now is doing well at the Snake and Animal Farm.



5. I received a phone call from the McMichaels Hunting club in Tunkhannock Twp, about a group of hunters walking in the area that

they observed on their trail camera. The individuals in question were located by a club member and were on a field trip from Northampton County Community College with permission to be in the area. The individuals left the area after speaking with the club member. I was then able to make contact with the class instructor and found he has made contact with the authority in previous years and figured it was ok to just come up at any time. I explained that he is welcome to bring classes onto the property, but to please keep us informed of his intentions as other projects may be occurring where he intends to go. Had we known about the field trip in advance we could have prevented the issue with the hunting club.