

Bethlehem Authority Police Report

Sep 2026

Eric Yeakel



- 1. The fence project along the east side of the Wild Creek Facility started a couple weeks ago. Progress appears to be going very well. The project will probably take at least 2 weeks or so as the entire length of fencing is over 2000 feet.**
- 2. One evening someone threw some trash bags out on Hell Hollow Rd. A suspect is known but contacting this person has been difficult. Follow-up attempts will continue until contact is made.**
- 3. ATV traffic remains below past levels. We did have two ATVs on 2 separate days this past weekend. Images are pretty good and I've been speaking with locals to hopefully get an ID on these people. Also, a very unusual sighting of an enduro style motorcycle was seen on camera. The bike does have a registration plate; however, the offender had placed tape across the plate obscuring the lettering.**
- 4. More people have been on the property lately, mostly hunters scouting ahead of archery season. This activity seems about the same as this time last year.**

5. **Beltzville State Park weekend traffic has not been an issue the entire summer. The Labor Day Holiday weekend traffic was very light.**
6. **The Game Commission Hunter Access program signs that were recently posted caused a few people in the private residential areas surrounding the Wid Creek and Penn Forest areas to become upset. Each person that called feels we are inviting people to trespass into the private community and hunt. I explained that the signs were not inviting people to trespass into the private community. The signs are to advise the public that the Authority is in a Hunter Access Program Agreement with the PA Game Commission. These signs give the public a little more information on rules when on the property. All persons complaining stated that they weren't the public and do not need the signs. I told each one that to the Authority and Game Commission they are the public.**

These areas do have issues with people trespassing into their communities to hunt on Authority land. I have spoken with several hunters who ask if they are allowed into these areas to access our land. Each time I explain the communities are private areas and only residents and their guests are allowed in those neighborhoods. If the hunter would access Authority land from any of those communities, it would be trespassing.

7. **City Maintenance staff has begun mowing the fire lanes in the Long Pond area. They will be there for at least the remainder of this month. It is already a big improvement.**
8. **Sometime between 11:00 P.M. Sep 7 to 09:30 A.M. Sep 8, the garage building at the Penn Forest Dam was broken into. The side door was kicked in with a boot print right next to the doorknob. No other damage occurred, but 6-8 pieces of rough sawn lumber were taken. PA State Police (PSP) were notified and took a report. PSP crime scene unit made the determination there wasn't anything to process for evidence. No known suspects and the incident remains open.**