



THE DAM NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE FRIENDS OF RAYSTOWN LAKE

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#TRENDING: A WET SUMMER AT RAYSTOWN LAKE



In summer when the heat is intense and hot winds blow, a dark cloud or a shower of rain is always welcome. That is unless it rains almost everyday. If you've spent any time at Raystown Lake this summer you may have noticed it has been very...wet. This summer has seen a record of 25 inches of rain when we normally see an average of 16 inches during May through August.

This increased amount of rain has caused the grass to grow at a much faster rate which in turn made it difficult to manage mowing. On the plus side, everything has stayed green! The Raystown Lake Visitor Center pollinator garden has been at its brightest and most beautiful thanks to the rain. Maybe we'll have a warm fall.



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Summer Scenes

Raystown Lake Project



Pictures:

Park Ranger Jenna during Moon Paddle at Snyder's Run – 1
 Monarch Chrysalis and Instar at the Visitor Center – 2
 RayCEP Interns Kendra & Grace at the Wake Up Reception – 3
 Fox Kits at the Visitor Center – 4



Captain's Quarters

by Ron Rabena, President

Days are getting shorter as the summer of 2018 winds down at Raystown Lake. The Master Plan Revision for the lake took center stage for most of the spring and summer. Friends of Raystown Lake had successful projects.. A great Dirt Fest was held in May, another great season from our RayCEP interns, a successful lake cleanup, Chalk the Walk, Critter Nite and another successful year at Putt's Camp for the scouts and non-profit groups. The fall season with the leaves changing is a great time to enjoy Raystown Lake with less people around after Labor Day. When riding on the bike trails, be sure to wear orange as hunting seasons will start in September. A fall boat ride with the colorful leaves and less traffic is a delight. FRL thanks everyone for their support as we look forward to winter and 2019!





bit.ly/RaystownMPPrevision

MASTER PLAN REVISION UPDATE



Two open houses were conducted for public input on August 11th & 12th at Raystown Lake Visitor Center. Over 300 people participated and gave feedback which will be considered during the revision process. Multiple environmental studies and boating surveys have been conducted throughout the summer as well. Public input will end 30 September 2018.

PSBA UPDATE BY NELSON WERT



Eight members of the PA Striped Bass Association met at Raystown Lake at 6:00 am on July 21st to inspect and maintain all the lights along points on the lake. Teams were assigned to cover specific lights. Each light was inspected and encroaching brush was cleared to provide good visibility of the light. A report of the light inspection was forwarded to Friends of Raystown Lake who provide the bulbs for the lights. When the replacement bulbs arrive, PSBA members will install them.

We held a fundraiser at our fishing tournament this month to benefit our hatchery efforts. Eighty-two anglers came to Raystown lake to support our efforts. We are grateful for their support in our efforts to help maintain a healthy striped bass fishery here. Our hatchery efforts are important as the PSBA could not find any pure strain striped bass to purchase to stock the lake this year and the PFBC stocking was only 40% of what was stocked last year. Although it is legal to keep striped bass over 20", the PSBA tournament rules allow only fish over 26" to be kept and weighed, anything smaller is released to allow these younger fish to grow older. Also, each boat is allowed only 2 fish. The prize winning "lunker" was caught a short distance from Mile Marker 2.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Fall is a busy season at Raystown Lake with plenty of things to do while enjoying the spectacular fall colors of the region. Here are a few upcoming events for your calendar:

September 13th: *Friends of Raystown Lake Monthly Meeting.* Join the FRL for their monthly meeting held at Hoss's Steak and Sea House in Huntingdon. Meeting begins at 7:00PM.

September 23rd & 24th: *National Public Lands Day.* Join the Raystown Lake Ranger Staff at Snyder's Run Boat Launch for National Public Lands Day. Support and help YOUR public lands by participating in an event near you. The staff at Raystown will be building and placing artificial fish structures in the lake! Call the Ranger Office for more information!

October 11th: *Friends of Raystown Lake Monthly Meeting.* See Above!

October 29th: *Campgrounds Close.* It is that time of year where the campgrounds close for the winter....see you in the Spring!

December 8th: *Wheelin' Sportsman Hunt.* Volunteers needed. Call the Ranger Office for more information.

Membership Application

Please complete this application and send it along with a check payable to:

Friends of Raystown Lake
PO Box 87
Hesston, Pa 16647

- ☐ New Member ☐ Renewal
- ☐ Special Friend \$500 (lifetime)
- ☐ Individual Friend \$10/year
- ☐ Family Friend \$15/year
- ☐ Club / Organization Friend \$25/year
- ☐ Business Friend \$50/year
- ☐ Corporate Friend \$100/year

Extra Embroidered Patches: _____
@ \$3.00 each

Extra Decals: _____ @ \$1.00 each

Pins: _____ @ 5.00 each

Donation: _____

Please send my quarterly newsletter
by email!

Total Amount Enclosed:

\$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Thank You !

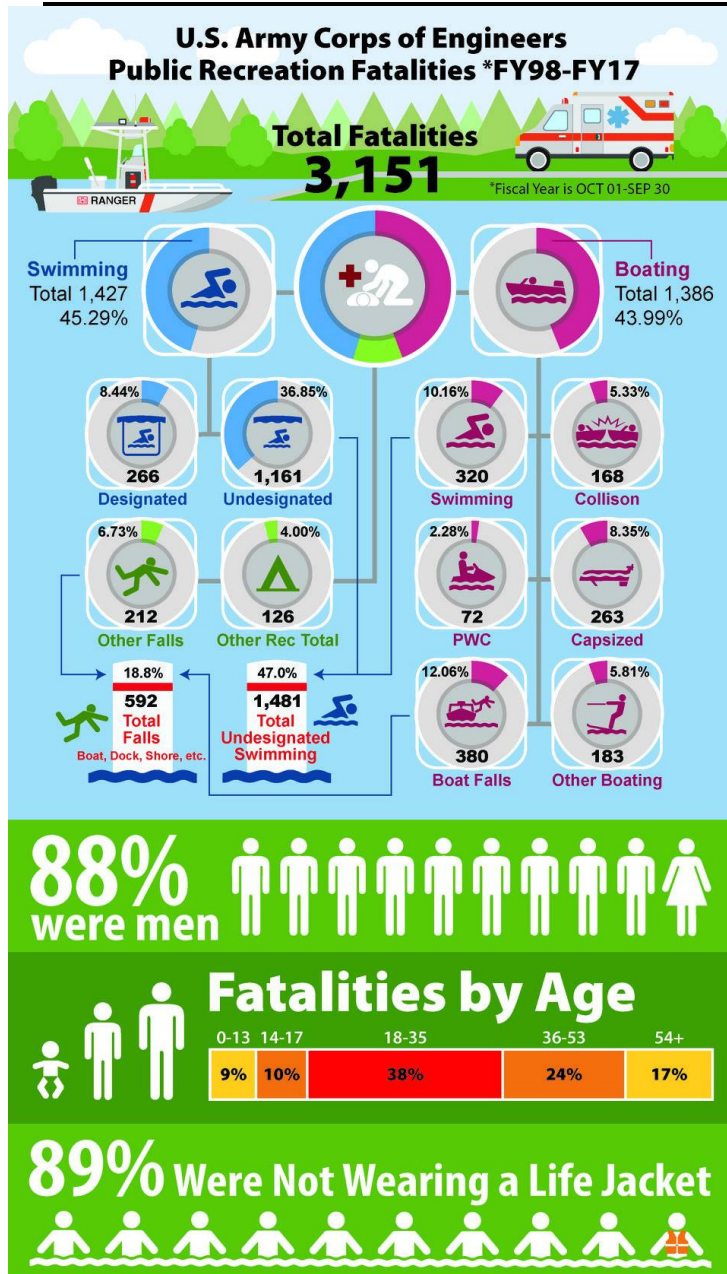
Membership Reminder

The year **2019** membership dues have started! Our memberships are set up on a calendar basis—January through December. As you may know, the bulk of our operating budget comes from membership fees. Please help to keep FRL strong and renew your membership today.



RAYCEP, LAST WORDS

This summer, we have connected with a grand total of 2,344 people and presented 21 different programs with topics that ranged from invasive species and pollinators, to skins scats and skulls. Throughout it all we have learned countless fun facts, made great connections, and had one unforgettable summer. The moments that made this experience the most valuable always involved the people we encountered... especially the young aspiring scientists out in the world! Whether we were talking about plants or pollinators or so much more, their fascination with the natural world never faded. Your big dreams inspire us too! We'll miss you!



RMBA UPDATE

Two trail work days were completed in August by RMBA members. There was a lot of work that needed to be done due to the record amounts of rain received over the summer months.

Autum is a great time to come out on the Allegrippis Trails. As you can see in the photo below, the fall foliage is spectacular and the views from Ridge Trail are incomparable

The trails will be closed during the two week deer rifle hunting period. The skills park will likely close in November.



NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

Fish Structure Building Days

Calling on volunteers both Sunday and Monday from 8-NOON at Snyder's Run Boat Launch to help build and place artificial habitat structures in Raystown Lake. Everything you need including light refreshments will be provided.

Did you know that @NEEF-National Public Lands Day is a fee-free day for all federal public lands across America and many state parks? Plus, everyone who attends an #NPLD event at a federal land site gets a coupon good for free entry to any public land managed by one of the federal partners any time before NPLD 2019. Give back to our public lands on September 23rd & 24th! #NEEF25thNPLD

**September 23rd & 24th at
Snyder's Run 8 AM
Tools & Refreshments
Provided!**



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