

Bald Eagles Raising Triplets Near PPL's Holtwood Plant

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A pair of bald eagles is raising triplets this spring near PPL's Holtwood hydroelectric power plant on the lower Susquehanna River in Pennsylvania.

"The chicks are moving around the nest fairly well now, and you can see from their hooked beaks that they should be able to feed themselves if the food is in the proper condition," said Jim Smith, a consulting naturalist at Holtwood, who has been paying weekly visits to observe the nest.

Including these chicks, Holtwood has contributed 16 new eagles to the lower Susquehanna River Valley since the nest was first established.

You can keep up with the activities of the eagles online. Go to the PPL Project Earth Web site at www.pplprojectearth.com and click on "Environmental Preserves," then click on "Holtwood." Each week or so, the home page for the Holtwood Environmental Preserve has new photos and progress reports about these eagles and another nest new this year on the Lancaster County side of the Susquehanna River near the power plant.

Bald eagles look for undisturbed trees, open water and an ample supply of fresh fish when choosing an area for a nest, Smith noted. They often return to the area where they were fledged.

On Saturday, May 22, and Saturday, June 19, Smith will conduct eagle watches that will visit the nest. If you would like to participate, meet at 10 a.m. at the Lock 12 Historic Area, west of the Norman Wood Bridge on Route 372 on the York County side of the Susquehanna River. Dress for the weather, bring binoculars and be prepared to be outside for an hour or more.

"The eagle watches give PPL an opportunity to showcase its environmental stewardship and the Holtwood Environmental Preserve facility for the public," said Mark Arbogast, PPL superintendent-Environmental Preserves. "It's also an ideal opportunity to see these large, majestic birds in the wild."

PPL Project Earth, a company initiative to educate the public about energy resources and the environment, sponsors the eagle watches.

PPL Corporation (NYSE: PPL), headquartered in Allentown, Pa., controls about 11,500 megawatts of generating capacity in the United States, sells energy in key U.S. markets and delivers electricity to nearly 5 million customers in Pennsylvania, the United Kingdom and Latin America. More information is available at www.pplweb.com.

SOURCE: PPL Corporation

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