

Grange Picnic at Montour Preserve – July 5th

WHAT: Eagle Grange Picnic

WHEN: Tuesday, July 5, 2022 @ 6 p.m.

WHERE: Goose Cove Pavilion #3 
@ Montour Preserve; directions below
(by decision of the Grange, picnic will be held rain or shine since we will have the shelter of a pavilion)

WHO: All Grange members & friends;
special guests will be visitors from the nearby California Grange #941

- Grange will provide table cover, place settings, meat and beverage
- Please bring a favorite casserole, salad or dessert to share
- (optional) A lawn chair if you wish



Directions to Goose Cove Pavilion #3 in Montour Preserve – The location is actually between Turbotville and Washingtonville but the GPS address is 600 Preserve Road, Danville, PA. From Eagle Grange Hall, travel north on Route 15 for one-half mile and turn right onto Route 54. Travel approximately 14 miles on Route 54 (through Montgomery & Turbotville) and turn left onto Preserve Road/SR 1006. Travel 2.3 miles and turn left at sign for Visitors Center; travel about ½ mile beyond Center and bear right at sign for Goose Cove.

Montour Preserve is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. It began back in 1967, when the local electric utility — then called Pennsylvania Power & Light Co. — announced that it would build a coal-fired power plant near Washingtonville in Montour County, the area was mostly farmland with a creek running through it. There was no Lake Chillisquaque and no Montour Preserve.

It was the first PP&L power plant not built next to a body of water. Instead, the company piped the main supply of cooling water for the steam electricity generating units through a 12-mile-long pipeline from the Susquehanna River. For a backup cooling source, PP&L bought 2,800 acres adjacent to the plant site and built a dam on Chillisquaque Creek to form the 165-acre Lake Chillisquaque.

Ground was broken for the power plant in 1968 and it began commercial operation in 1972. That same year, Lake Chillisquaque and its surrounding land opened to the public as Montour Preserve. The Preserve includes a boat-launching ramp, two picnic areas and two scenic overlooks. The lake itself is stocked with game fish by the Pennsylvania Fish Commission; only boats with electric motors are allowed on the lake. Today, the power plant is owned by Talen Energy, which leases the Montour Preserve to the Montour Area Recreation Commission that has operated the Preserve since 2015.

PROGRAM @ PICNIC - Plants that Eat Bugs; Miniaturized Trees

What started out as a hobby for owner Jason Paulhamus (right) has now turned into a home business! His licensed establishment **Bug Eaters and Stony Gap Bonsai** located at Cogan Station, PA, sells bonsai as well as carnivorous plants such as Venus Flytraps, Pitcher Plants, Sundews and Butterworts.

Bonsai is a gardening art form originating in Japan where the roots and branches of trees are pruned and then planted in a shallow container that restricts normal growth. Carnivorous plants have adapted to grow in places where the soil is thin or poor in nutrients by deriving some or most of their nutrients from trapping and consuming animals, typically insects. Don't worry.....they can't eat humans!!!



In addition to explaining their culture, Jason will bring some of his plants to show us at the picnic.



Join Eagle Grange on Tuesday, July 5, 2022 at this beautiful location for our annual picnic.

This is an aerial shot of the Visitor's Center at Montour Preserve with Lake Chillisquaque in the background. See Page 4 for directions, a map and more details about the evening; California Grange will be our guest.