

PYMATUNING LABORATORY OF ECOLOGY

Student Guidelines

PLE is part of the University of Pittsburgh Department of Biological Sciences. Therefore, those using PLE are subject to the rules, regulations and customs of the University. PLE is located within the Pymatuning State Park and is subject to Park rules and regulations as well. *To protect the interests of the community, PLE administration reserves the right to dismiss any person behaving in an inappropriate manner or whose actions pose a danger to themselves or others.* PLE users are responsible for knowing and employing appropriate laboratory and field research procedures and regulations (University, Federal, and otherwise).

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE HOURS: The Administrative Office, located at the Sanctuary Lake Site, operates Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

ALCOHOL: The PLE Housing Site and Sanctuary Lake Site are located on Pennsylvania State Park land where public consumption of alcoholic beverages is not permitted. It is also University policy that alcohol not be stored or consumed on PLE property.

BOATS (Signed waiver required): Canoes are available for student use at the Housing Site. Upon arrival at PLE, you will be instructed on how to submit a "Float Plan" prior to taking a boating trip. Boats are only to be used during daylight hours. Lifejackets must be worn. All boating supplies are available in the boathouse (near the dock). According to PA laws, there must be one life jacket per person and one float cushion in each boat. Use of this and other recreational equipment is at your own risk, and all necessary precautions must be taken. Class or research activity has priority. Be certain that boats are removed from the water after use and that oars and life jackets are returned to the boathouse.

EMERGENCIES: Dial 911. Emergency numbers, 911 addresses, and emergency numbers for PLE staff members are posted by the door in every building. Hospitals in Meadville (18 miles) and Greenville (20 miles) both have emergency rooms and there are medical centers in Linesville and Conneaut Lake. Urgent care facilities are located in Andover, OH (9 miles). PLE staff can assist in transportation to medical facilities if needed.

FIRES: Wood for the fireplace in the recreation room is stacked in a box near the fireplace. Be sure the damper is in the open position before starting fires (if you don't know what a damper is, please don't use the fireplace until someone shows you how). Do not overfill the fireplace. Bonfires may be built in the fire ring near the lake; firewood stacked there is to be used only in the fire ring and not in the recreation room. All fires are not to be left untended.

FUNDAMENTAL CODE OF BEHAVIOR: Everyone visiting or staying at PLE is expected to abide by an honorable and considerate code of behavior. This means showing respect for others, even if they hold widely divergent opinions from yours. People are getting up and going to bed at all hours at PLE. That makes the observation of a mutually agreed-upon quiet time absolutely essential. Between the hours of 10:00 PM and 7:00 AM, the noise must be kept down.

GUESTS: Due to safety and liability concerns, students are not permitted to have overnight guests while in residence at PLE. Any violation of this regulation will, at a minimum, result in an additional housing charge to the student hosting the guest and can result in the expulsion of the student from the PLE housing site.

HOUSEKEEPING: The bathrooms and common areas in the undergraduate student dorms will be cleaned daily. Please put trash and recyclables into the appropriate containers.

MEALS: Breakfast, lunch, and dinner are served in the Dining Hall from breakfast on Monday, through lunch on Friday.

Serving times are as follows:

Breakfast	7:30 – 8:30 AM
Lunch	(packed during breakfast)
Dinner	6:00 – 7:00 PM

Please place your trays and dishes into the provided bins when you finish eating. Only PLE staff members are allowed in the kitchen.

PARKING: Park only in parking lot areas. PLEASE DRIVE SLOWLY AND CAREFULLY WHEN ENTERING OR LEAVING PLE AREAS. Transportation during class time will be provided. Carpooling between the lab and housing site at other times is both encouraged and appreciated.

PETS: No pets are allowed at PLE at any time.

COMPUTERS: Students have 24/7 access to computers in each dorm and the computer lab located at the admin site. Please contact PLE staff for any software/hardware, printer, ink, and paper matters.

PHOTOCOPIES: The Copy Room in the Administration Building is located inside the library door to the right. If you have any problems with the copier, contact the Administrative Secretary, please do not attempt to fix it yourself.

RECYCLING: Aluminum, glass, plastic and paper are recycled. Containers are located at the administrative and housing sites.

SMOKING: *Smoking is not allowed in any of the buildings, including the dorms, at PLE.* Please dispose of cigarette butts in trash cans and not on the ground.

STATE REGULATIONS: The wildlife sanctuary (portion of the reservoir accessible from the Sanctuary Lake site) is closed to all recreational use. Class use is possible by special arrangement only. Swimming is allowed only at state-designated beaches (*i.e.*, Jamestown Beach, Linesville Beach, *etc.*). There is no swimming at the Housing Site.