

PENNSYLVANIA IMPORTANT BIRD AREAS

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SITE NAME GREEN LANE RESERVOIR COUNTY MONTGOMERY SITE # 69

APPROX. SIZE 4,005 ACRES OWNERSHIP PUBLIC (MUN) LAT. 40°22' LONG. 75°30'

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**DESCRIPTION**

In northern Montgomery County, Green Lane Reservoir contains a six-mile long, 800-acre lake, including an approximately 80-acre shallow head. The waters are designated as a bird sanctuary. During July and October the area is extensive mud flats and attracts numerous shore birds. Species such as Mink, Beaver, Red-bellied Turtle, Muskrat, River Otter, and Meadow Vole have been documented in the area. Other cover types include mixed mesophytic and upland oak forest, Red Cedar barrens, mixed deciduous forest in various successional stages, fallow fields, and flowing water. Swamp Milkweed, Sweet Flag, and Blue Flag are a few of the species dependent on this wetland environment.

*Directions:* From Rt. 29 in East Greenville, take PA 663 south approximate. 3 miles to Kutztown Rd.

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**BIRDS - SUMMARY**

Twenty-seven shorebird species are regular fall migrants. Adjacent marsh supports migrant American Bittern, Sora, Virginia Rail, Marsh Wren, Swamp Sparrow, etc. The shallow end of the reservoir in fall is a very good area for herons, egrets, gulls, terns, surface-feeding ducks, Osprey, and American Pipit, due to the exposed mud flats. Snowy Egret and Northern Shoveler are common migrants. Eastern Meadowlark, Savannah and Grasshopper Sparrow are known to nest. Bobolinks nest in similar habitat nearby and may nest in the park.

**REPRESENTATIVE BIRDS - BY CRITERIA**

- 1b Lesser Yellowlegs (FM - 150±), Pectoral Sandpiper (FM - 170±), Least Sandpiper (FM - 163±), Stilt Sandpiper (FM - 48±), Lesser Golden Plover (FM - 35±), Semipalmated Sandpiper (FM - 64±).
- 3 Pied-billed Grebe (SM, FM), Green-winged Teal (SM, FM), Common Snipe (SM, FM).

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**CONSERVATION / ADDITIONAL NOTES**

Water levels are not managed for wildlife, but dictated by demand for municipal water and prevailing rainfall. The reservoir is municipal water supply owned by Philadelphia Suburban Water Co. The county owns land and/or has recreational easements on other parcels including the lake. Residential development, especially conversion of hayfields into housing tracts on adjacent private land, is the greatest threat to grassland bird populations.

Church Road shore bird site is designated no fishing, boating, or hunting. There is delayed mowing (July 20th or later) in place on ±600 acres. Federal Conservation Reserve program expired December, 1996. A bluebird trail and kestrel nest box program are in place.

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**LOCAL CONTACTS**

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**SUBMITTED BY:**

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