

## Group is busy with upgrades for Glade Run Saturday 5K to raise cash

By Paula Grubbs, Staff Writer

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MIDDLESEX TWP — The Glade Run Lake Conservancy's goal of restoring the 52-acre lake was satisfied when Gov. Tom Corbett announced in April that the repair of the lake's faulty dam would be funded, but the group still has plenty of work to do. While the conservancy waits for the state Fish and Boat Commission to make the \$4.4 million in dam repairs by 2017, its members seek to make other upgrades at the lake's 103-acre property. Bonnie Chappel, vice president of the conservancy, said fundraising is ongoing for the upgrades. She said the group hopes to have all of the projects in place by the time the lake is refilled.

Chappel said the conservancy is raising money for two permanent composting toilet facilities that will be handicapped accessible. She said the composting toilets were chosen because they do not require winterization like a traditional rest room. She said the fishing jetty will be upgraded to include a cantilever deck over the end that will allow disabled anglers to drop a line into the deepest part of the lake. Wheelchairs will be able to use the improved jetty.

"We're hoping to reach out to our wounded warriors and all veterans," Chappel said of the jetty project. She said either a parking lot or drop-off area will be added near the jetty for anglers with disabilities. Chappel said the conservancy also hopes to raise funds to place fish and bird habitats at the lake, including osprey platforms and mud flats for birds requiring that feature.

One upgrade that is ready is the walking trail, which begins and ends on the north side of the parking lot. Conservancy board member Susie Salter said the trail, which is a little more than a mile long, was cut by conservancy volunteers. She said as the volunteers a few weeks back cleared brush, they found evidence of an old trail that was possibly built at the lake's inception in the 1950s. She said some of the old trail was used. "But most of it is new," Salter said.

She said a bridge over a tributary feeding Glade Run was built by Boy Scout Adam Darrah, who completed the project to earn his Eagle Scout badge. Salter said the trail has a natural surface, and can be used by those willing to park at the lake's closed entrance gate and walk to it. She stressed that no motorized vehicles are allowed on the trail.

"It's still in its primitive state," Salter said. "We'll probably have a nice trail by fall."

Once the lake is filled, the trail will allow anglers who are on foot easy access to the north part of the lake instead of tramping through the brush and jumping the creek, Salter said. The goal of the conservancy is to create a nature trail where bird enthusiasts can pursue their hobby, Salter said.

"We do have a lot of birders interested in the trail," she said.

Chappel said because the conservancy has pledged \$300,000 toward the lake restoration effort, members must continue to raise funds to complete the upgrade projects.

On Saturday, the conservancy will hold its second annual Where's Our Water 10K Run and Walk. The event, which will begin and end at the lake, will include a 2-mile run/walk course and a Minnow Fun Run for youngsters, Chappel said. Other children's activities, plus healthy snacks at the end of the 10k, will be available.

Cost is \$20 for those who register by today. After that, the cost is \$25. Chappel said runners and walkers can sign up on the morning of the race, which starts at 8 a.m. and winds through Middlesex Township.

The 10K is an officially sanctioned USA Track and Field race, and will include awards.

Other fundraising efforts include selling entertainment books and an oldies dance to be Oct. 19 at the Days Inn.

Chappel said those who cannot support the fundraisers can volunteer with the conservancy.

"We always need volunteers," Chappel said.

More information on the conservancy, as well as a 10K sign-up form, is available at [www.gladerunlakeconservancy.org](http://www.gladerunlakeconservancy.org).