



# University of Pittsburgh

*Pymatuning Laboratory of Ecology  
Department of Biological Sciences*

13142 Hartstown Road  
Linesville, PA 16424  
Voice: 814-683-5813  
Fax: 814-683-2302  
Email: [pymlab@pitt.edu](mailto:pymlab@pitt.edu)  
[www.biology.pitt.edu/facilities/pymatuning](http://www.biology.pitt.edu/facilities/pymatuning)

**TO:** Students enrolled in PLE courses  
**FROM:** Dr. Rick Relyea, Professor & PLE Director  
**SUBJECT:** 2014 Summer Courses

Welcome to the Summer Sessions at the Pymatuning Laboratory of Ecology (PLE) - we are delighted to have you join us! I still remember I enrolled in my first ecology field course, so I know what an exciting time this is for you and what a unique and inspiring experience you are about to have.

We have assembled a fantastic collection of high-quality courses for the summer with outstanding instructors, superb teaching facilities, and a beautiful learning environment on the shores of Pymatuning Lake. Enroll in one, or join us for several, and be confident that you will satisfy your hunger for field experience, improve your resume, and help meet the requirements of your major.

To assist you in making your stay here go smoothly, we have put together this Welcome Packet. The packet includes everything you might want to know about how to find us, when to arrive, and what to expect during your time at PLE. In addition, we have included a list of recommended items to bring with you. We also have included information about ways to reduce your Room & Board fees by applying for scholarships. Be sure to also check out our new web pages, especially the "Admissions" and "Arrival Information" web pages. If you have any questions concerning something not in this Welcome Packet or on our website, feel free to contact us.

We look forward to your arrival!

# INFORMATION FOR PLE STUDENTS

## Arrival information for commuters:

If you plan to commute each day to PLE, please arrive at the Sanctuary Lake (classroom) Site between 8-9 AM the first day of class. At the PLE Main Office, you can register, pay for your textbooks, and pay the \$85 lab fee (if not already paid to the University of Pittsburgh).

## Arrival information for residents:

If you choose to take advantage of the PLE housing, please arrive at the Housing Site between 4-6 PM the day before classes begin. At this time, you can register and pay for your room & board, textbooks, and the \$150 lab fee. If you cannot arrive during this time, please call us in advance to make other arrangements.

**Room and Board Fees:** The room & board fee for each 3-week session is \$490 and must be paid at PLE upon arrival. Payment may be made by **cash or check** (made payable to the University of Pittsburgh). Class attendance will be denied if fees are not paid.

## Items that both commuters and residents should bring to class:

RECOMMENDED	OPTIONAL
Extra clothing	Camera & batteries
Rubber boots or old shoes	Binoculars
Backpack,	Hat, sunglasses
Rain gear	Insect repellent, sunscreen
Notebook, pens/pencils, calculator	Waders for aquatic courses (if available)
	Laptop computer (with wireless card)
	Keychain/flash drive for saving data from computers

## Additional items that residents should bring:

RECOMMENDED	OPTIONAL
Sheets (twin size) or sleeping bag	Alarm clock
Blankets	Cell phone
Pillow	Flashlight
Toiletries, flip-flops	Musical instruments to play by campfire
Towels	
Prescriptions	
Variety of clothes	
Water bottle & lunch bag (or use provided paper bag)	

## Computer/Internet Access:

The computer lab and the dorms contain PC's and Mac's for class work and personal use. We suggest you bring a keychain drive (also known as a USB drive or flash drive) to save files. Wireless internet is also available. If you bring a laptop, it must be equipped with the proper wireless card to connect to the internet.

### **Commuter's meals (optional):**

Meal tickets can be purchase in advance at the rates below through the PLE Secretary.

	<b>Daily</b>	<b>Weekly</b>	<b>Full session</b>
Breakfast	\$5	\$25	\$75
Lunch	\$7	\$35	\$105
Dinner	\$9	\$36	\$108
Total (3 meals)	\$21	\$96	\$288

### **Resident's meals:**

Meal charges are included in the room & board fee. You are welcome to stay the weekends (most students depart for the weekend). However, meals are not provided from Friday dinner through Sunday dinner.

### **Meal times:**

Breakfast (7:30-8:30am) and dinner (5:30-6:30pm) are served in the Dining Hall. Lunch is packed during breakfast and taken with you.

### **Emergency contact:**

In the event of an emergency, messages can be left at 814-273-0416 (the PLE Main Office, 8 AM-4 PM Monday-Friday) or 814-323-4278 (the PLE Director's cell phone).

### **Additional information for residents:**

**Housing:** You will be staying in either the men's or women's dorm. The dorms each have four rooms. Each room contains new furniture including four sets of bunk beds, four dressers, and closet space. Each dorm has a lounge area with a computer facility (including wireless internet connections), couches, large refrigerator, and a microwave. Each dorm also has a newly renovated bathroom with three sinks, three toilets, and three showers.

**Recreation:** There is a Recreation Hall at the Housing Site that contains a TV, DVD/VCR player, satellite TV and local station reception, ping-pong table, and pool table. Outdoor activities include a volleyball, football, soccer, horseshoes, boating, and fishing. There are hiking/running trails adjacent to the housing site and many areas for bird watching. Swimming is allowed only at state-designated beaches. There is no swimming permitted at the PLE Housing Site.

**Laundry:** There is a laundry facility on site. Quarters are required.

**Mail:** Incoming mail for students will receive a note to come to the office and pick up. Check the message board for any phone calls or packages received. Outgoing mail can be dropped off in the administrative office. The Linesville Post Office is open from 9 AM-4:30 PM M-F; 9-11:30 AM Saturdays.

To receive mail, the address is: Pymatuning Lab of Ecology, 13142 Hartstown Road, Linesville, PA 16424

University of Pittsburgh  
Pymatuning Laboratory of Ecology  
**User Information Form** (Please fill out and hand in on day of arrival)

PLE Course: \_\_\_\_\_

Home University: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Health History**

Please tell us about any medical condition that PLE should be aware of in case of accident or injury:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please list any food and/or environmental allergies you may have:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please list any special dietary concerns you may have (vegetarian, vegan, etc.):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Authorization**

In the event my EMERGENCY CONTACT cannot be reached, I give permission to the staff of PLE to secure any necessary treatment in case of an emergency and/or accident.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# **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.

**BOATS:** Rowboats, kayaks, and canoes are available for student use at the Housing Site. Boats are only to be used during daylight hours. Lifejackets must be worn. All boating supplies are available in the boathouse (near the dock). For your own protection, please familiarize yourself with safe boating instructions. A safety instruction booklet is located in the office at the Sanctuary Lake Site. 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 beeper 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.

**FIRES:** Wood for the fireplace in the recreation room is stacked outside the door. Be sure the damper is in the open position before starting fires. 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.

**FISHING LICENSES:** To fish on Pymatuning Lake or if you are a student in an aquatic course, you *must* be in possession of a current valid PA fishing license. Licenses can be purchased from the PA Fish Hatchery adjacent to the PLE Sanctuary Lake Site or at the hardware store in Linesville. On Pymatuning Lake, the license is valid everywhere including the Ohio shoreline.

**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:** Sponsored guests are limited to weekends if space is available. *Reservations must be made at least two days in advance.* Housing charges must be paid at the Administrative Office when the guest checks in.

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

**LIBRARY:** Books may be checked out of the Tryon Library. Fill out the library card in the back of the book and put in the holder on the end of the first bookshelf. The lending period is one week. Consult the Administrative Office for additional information on the holdings of the Tryon Library.

**MEALS:** The bell at the Dining Hall is rung to announce meal service. 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	5:30 – 6:30 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. Carpooling between the lab and housing site is both encouraged and appreciated.

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

**PHOTOCOPIES:** The Copy Room in the Administration Building 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 yourself.

**RECYCLING:** Aluminum, glass, and plastic 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.

I have read and understand these guidelines

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Want to reduce your Room & Board fees at PLE?

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## Apply for The R.T. Hartman Scholarship or The Michael L. Orosz Memorial Scholarship

- Application deadline April 6
- For more info, contact Christine Berliner  
(Univ. of Pitt-Main campus, Bio Advisor): 412-624-4519, [christin@pitt.edu](mailto:christin@pitt.edu)



**PYMATUNING LABORATORY OF ECOLOGY**  
**The R.T. Hartman and The Michael L. Orosz**  
**Room & Board Scholarships**  
**APPLICATION FORM**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 6**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ STUDENT ID (7 digits) \_\_\_\_\_

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY \_\_\_\_\_

MAJOR \_\_\_\_\_ MAJOR GPA \_\_\_\_\_

OVERALL GPA \_\_\_\_\_ CREDITS EARNED TO DATE \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

PERMANENT ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

WORK/VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCES

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

LIST COURSES YOU ARE CURRENTLY ATTENDING

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

LIST COURSE(S) YOU REGISTERED FOR AT PLE

\_\_\_\_\_



# REFERENCES

PLEASE COMPLETE AND SIGN THIS FORM

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NAME OF APPLICANT: \_\_\_\_\_

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby waive my right of access to recommendation letters written in my behalf as part of the application process for the R. T. Hartman Scholarship and any appropriate attachments.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Give the names of two people whom you have contacted and who are willing to write a reference letter for you. We will contact your references when needed.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

POSITION: \_\_\_\_\_

POSITION: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

## **ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

- STATEMENT OF CAREER INTEREST AND GOALS  
(This statement should be typed and no more than 1 page long)
- UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT

## **SUBMISSION**

- MAIL ALL MATERIALS TO:

Richard T. Hartman Scholarship Committee  
Department of Biological Sciences  
A258 Langley Hall  
University of Pittsburgh  
Pittsburgh, PA 15260

- IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT:  
Christine Berliner  
Phone: (412) 624-4819  
Email: [christin@pitt.edu](mailto:christin@pitt.edu)
- KEEP THIS SHEET FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

# Directions to PLE & Maps

The Pymatuning Laboratory of Ecology is located in Linesville, PA on the shores of beautiful Pymatuning Lake!

**Location:** 40° 4' 26" north latitude, 80° 25' 35" west longitude

**Elevation:** 300 meters

## If you have GPS, here are the addresses:

Housing Site: 11700 Pitt Drive, Linesville, PA 16424

Sanctuary Site: 13142 Hartstown Road, Linesville, PA 16424

## Driving to Linesville, PA

### From Pittsburgh to Linesville

- Take Interstate 79 north to Exit 147b, Route 6 (Meadville)
- Merge onto U.S. Route 6/322 West
- Take Route 6 for 14 miles to Linesville

### From Erie to Linesville

- Take Interstate 79 south to Exit 147b, Route 6 (Meadville)
- Merge onto U.S. Route 6/322 West
- Take Route 6 for 14 miles to Linesville

### From Ohio to Linesville

- Take U.S. Route 6 East from Ohio until you arrive in Linesville

## Driving to PLE sites from Linesville

### From Linesville to the Sanctuary Lake Site (classrooms)

- At the only traffic light in Linesville on Route 6, turn south onto S. Mercer/Hartstown Road
- Drive 0.9 miles (past the State Fish Hatchery) and then turn left into the PLE driveway

### From Linesville to the Housing Site (cabins and dorms)

- At the only traffic light in Linesville on Route 6, turn south onto S. Mercer/Hartstown Road
- Drive 2.3 miles and then turn right onto Fries Road
- Drive 0.5 miles and the Housing Site will be on the right

## Driving between PLE sites

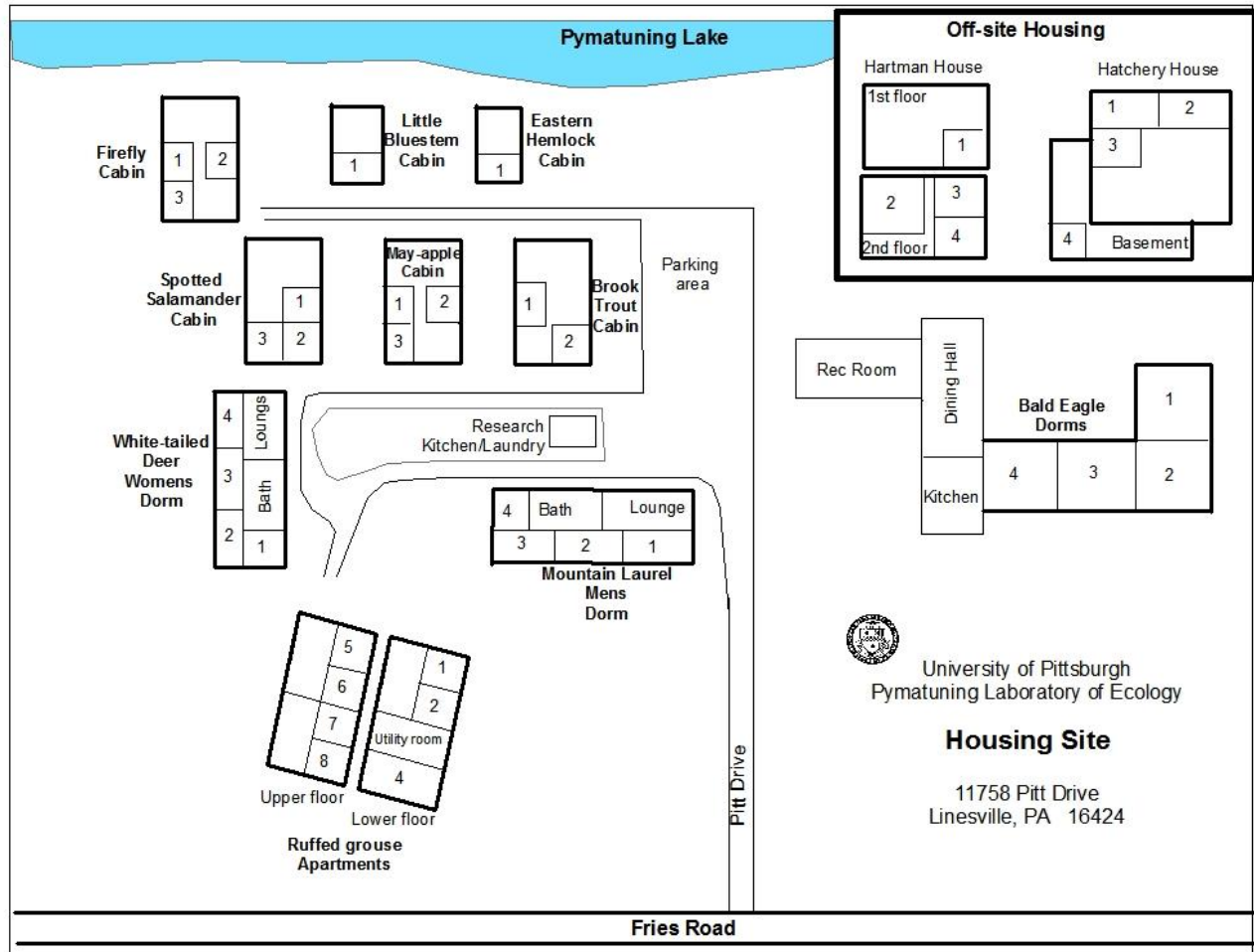
### From the Sanctuary Lake Site (classrooms) to the Housing Site (cabins and dorms)

- At the end of the driveway, turn left onto S. Mercer/Hartstown Road
- Drive 2 miles and then turn right onto Fries Road
- Drive 0.5 miles and the Housing Site will be on the right

### From the Housing Site (cabins and dorms) to the Sanctuary Lake Site (classrooms)

- At the end of the driveway, turn left onto Fries Road
- Turn left at the stop sign onto Mercer/Hartstown Road
- Drive 2 miles; the Sanctuary Lake Site will be on your right

# Map of the Housing Site

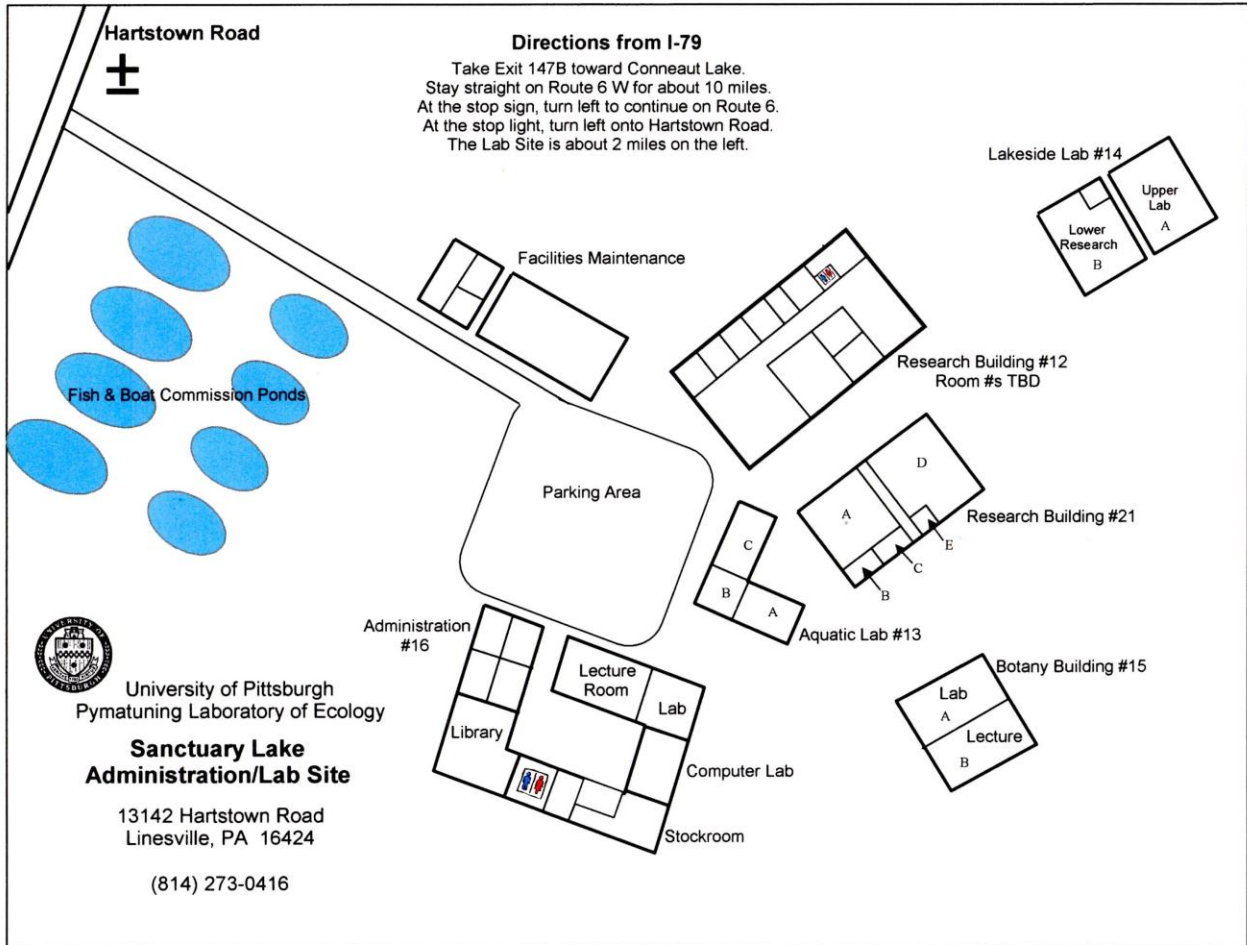


University of Pittsburgh  
Pymatuning Laboratory of Ecology

## Housing Site

11758 Pitt Drive  
Linesville, PA 16424

# Map of the Sanctuary Lake Site



Map to PLE

