



A Treasure of Natural Beauty - Rainbow over Summit Lake

I have lived in Columbia County for the last 30 years, the last 8 or 9 on Summit Lake in Philmont, and I have been blessed with my experience of nature here. Every season has its own beauty. Fall colors, winter storms, spring flowers, summer rainbows.. I see such amazing wildlife daily, enjoy the migration of birds, the resident eagles, even the occasional screech owl at night! I see muskats swimming in the light of the full moon, the water shimmering in their wake. This summer, I watched a mother woodduck raise her 7 ducklings--she ended up raising only three to maturity, but that's how nature works. It's not for me to question. I also enjoy seeing the people here in Philmont who walk by my house to take in the beauty that I get to enjoy everyday. Many stop and talk to me about their sightings of birds, deer, turtles... Philmont has a great treasure of natural beauty. It's great to see the lake being used for canoeing, kayaking, and fishing. There are many fish, of course, as the Agawamuck is a Mahican name meaning "Creek of Many Fish."

By George Brehm, Jr.