



# Conneaut Lake Park

## • NEWS RELEASE •

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### **CONNEAUT LAKE PARK'S BLUE STREAK ROLLER COASTER IS BACK!**

CONNEAUT LAKE, Pennsylvania, June 29, 2006 – The Historic Blue Streak has resumed operation at Conneaut Lake Park. On June 22, the motor that drives the cars up the lift hill of the coaster was struck by lightning.

When maintenance arrived, the motor had literally been fried. “The metal plates inside actually bent like cardboard.” said Conneaut Lake Park’s head of maintenance, Don Shanz. After the incident, a spare motor that was in storage was reconditioned and installed. This motor will be used until the original motor can be rebuilt.

“The Blue Streak is one of the most historic roller coasters around and one of the few surviving coasters that still uses its original cars and lever breaking system.” Says Kelly Petrachkoff, organizer of the Blue Streak Challenge, a marathon that was organized to raise funds for the maintenance of the historic coaster. The Blue Streak is also heavily regarded as a classic by roller coaster enthusiast groups like the American Coaster Enthusiasts who designated the ride an “ACE Coaster Classic” and made it the first on their prestigious list.

The Blue Streak Marathon is scheduled to run July 17<sup>th</sup>. For more information about the marathon visit <http://clpps.conneautlakeinstitute.org/>.

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