



PINELANDS  
PRESERVATION  
ALLIANCE

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## PPA Earth Day Native Plant Sale

Saturday, April 27

11:00 am - 3:00 pm

PPA, 17 Pemberton  
Road, Southampton

A wide variety of  
native trees, grasses,  
wildflowers, and  
shrubs for sale.

17 PEMBERTON ROAD  
SOUTHAMPTON, NJ 08088  
T - 609.859.8860  
F - 609.859.8804  
[WWW.PINELANDSALLIANCE.ORG](http://WWW.PINELANDSALLIANCE.ORG)



# INSIDE THE PINELANDS

Credit: PPA



*Grass pink (*Calopogon tuberosus*) is a gorgeous orchid that prefers wetland habitats in the Pinelands.*

## New Jersey Needs a Native Plant Protection Act

by Amy Karpati, Ph.D., Director for Conservation Science

Spring is here. The gradually lengthening daylight hours, the slow return of morning bird song, the patient emergence of fuzzy buds from tree branches and green shoots from soil have fed our anticipation of the season's return, just as they do every year. Our subconscious attraction to the natural world is perhaps strongest in the spring when signs of renewed life are everywhere. One of the most difficult signs to ignore is the crescendo of plant life as buds and blossoms break free from winter dormancy. It is in the spring that the diversity of plants is most appreciated.

This issue of our newsletter focuses on protection of plant biodiversity. How

do we assign value to plant biodiversity? We can talk of ecosystem services – the things that plants provide for us in the form of supporting services (nutrient cycling and soil generation), provisioning services (food supply and pharmaceuticals), and regulating services (carbon sequestration and water purification). We can also talk of the cultural services – the intellectual, scientific, artistic, and spiritual inspiration provided to us by natural biodiversity.

In addition to these ecological services that our communities require, many people view biodiversity as having intrinsic value worth protecting. The species with which we share our

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# Inside The Pinelands

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## PPA's Annual Native Plant Sale: Help Preserve Our Native Flora!

This issue of *Inside the Pinelands* is all about plants. Without plants life on Earth would be impossible. Plants provide our food and medicine, they clean our air and water, and their beauty improves the quality of our lives.

A great way to help preserve our native flora – and our environment in general – is to plant native vegetation around our homes and businesses. Luckily, New Jersey residents have lots of beautiful and interesting native plants available to them through local nurseries. When you landscape with natives, not only are you likely to save money and resources by using less fertilizer, soil additives, and water, you are also helping to strengthen the complex web of connections linking native species and ecological processes in your local ecosystem.



Credit: PPA

Every April, the Pinelands Preservation Alliance holds a **Native Plant Sale** at our offices in Southampton. This year our plant sale will be held **April 27, from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm**. If you are a PPA member you can attend the members-only plant sale on Friday, April 26, from 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm. We'll have lots of plants to choose from, including natives of the Pinelands and of New Jersey in general – from Asters and Bearberry to Vervain and Winterberry. PPA staff will be on hand to provide you with information about choosing the right natives for your home.

Each year we increase the quantity of plants available and this year there will be thousands of plants to choose from. We hope to see you there!

Another way to help preserve our native flora is to learn more about it. PPA and the New Jersey Conservation Foundation are happy to sponsor a 10-week course of classroom sessions and field trips called the **Special Pinelands Plants Course – Practical Applications** led by Russell Juelg, Land Steward with the New Jersey Conservation Foundation.

If you enjoy wildflowers and other common plants of the Pinelands and want to get a deeper understanding of the flora, this is the perfect course for you. This year you will sharpen your identification skills and learn about the uses of these plants.

Study live and pressed specimens during ten evening workshops held at PPA headquarters and take ten weekend field trips. Classes begin May 30th. **The registration deadline is May 24th.**

Cost is \$150/person. A scholarship to attend is available. Contact Laura at 908-234-1225 or [laura@njconservation.org](mailto:laura@njconservation.org) to register.

Visit [www.pinelandsalliance.org/ecology/specialpinelandsplantscourse](http://www.pinelandsalliance.org/ecology/specialpinelandsplantscourse) for more information.

# Bog Asphodel: Only in the Pinelands

by Amy Karpati, Ph.D., Director for Conservation Science

The Pinelands is a haven for plant biodiversity. Its acidic sand and water, low soil nutrient levels, naturally frequent wildfires, extreme hydrology and saturated wetlands exclude many plant species. These same characteristics also set the stage for globally rare and endemic plant species to thrive.

A perennial herb once placed in the Lily family, Bog Asphodel (in the Nartheciaceae family) has long, narrow, iris-like leaves above which rises a spike of densely clustered bright yellow star-like flowers. This species is restricted to the specialized habitat of open, sunny, wet bogs and savannas along interior Pine Barrens streams and can grow locally in great numbers.

Bog Asphodel is listed as “endangered” by the State of New Jersey. The historic range of the species includes three counties in New Jersey and one county each in Delaware and South Carolina. It is believed to be extirpated in Delaware and South Carolina, which means our best data indicate that this plant now lives only in the Pine Barrens of New Jersey, and nowhere else on Earth. This species, a product of millions of years of evolution, will disappear from the planet if it disappears from the Pinelands. It is not the only species in this delicate position.

The major cause of decline of Bog Asphodel is habitat loss. Pine Barrens savanna habitat has declined from several thousand acres at the beginning of the 20th century to only a thousand acres in recent decades. While we can identify several factors behind the loss of savanna habitat, the relative contribution of each of these factors is unknown. Changes in

hydrology resulting from water withdrawals for agriculture affect Bog Asphodel both directly by causing conflicts in its soil moisture requirements and indirectly by allowing succession of cedars to occur on now-drier land. Fire suppression is also thought to play a role, along with irresponsible off-road vehicle use in Pine Barrens wetlands.



For a number of years, Bog Asphodel has been classified as a “candidate” species for federal protection, meaning that more information was needed to determine whether it should be considered a federally threatened or endangered species. But it was removed as a federal candidate for protection this past fall. A 2012 report, *Review of Native Species That Are Candidates for Listing as Endangered or Threatened*, by the federal Fish and Wildlife Service states, “We have determined that the species is less imperiled than previously believed and therefore does not warrant listing as threatened or endangered.”

This decision was largely based on the fact that Bog Asphodel’s habitat, in the Pinelands National Reserve, is protected by the Pinelands Protection Act. The federal report states that 97% of Bog

Asphodel occurs on public land or on private conservation land. It infers that the historical threats of wetland filling, draining, flooding, conversion to commercial cranberry bogs, upland development, water withdrawal, disturbance from ORVs are no longer significant threats because they are adequately regulated or affect a very small number of populations. The report explicitly states that “the regulations controlling the manmade threats are expected to stay in place.”

We hope the 2012 report is right. But it is unwise to assume that these protections will continue in perpetuity without the active support of those who care about the Pinelands. These protections could be eliminated through a series of legislative actions. *The report is clearly mistaken in asserting that Pinelands rules are protecting Bog Asphodel from threats like ORVs and over pumping of the aquifer.* They are not.

Bog Asphodel is lucky in that it occurs in the Pinelands. Other rare plant species are not so lucky. This is why we need state-wide protection of rare plant species, regardless of where they occur, if we are to keep our regional ecosystems and their inherent values intact.

## NAN HUNTER WALNUT

The staff, trustees and friends of the Pinelands Preservation Alliance are deeply saddened by the loss of Nan Hunter Walnut who passed away March 3, 2013.

A life-long environmentalist, Nan was a founding trustee of the Pinelands Preservation Alliance.

A tribute to Nan will appear in the next issue of *Inside the Pinelands*.

# Letter Writing Campaign to Protect NJ Native Plants

by Jaclyn Rhoads, Ph.D., Director for Conservation Policy

The Pinelands Preservation Alliance and New Jersey Conservation Foundation are seeking volunteers to participate in a letter writing campaign for better protections of native plants in New Jersey. We are looking for volunteers to write one or two letters in 2013. Our goal is to publish a letter every other week for the entire year of 2013. The letters will be directed to newspapers and possibly elected officials.

The letters will support the Rare Plant Protection Campaign, and each letter will include a link to PPA's website that provides more information about the campaign to pass legislation.

Citizens have already had some fantastic letters published in the Courier Post, Asbury Park Press and Medford's Central Record. Here is an example of a letter written by Allen Crawford of Mount Holly that was recently published as part of this campaign:

*The New Jersey Pine Barrens have always been home for me. For years I've wandered about the deep parts of the pines, enjoying the animals and plants that live there, some of which are found nowhere else on Earth. In my spare time I try to help biologists monitor and protect species that are under threat, particularly plants.*

*I've had the privilege of visiting wild places in Africa, Australia, and Central America. The Pine Barrens is every bit as strange and beautiful as these places. Granted, you're not going to run into a giraffe in Wharton State Forest, but if you're willing to look closely, you'll find an alien world. In summer you'll find dense mats of carnivorous plants called sundews, which glisten like a delicate*

*carpet of spun glass. The sticky, sweet nectar that beads on their blood-red leaves traps insects and dissolves them. There are orchids shaped like butterflies, and flowers that swat bees that land on them with pollen. The entire remaining population of few of these strange plants could fit into an area no larger than a living room rug.*

*And yet, none of these plants are currently protected by NJ state law.*

*New Jersey's wildlife has been under the protection of the NJ Endangered Species Conservation Act since 1973. The state's native flora has yet to attain the same protections under state law. The wildlife protected by the state cannot survive without native plants.*

*The NJ Pine Barrens is a testament to our commitment as a people to preserving the few remaining wild places in our state, and to the safeguarding of these wild places for future generations. If you too want to help in the preservation of our state's native plants, then visit this link:*

[www.pinelandsalliance.org/protection/hotissues/ecological/rareplantprotection/](http://www.pinelandsalliance.org/protection/hotissues/ecological/rareplantprotection/)

*On this page you will find information about the importance of conserving biodiversity, the current status of New Jersey's native plant populations and plant protection laws, threats to our state's botanical diversity, information about a draft New Jersey Native Plant Protection Act, and how you can contribute to efforts to preserve New Jersey's flora.*

If you are interested in participating in this campaign contact Jaclyn at 609-859-8860x18 or email her at [jaclyn@pinelandsalliance.org](mailto:jaclyn@pinelandsalliance.org).

## FAIRS & FESTIVALS

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

ACUA EARTH DAY FESTIVAL

Egg Harbor Township, 10am - 4 pm

SUNDAY, JUNE 9

BURLINGTON COUNTY

EARTH FAIR

Historic Smithville Park, Eastampton

10:30 am - 4:00 pm

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

WHITESBOG BLUEBERRY  
FESTIVAL

Historic Whitesbog Village,  
Browns Mills

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Stop by the PPA table and check out our selection of books, DVDs, clothing, and gift items!

Or go to  
[www.pinelandsalliance.org/store](http://www.pinelandsalliance.org/store)  
to browse our online store

## Pinelands Commission Meetings

Fri., April 12, 9:30 am

Fri., May 10, 9:30 am

Regular monthly meetings are open to the public and they need to hear from you.

NJ Pinelands Commission  
15 Springfield Rd.  
New Lisbon, NJ 08064

Phone: (609) 894-7300

# New Jersey Native Plant Protection Act

*continued from cover*

environment can be appreciated for being living examples of the wonder of nature. There is so much we do not know about the roles of individual plant species in the overall functioning of ecosystems; removing just one or a few "parts" could cause the cascading collapse of the whole.

Biologists have long been aware of New Jersey's extraordinary flora. Though densely populated, the state boasts dramatic floral diversity, due in part to its geographic diversity. Even so, local scientists have noted alarming trends with respect to many of the state's plant communities and plant species. Examples of these trends include:

1. 339 of the more than 2,100 native plant species in New Jersey are currently listed as state-endangered.
2. About 39% of all native plant species in the state are considered imperiled to some degree.
3. At least 32 plant species have already been extirpated from the state.
4. 30 plant species are known from only a single population occurrence in the state.
5. 52 plant species found in New Jersey are globally rare and some now exist only in New Jersey.

The Natural Heritage Program of the NJ Department of Environmental Protection is tasked with creating a list of native plants classified as "endangered" as well as a list of "plant species of concern." These lists are based upon extensive population and location data. ***But there is no actual state-wide legal protection of these listed plants, despite the fact that the***

***original authors of the Endangered Plant Species List Act, enacted in 1989, intended for these species to be fully protected.***

Other legislative acts, such as the Pinelands Protection Act and the Highlands Preservation Act can refer to the Natural Heritage lists and require that these plants be protected within their jurisdictions. Listed plants that fall outside these boundaries are given no protection. We need legislation that gives state-wide protection to all listed rare plants, regardless of their location in the state.

The threats to our rare plants are many. Most threats ultimately cause native plant population decline through habitat destruction associated with development and urbanization. Other threats include pollution, invasive species, over-collection, some farming practices, and ecological succession in the absence of natural disturbance processes (i.e. wild-fires, floods).

The development of the New Jersey Native Plant Protection Act is a joint effort between the Pinelands Preservation Alliance, the New Jersey Conservation Foundation, and the Partnerships for New Jersey Plant Conservation and is part of PPA's Rare Plant Protection Campaign.

This Act would legally protect New Jersey's rare plants from harming, picking, and killing. In addition to protecting rare native plants and their habitats from direct destruction, this Act would include measures to control invasive plant species and to create conservation plans to promote the

recovery or maintenance of rare plant populations and rare ecological communities.

Another feature of the Act is a provision for adopting a regulation that allows for the emergency listing of a rare plant or ecological community if an immediate and significant threat to its survival is found. Incidental destruction of a rare plant will be allowed only if it can be demonstrated that a greater environmental benefit would be derived from this action, and only if it will not impair the conservation of any rare plant population or rare ecological community and a plan which includes conservation and mitigation measures is implemented.

Many other states have legislation protecting their native rare plants. New Jersey lags behind this trend. Visit [www.pinelandsalliance.org](http://www.pinelandsalliance.org) and click on Protection/Hot Issues/Ecological or contact Amy at amy@pinelandsalliance.org or 609-859-8860x23 for more information and to add your organization to the growing list of supporters of the NJ Native Plant Protection Act.

## Forked River Mountain Clean-up

**Sunday, April 21  
9:00 am - 1:00 pm**

Bring lunch and dress appropriately.  
4WD vehicles needed. Sponsored by  
Forked River Mountain Coalition,  
Ocean County Parks and PPA.

**Pre-registration required.**

For information and directions  
(609) 971-1635.

# PPA Programs in April and May: Get out and explore!

Join us for a trip, lecture, workshop or movie this spring! **Pre-registration is required.** For more information visit [www.pinelandsalliance.org/ppaprograms](http://www.pinelandsalliance.org/ppaprograms). Contact Tom at 609-859-8860x14 or [tomdunn@pinelandsalliance.org](mailto:tomdunn@pinelandsalliance.org) to register.

## ***Native Plants and Their Enormous Habitat Value***

(lecture)

**Tuesday, April 16, 7 pm**

**Location:** PPA Headquarters

Bill Young of Young Environmental LLC will highlight the value of native plants in the landscape. Plants form the basis for the food web, converting abiotic elements into glucose and biota. Rather than look narrowly at native plants versus ornamental plants, we will talk about natives as components of ecosystems, habitats, and the wildlife they support. **\$10/person.**

## ***Walking Tour of Harrisville a 19th Century Paper Mill Town***

**Saturday, May 4, 10am**

**Location:** Washington Twp, Burl. Cty

Join author Angelo Dellomo for a nostalgic walk through the old paper mill town of Harrisville in Burlington County. Mr. Dellomo will guide participants on a tour filled with stories and anecdotes of the people and the places of importance that existed then and now exist only in heart, memory, gnarled vines and foundations. Come hear the story of one of the most romantic and charming villages ever to exist in the heart of the New Jersey Pine Barrens. **\$10/person.**

## ***Rain Barrel Workshop***

**Saturday, May 4, 11am - 2pm**

**Location:** PPA Headquarters

Join us for a rain barrel workshop and construct your own to take home! These 60 gallon plastic drums are used to collect rainwater during storms. The rainwater can be used to water gardens, lawns, etc. The first 15 registrants will construct a rain barrel to take home. Others are welcome to attend and learn how to make, use and install a rain barrel. **Fee is \$25 if you are making a barrel.**

## ***Stream Monitoring Workshop***

**Saturday, May 18, 10am – 1pm**

**Location:** PPA Headquarters

How healthy is the stream in your neighborhood? Learn how to perform a biological stream assessment by identifying benthic macro-invertebrates, the small creatures whose presence or absence indicate a stream's health. During this hands-on workshop at PPA's Bishop Farmstead you will explore a stream and identify these tiny aquatic animals and discuss what your findings mean. Be prepared to get wet! Must be at least 14 years old to attend. **Fee: FREE**

## ***Pinelands 101: Introduction to Pinelands Ecology***

**(lecture)**

**Wednesday, May 22, 7pm**

**Location:** PPA Headquarters

Amy Karpati, Ph.D., PPA's Director of Conservation Science will help you brush up on your ecological knowledge of the Pines, this presentation will highlight the basic ecology of the Pine

Barrens. Learn about the natural history of the Pinelands – its sandy soils, its water resources, its rare species, and its curious dependence on fire. **\$10/person.**

## ***Movies Under the Stars at PPA***

**Friday, May 24, Time TBA**

**Location:** PPA Headquarters

Join us for a fun family night as we show an environmental/nature film outside and under the stars. Chirping crickets and shooting stars will serve as our backdrop. Popcorn and refreshments provided. Check the PPA website for movie titles. **Fee: FREE.** Donations welcome.

## ***Sahara Sands Frog Walk***

**Tuesday, May 28, 7pm – 9 pm**

**Location:** Monroe Twp, Gloucester Cty

Experience spring on this evening walk to look and listen for frog and toad species at the state-owned 213-acre Sahara Sands property in Monroe Township, Gloucester County. Learn about vernal ponds and the plant and animal species that can be found there. A joint program between the Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association and the Pinelands Preservation Alliance. **Fee: FREE.**

## **Stay Informed!**

**Email** [ppa@pinelandsalliance.org](mailto:ppa@pinelandsalliance.org) with the subject "Add my Email" to get our weekly emails.

**"Like"** us on Facebook for daily updates at [facebook.com/pinelands](https://facebook.com/pinelands)

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## Pinelands Calendar of Events

### April & May 2013

#### Saturday, April 27

##### 8th Annual Native Plant Sale

11am to 3pm

PPA Headquarters, 17 Pemberton Rd, Southampton 08088. Open to the public. For more information 609-859-8860x23 or visit us [www.pinelandsalliance.org](http://www.pinelandsalliance.org).

#### Saturday, April 27

##### Albert Music Hall

7pm, 131 Wells Mills Road, Waretown, NJ

Every Saturday night from 7:30 to 11pm you can hear the best in country, bluegrass and Pinelands music. Doors open at 6:30pm, \$5/adult and \$1 for children under 11 yrs. The pie is great! Visit [www.alberthall.org](http://www.alberthall.org).

#### Wednesday, May 1, 10am

##### Canoe/Kayak Great Egg Harbor River (Atlantic City)

Paddle 7 miles from Weymouth Furnace to Lake Lenape. Meet at the Harley Dawn Diner – arrive early for breakfast. Bring lunch and beverage. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. Leaders: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734 or [Leona@pineypaddlers.com](mailto:Leona@pineypaddlers.com) [SC]

#### Sunday, May 5, 9am

##### Canoe/Kayak Wading River (Burlington Cty)

Viva the Fifth of May! Our annual paddle is 10 miles from Hawkin Bridge to Beaver Branch. Canoes and kayaks can be rented from Mick's Canoe and Kayak Rental 800-281-1380 or [www.mickscanoerental.com](http://www.mickscanoerental.com). Meet at Hawkin Bridge. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. George & Leona F. 609-259-3734 or [Leona@pineypaddlers.com](mailto:Leona@pineypaddlers.com) [SC]

#### Saturday, May 11

##### Sounds of the Night

1:30 pm. Woodford Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge, (856) 983 3329

Last year, volunteers helped to clean up 43 tons of trash. Bags and gloves will be supplied. Volunteers with four-wheel drive vehicles are especially needed. If you would like to lend a hand please call 609-971-1635. Dress for the weather on that day, if cold or damp wear layered clothing. Hiking or work boots should be worn. Insect repellent is recommended.

#### Saturday, May 18

##### Whitesbog's Founders Day

2 pm. Whitesbog Village, 120-34 Whitesbog Road, Browns Mills. 609 893-4646

Celebrate 30 years of preservation at Whitesbog Village! Michele Byers and the many individuals and organizations who championed the preservation of the Village will be recognized. There will be walking and living history tours as well as drinks, appetizers and a recognition program. Reservations required. Casual dress and comfortable shoes.

#### Sunday, May 19

##### Wonderful Wetlands

1:30 pm. Woodford Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge, (856) 983 3329

The wetlands are home to a wide variety of flora and fauna. We'll take a trip into our wetlands to investigate some of the more unique residents of the area. Cost is \$5 per adult, \$3 per child (age 4 and up), children under 4 and members free.

#### Saturday, May 25, 9am

##### Canoe/Kayak with your Pooch

Fortunato invites his "cousins" and dog lovers as we paddle 10 miles from Hawkin Bridge to Beaver Branch. Canoes and kayaks can be rented from Mick's Pine Barrens Canoe and Kayak Rental 800-281-1380 Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. George & Leona 609-259-3734 or [Leona@pineypaddlers.com](mailto:Leona@pineypaddlers.com) (SC)

#### The Pine Barrens at First Light

##### April to June at PPA Headquarters

17 Pemberton Rd, Southampton 08088. Hours: Mon-Fri 10am to 4pm. For more information visit us [www.pinelandsalliance.org](http://www.pinelandsalliance.org).

See stunning photography of the Pine Barrens and Jersey Shore in handcrafted wooden frames. Mr. Cozens spends much of his time getting up before dawn in order to capture these amazing images.

If your organization is having an activity you would like to see listed, contact us ph: (609) 859-8860; or [becky@pinelandsalliance.org](mailto:becky@pinelandsalliance.org). Next deadline: July 2 2013.

Go to the Events Calendar on PPA's website for a comprehensive listing of events.



## Pinelands Preservation Alliance

Bishop Farmstead  
17 Pemberton Road  
Southampton, NJ 08088

Address Service Requested

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Permit #12  
Vincentown, NJ 08088

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**CLICK:** [www.pinelandsalliance.org](http://www.pinelandsalliance.org)

**CALL:** (609) 859-8860

**FOLLOW:** [www.facebook.com/Pinelands](https://www.facebook.com/Pinelands)

**SCAN:** Scan this code to get to PPA's website



*This code can be scanned and read by a  
Smart Phone using a QR Code Reader app  
available from iTunes or Android web stores*

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Day): \_\_\_\_\_

(Evening): \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Referred by: \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed payable to PPA

Mastercard

Visa

Discover

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

3 Digit Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Card Holder: \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Categories

Basic	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
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Sponsor	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Patron	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250
Benefactor	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500
Chairman's Circle	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> _____

### ALL MEMBERS RECEIVE:

A PPA membership card  
A year's subscription to Inside the Pinelands  
A PPA window sticker  
Discounts on PPA merchandise and events

Sponsors receive a copy of *The Pine Barrens: Up Close & Natural* DVD  
Patrons receive John McPhee's seminal book *The Pine Barrens*  
Benefactors receive *The Pine Barrens of New Jersey*, a photographic history of this region  
Chairman's Circle members receive the book *Seasons of the Pines* and a personalized tour of the Pinelands

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