

PINELANDS

DECEMBER '03/JANUARY '04

A Report by the Pinelands Preservation Alliance

VOLUME 11, NUMBER 2

HEARING FOR HERITAGE MINERALS SITE SCHEDULED



Mined portion of the Heritage Minerals site

by Theresa Lettman

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has announced its intent to settle the Heritage Mineral site litigation. A hearing for the public to comment on the proposed settlement has been scheduled for December 15, 2003, 5 p.m., at the Manchester High School on Colonial Drive in Manchester. While the settlement has some very good features, PPA will oppose it because it allows too many houses to be built in this tract.

The Heritage Minerals tract is approximately 7,115 acres of land located in Manchester Township and Lakehurst Borough. The settlement agreement also involves 362 acres of land, owned by the developer Hovsons, in Berkeley Township.

Hovsons, Inc. is the owner of the Heritage Minerals site and purchased the property in 1984. Approximately

3,115 acres of the site are north of the Conrail Tracks in the Pinelands Protection Area and regulated by the Pineland Commission. An additional 4,000 acres are in the Pinelands National Reserve and regulated by the Coastal Area Facility Review Act (CAFRA).

Until 1987, Manchester Township had this area zoned for mining and light industry. In 1987 Manchester enacted a Planned Unit Development (PUD) ordinance, which authorized PUDs in the 4,000 acres in the CAFRA portion of the property.

In 1989 Hovsons came before the Manchester Township Planning Board with a conceptual plan for 15,000 homes, two shopping centers, a heliport and a golf course. The landowner began the application process but never completed it or received any approvals. In the spring of 1992 Manchester

Township repealed its PUD ordinance.

In 1995, Hovsons applied for the CAFRA permits to build on two portions of the site for a total of 2,645 homes and 12,000 square feet of commercial development. There were also conceptual plans to build an additional 4,000 homes on the remaining portions on the site.

Later that year CAFRA denied the applications and Hovsons filed an appeal, which sent the denial to the NJ Office of Administrative Law. For eight years the litigation has been reviewed to determine if the CAFRA regulations were applied correctly to the site. Environmental Defense and PPA participated in this litigation to support DEP's denial of the permit. Last month the New Jersey DEP announced that it has reached an agreement to settle the litigation. A December 15, 2003, 5 p.m., hearing has been set to take comments from the public on the proposed settlement.

Accounting for the lakes and buffers, the net area Hovsons will be allowed to develop is approximately 728 acres, all of which is located in the CAFRA area of the site. The developer, DEP and the Pinelands Commission will support a PA-2 (suburban planning area) State Plan designation for the development area. This designation will allow the development to be serviced by sewers.

The agreement also states the DEP will issue (if necessary) water allocation permits to Manchester Township in a manner that protects Pinelands and Coastal Area natural resources, including

continued on page two



2003 has been a mostly positive year for Pinelands protection. Nothing really bad happened. Neither the Pinelands Commission nor the Department of Environmental Protection made any *major* missteps in controlling development here. Even better, some good ideas have begun to take root and show promise of bearing fruit over the coming years. I attribute this generally positive outlook to the power of public opinion. Let me explain.

A few years ago, the Pinelands Commission seemed to us to be going seriously astray. Under intense political pressure, the Commission approved an amendment to allow a large regional high school district to build a new school on land that the Pinelands Plan was supposed to protect, without even looking at alternatives — a move that suggested to many that the Plan really applied only to those without enough power and money to get the Plan changed. A bare majority of the Commission then forced its founding Executive Director from office. The Commission went on to approve completion of the Sanctuary tract, home to a rare population of the endangered Timber Rattlesnake, while trying to excuse this abuse of its rules by requiring the installation of fences and culverts to "protect" the snakes. Commissioners appeared ready to waive the rules barring infrastructure from the Pinelands' Preservation zone, and the Commission repeatedly opened the

door to changing the Plan in order to accommodate new development projects.

All these incidents attracted a lot of public attention. The Commission was widely criticized in the press for the course it appeared to be taking. Concerned citizens wrote thousands of letters and e-mails to the Commission and the Governor. And the result was change. It started with then-Governor Whitman, who recognized the danger and replaced two of her own appointments to the Pinelands Commission with dedicated environmental leaders. Governor McGreevey took further strides in strengthening the Commission with his appointment of Jim Florio, former Governor and one of the early architects of Pinelands protection, to chair the Commission, along with several other strong appointments. Now the Commission is far stronger and more unified in fulfilling its mission.

This may seem an unfair or overly-simplified picture of the controversies and changes we have seen over the last three years, but I truly believe it captures the essential facts of the matter. Without the force of public opinion disapproving of anything that compromises or challenges the integrity of the Pinelands, government will, from time to time, go seriously astray. The Pinelands Preservation Alliance is here to ensure the public has the information it needs to protect the Pinelands whenever that happens.

HERITAGE MINERALS HEARING

continued from cover page

groundwater, wetlands and stream flows.

About 6,475 acres, including the acres located in the Pinelands Area, are to be permanently protected in Manchester by donation to the state of New Jersey. An additional 362 acres of the Pinelands Area land located in the "Berkeley Triangle" which represents the last outstanding unprotected parcel in the Berkeley Forest Area (North of Robert Miller Airpark) will also be protected. The developer, DEP and the Pinelands Commission will support a PA-5 State Plan designation (environmentally sensitive planning area) for all the conservation area. The agreement allows for up to 2,450 residential units to be constructed and 20,000 square feet of commercial space. Community recreation facilities may be constructed but may **not** include a golf course. No motorized boats will be permitted on the lakes.

DEP is requiring habitat mitigation as a result of the development which will be located within the CAFRA area. Mitigation is required for habitat of the Grasshopper Sparrow, the Sickled leaved Golden Aster and the Northern Pine Snake.

While no survey has been done to show Pine Snakes, a legally protected species, use the area of the access road from Route 70 into the proposed development, this area is suitable habitat for the species. The settlement calls for the develop-

er to install several very large passages under the access road. In addition, it calls for additional culverts (10-15 feet wide and 3 feet high) to be installed under the Colonial Drive extension into the proposed development.

The DEP is requiring as part of this agreement an expedited process for the remediation of mine tailings which have elevated levels of radionuclides, a by-product of the former mining operation. Approximately 700,000 yards of material are located within the CAFRA area of the site. Hovsons has agreed to a four step process (not to exceed two years in duration) to finalize the remediation and removal of this material.

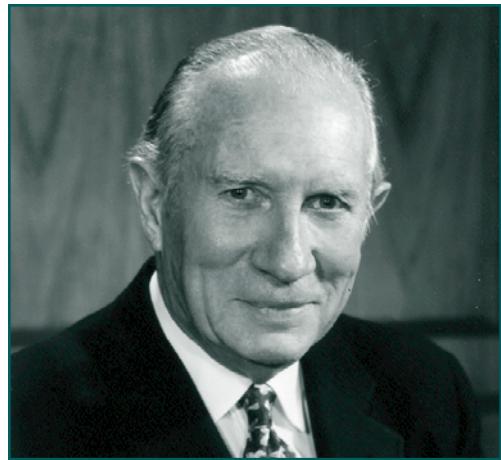
If the DEP and the Pinelands Commission execute the settlement agreement the developer will then apply for a State Plan amendment, sewer service area change and the CAFRA permit. An application for the Route 70 access road will have to be submitted by Hovsons for Pinelands Commission approval.

PPA's position: PPA will testify against the settlement because it allows too many housing units to be built, in contradiction of the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan and the Manchester municipal zoning. PPA recognizes that the settlement has some very good features: the donation of 6,400 acres of Pine Barrens forest for conservation and the clustering of all development onto the heavily mined portion



David Johnson recently retired as a PPA Trustee. We asked him to provide us with some biographical details so we could write a short profile. Dave's biography, as printed below, is so perfect that we decided to publish it intact.

David Johnson graduated from the University of Maryland in 1941 with a BS degree in Agriculture. Any expertise gained in his major field has been used only towards his avocation: managing his farm in Princeton. You see, a funny and persistent thing happened on his way to classes in Botany, Chemistry and Entomology. He always lugged a 4 x 5 Speed Graphic camera and spent more time with that than lab experiments. This led to work on student publications, especially the yearbook, *The Terrapin*, for which he was Photographic Editor and then Editor. With the Speed Graphic in hand, he covered sporting and social events and took portraits of campus scenes and dignitaries. The work on *The Terrapin* led to a fancy for the Women's Editor and a transfusion of printer's ink from which he has never recovered.



David Johnson, PPA Trustee 1994-2003

Upon graduation he signed up with the US Navy, hoping for a berth as a photographer. While awaiting a commission, he worked in the Army Map Service, a branch of the Army

Engineers in Washington, DC. When his call to arms came, Dave was assigned Assistant Chief Engineer of the destroyer USS Wilkes because of his six months' experience with the Army Engineers. Those lines on his application pleading for a photographic berth went unread. In US Navy parlance "Engineers" had to do with steam boilers, turbines and diesel engines. Soon promoted to Chief Engineer, he spent the next four years aboard destroyers in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, keeping the ships underway and writing plaintive letters to the US Navy Department of Personnel requesting a berth as a combat photographer. Enclosed in the letters were action shots he had taken with his trusty Speed Graphic. While the letters remained forever wrapped in red tape, the wartime photos were widely published in newspapers and magazines, especially the ones of a rime-encrusted destroyer in the North Atlantic and a destroyer plowing through the typhoon-tossed seas of the Pacific Ocean of the South China coast. All bore the by-line "US Navy Photo."

After World War II Dave joined the Eastman Kodak Company in Rochester, NY. One of his jobs was to keep tabs on new techniques, including the Time-Life scanner which incorporated many basic Kodak patents, as well as the Kodak Short Run 3-Color Printing Process. He was never able to sell this 3-Color idea to other printers, but sold himself on going into the business of short-run color lithography. So in 1954, Dave started Princeton Polychrome Press and pioneered in the use of direct-screen color separation techniques. As time went on he specialized in art reproductions and printing of art materials for museums and book publishers.

For years after the war, Dave's photographic talents were directed solely toward chronicling his family: David, now General Counsel of Time Warner

Music; Katherine, Senior Buyer for Lifetouch Portrait Studios in Minneapolis; and Beth, a freelance editor and writer in New York City.

Once the children were launched into adulthood, Dave and his wife, Libby, were free to travel, sail, birdwatch, photograph and publish. The 4 x 5 Speed Graphic had long since been retired and replaced with a 35mm Leicaflex camera and a backpack full of lenses. That camera was more recently replaced with a Canon EOS ELAN II and more lenses. Dave speculates that digital is next.

In addition to his work at Princeton Polychrome, Dave has been Chairman of the National Association of Printers and Lithographers Environmental Conservation Board, a consultant in graphic arts, and owner of a direct-mail business producing and marketing facsimile Audubon bird prints.

Dave's interest in environmental conservation carried over into his retirement from Princeton Polychrome to his work for 10 years as a trustee of Pinelands Preservation Alliance.

Dave was too modest to mention that his years as a PPA Trustee were marked by enthusiasm and engagement. An extraordinary member of the education committee, he gave of his time and expertise willingly. He was the guiding force behind PPA's nature film "The Pine Barrens: Up Close and Natural." Dave suggested the idea of bringing the Pinelands to a greater audience. His enthusiasm for the project kept it moving forward, his generosity created the wonderful film we're so proud of today, and his wife, Libby, came up with the great title! Dave will be missed from PPA's board but we hope his interest in the Pinelands will continue into his retirement. On behalf of everyone here at PPA – thank you, Dave, we'll miss you!

by PPA Staff

This was a year of many more hits than misses. Here are some of the important successes and disappointments for Pinelands conservation over the past year.



Hits!

Conservation-Minded Planning Along the Toms River

In the spring of 2003, the Pinelands Commission initiated an innovative new planning process for the portion of the Toms River corridor lying within the Pinelands, at the northern edge of the Pinelands in Ocean County. PPA's work on threatened and endangered species protection, especially at the "Sanctuary" development, played a major role in bringing this effort about. The Toms River corridor project is aimed at better protecting large, contiguous forested habitats for various protected wildlife species known to be in the area by creating a "sub-regional" conservation plan, instead of struggling over habitat protection on a parcel-by-parcel basis. The task force includes Pinelands Commission and DEP staff, the two municipalities with land within the study area, and PPA and the New Jersey Conservation Foundation.

Kirkwood-Cohansey Aquifer Study Gets Off the Ground

The big study of the Kirkwood-Cohansey aquifer, including how human exploitation can affect the plants and animal communities living on the surface, has finally received all the approvals it needs to get underway. There was a surprising amount of controversy at the Pinelands Commission over final approval of the work plan, but in the end the plan was approved unanimously. This detailed scientific study will probably take at least 3 years to complete, but the information it provides will be invaluable in the struggle to

achieve truly sustainable use of our water supplies.

Creating the Franklin Parker Preserve

In a great coup for conservation, the New Jersey Conservation Foundation negotiated an agreement to buy all 9,400 acres of the DeMarco cranberry farm in the heart of the Pines. The Conservation Foundation expects to close on the deal before the end of 2003, ensuring that this magnificent piece of Pine Barrens will be preserved forever. PPA strongly supports this purchase and is doing all it can to help the Conservation Foundation.

Federal Dollars for Pinelands Conservation

With tireless help from our representatives in Washington, DC, an intensive effort by PPA, the New Jersey Conservation Foundation and The Nature Conservancy has succeeded in winning \$750,000 in funding from the federal government for Pinelands land acquisition. This is only a small part of the \$9 million that have been authorized by Congress some years ago but not yet appropriated. Still, it is the first appropriation of its kind in many years, and we hope it sets the stage for annual federal funding for the Pinelands. Money for conservation was incredibly restricted this year due to the ideological opposition of the political leadership, especially in the House of Representatives. But New Jersey's delegation — led by Republican Congressman Jim Saxton and Democratic Senators Jon Corzine and Frank Lautenberg — really came through for the Pinelands.

Crestwood Water Allocation

PPA led the opposition to a big new allocation of water from the shallow aquifers to serve growth in Whiting, Ocean County. In response, the builder and DEP have agreed to get the water from a deeper aquifer which will not have any near-term impacts on the ecosystem. In

fact, this new approach will enable DEP to reduce the amount being pumped from the shallow aquifer, thus reversing harmful drawdown of surface waters already taking place in that area.

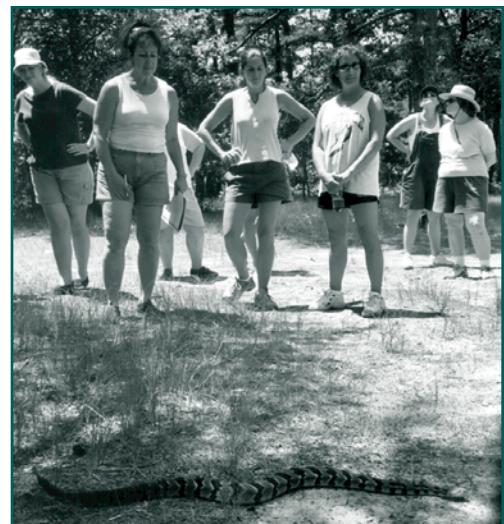
South Jersey Gas Pipeline

After an unsuccessful bid for a waiver to build a natural gas pipeline through a protected zone of the Pinelands in Medford, South Jersey Gas recently announced it would not fight the Pinelands Plan but will work within its strictures. South Jersey Gas is now going to use an alternate route which, while more expensive, is perfectly consistent with the Pinelands rules. This is an important precedent for respecting the Plan in the installation of infrastructure, even where the monetary cost may be higher in doing so.

Pinelands Teacher Institute and Barrens To Beaches Programs

In our growing efforts to engage teachers and students in the Pinelands, PPA held its fourth annual Summer Institute for middle and high school teachers, and we initiated a brand new program for high school teachers and their students called Barrens To Beaches. This year's Teacher Institute was better than ever and generated a lot of excitement among the par-

continued on next page



Teachers and timber rattlesnake check each other out at the Summer Teacher Institute

ticipants. For our first Barrens To Beaches program, we partnered with The Nature Conservancy and American Littoral Society and worked with teachers and students at Lacey High School. We hope to expand the program over the coming years, working with more high schools around the region while we improve and publicize the Barrens To Beaches curriculum.

Brits Get a Taste of the Pine Barrens

In what we believe is a first, the venerable *Times* of London published an extensive article about the New Jersey Pine Barrens. Joan Crump, who grew up in South Jersey, now lives in London with her husband Vince Crump, who writes for the *Times*. Since they visit Joan's friends and family here from time to time, Joan convinced Vince to write up the Jersey Devil story. The piece centered on a Pinelands exploration led by PPA's staff naturalist, Russ Juelg.



Misses

Sustainable Water Supply in Atlantic County

During the past year, PPA pressed the Governor, the Pinelands Commission, DEP and local governments to convene a broadly-based, long range water supply planning effort for the Atlantic City metropolitan area. While many inside and outside government agree this is a critical need, there has been no concrete action taken to create the kind of focused task force that is needed.

Little Action on Water Quality

Over the past several years, the Pinelands Commission science program has documented the loss of Pine Barrens aquatic habitats as contamination with fertilizers, septic effluent and liming compounds associated with suburban development and upland farming have altered native Pine Barrens water chem-

istry in the most developed Pinelands watersheds. Water quality changes bring non-Pine Barrens plant and animal species, frequently displacing native species. PPA views this transformation as a fundamental threat to the long-term survival of the Pine Barrens and to the region's ability to serve as a refuge for the many rare and distinctive species that live here. While several Pinelands Commissioners are interested in taking action to reverse this creeping loss of Pine Barrens habitats, the Commission has taken no specific steps towards addressing this critical threat.

Golden Triangle To Be Developed

A precious tract of forest adjacent to Lakehurst Naval Air Station will be developed despite efforts by PPA (including litigation) and representatives of the Navy to protect the land for habitat and as a buffer for this important Naval installation. Lakehurst Naval Air Station has evolved into a good steward of the extensive threatened and endangered species habitat found on the base. Unfortunately, neither Manchester Township nor the Pinelands Plan provided a buffer for the base, which is worried that a large residential subdivision on its doorstep will create conflict with new residents, will eventually impinge on base operations, and may put the base at a competitive disadvantage in the next round of military base closing being prepared by the Bush Administration in Washington.



Still Waiting...

On some key issues, we see signs of progress but no decisive action yet. We'll just have to wait and see if these are hits or misses in the end.

Berlin Well: This shallow water supply well drilled right outside the Pinelands boundary was found to be draining nearby wetlands. DEP held a public hearing

to revoke the permit for this ill-conceived well. But since the February 2002 hearing, we haven't heard a word. The well has not been turned back on, but neither has it been dismantled.

Pine Snakes at the Sanctuary Development:

Here's what we said a year ago, and it's still "current": The Pinelands Commission showed new life in its handling of this misguided development when it "called up" for further review most of the remaining housing applications, because they would be built on what appears to be habitat of the threatened pine snake. As with Timber Rattlesnakes, the developer had completely failed to identify or report the presence of this protected species on the land, but government personnel chanced to find a dead juvenile, then a nest with mother and eggs right in the area to be developed. But will the Commission withstand the pressure to relent as it did with the endangered rattlesnake population on this same land?



Sanctuary development in Evesham

PINELANDS WATCH: CITIZENS IN ACTION

A growing network of citizens is helping to ensure that development proposals get the kind of scrutiny they ought to get while they are still in the proposal stage. Vigilant, concerned citizens have the opportunity to shape the future of their towns, if they get an early start. We can help. If you monitor development proposals in a Pinelands township, join the Pinelands Watch network.



He asked where I was going, and I said that I had no particular destination, explaining that I was in the pines because I found it hard to believe that so much unbroken forest could still exist so near the big Eastern cities, and I wanted to see it while it was still there. — *The Pine Barrens by John McPhee*

One Book New Jersey has selected John McPhee's venerable classic as their Book of the Year. This means that *The Pine Barrens* will be featured in public libraries throughout the state, the focus of many reading groups and the source of many educational forums within the schools of New Jersey throughout the upcoming year.

One Book New Jersey is a statewide program that encourages every New Jersey resident to read a common book during the course of the year. The goal is to bring attention to New Jersey libraries and literacy by bringing people together through literature to participate in discussions and other events centered on that book.

Over the course of the year, *Inside the Pinelands* will be updating some aspects of McPhee's book that have changed in the 36 years since it was written, as well as highlighting some things that, thanks to the efforts of various organizations and individuals, have remained pretty much the same.

Outside, on the pump housing, was a bright blue coffee tin full of priming water. I primed the pump and, before filling the jerry can, cupped my hands and drank. The water of the Pine Barrens is soft and pure, and there is so much of it that, like the forest above it, it is an incongruity in place and time. — *The Pine Barrens by John McPhee*

We encourage you to re-read this classic, or discover it for the first time. You may even decide to form a book discussion group. Contact PPA for more

information on discussion guides and other materials, or to purchase copies of the book. Please call 609 894-8000 or visit our web site for details.



JOHN MCPHEE

The
Pine
Barrens

PINELANDS COMMISSION MEETINGS

Friday, December 12, 9:30am
2004 Meetings TBA

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
CALL (609) 894-7300 FOR INFORMATION

STAFF NOTES

Margaret O'Gorman, Director of Development at PPA for the last four years, has recently taken a position with NJ Future. Her contributions to PPA during her tenure were numerous, and her hard work, creativity and good humor will be missed. However, we are happy to know she will have a shorter bicycle ride to work. Good luck, Margaret!

THE PINE BARRENS: UP CLOSE AND NATURAL

"AS SEEN ON NJN"

THIS 30 MINUTE FILM INCLUDES RARE AND REWARDING FOOTAGE OF THE PINE BARRENS TREE FROG AND THREATENED TIMBER RATTLESNAKE, GLIMPSES OF THE ELUSIVE RIVER OTTER, SOME OF THE 30 VARIETIES OF ORCHIDS, AND THE AMAZING INSECTIVOROUS PITCHER PLANT!

\$22.00 + \$2.00 (S&H)

CALL 609 894-8000

INSIDE THE PINELANDS

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Executive Editor:
Carleton Montgomery

Editor:
Mike Hunnighake

PPA Staff:

Richard Bizub, Diana Byrd,
Debbie Casperson, Russ Juerg, Ted Korth,
and Theresa Lettman

Addressing & Mailing:
PPA Volunteers

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PINELANDS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 2003 & January 2004

NOTE: Names, addresses, and phone numbers are provided here for frequently mentioned event sponsors. Please contact the sponsor of the event for full information and details of the event.

Albert Music Hall. 131 Wells Mills Road, (Rt. 532), Waretown. 609-971-1593, www.alberthall.org.

Alliance for a Living Ocean (ALO). 2007 Long Beach Boulevard, North Beach Haven, NJ 08008. 609-492-0222. www.livingocean.org.

Bayshore Discovery Project. (formerly the Delaware Bay Schooner Project) For information about events or the Schooner A.J. Meerwald, call 800-485-3072, x100 or e-mail ajmeerwald@snip.net. www.ajmeerwald.net.

The Nature Conservancy (TNC). Pine Barrens Office, 120-34 Whitesbog Road, Browns Mills, NJ 08015. 609-735-2200, www.nature.org

Outdoor Club of South Jersey (OCSJ). For complete lists of backpacking, bicycling, canoeing and hiking activities, call 856-427-7777 or check the web site: www.ocsj.org.

Pinelands Preservation Alliance (PPA). 114 Hanover Street, Pemberton. 609-894-8000. www.pinelandsalliance.org. Offers a 10% discount on Pinelands Adventures programs to PPA members.

South Jersey Canoe Club (SJCC). Web: www.geocities.com/southjerscycanooclub. E-mail: southjerseycanooclub@yahoo.com.

Whitesbog. All events meet at the Whitesbog General Store. Historic Whitesbog is located at mile marker 13 on Rt. 530, southeast of Browns Mills in Pemberton Township. 609-893-4646, www.whitesbog.org.

Woodford Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge. 4 Sawmill Road, Medford, NJ 08055. 856 983-0326, www.cedarrun.org

*In cold December
fragrant chaplets blow,
And heavy harvests
nod beneath the snow.*

— Alexander Pope

Friday, December 5

Jersey Devil Hunt

We start with an old-fashioned campfire (bring your hot dogs & marshmallows!) We calm our nerves with some good, old-time music. Then, with a little ghostly light from the moon, we search the woods, cautiously, for that most infamous denizen of the Pine Barrens. 7-10pm. \$10. PPA.

Saturday, December 6

Navigating the Pinelands

Practicing both orienteering and dead reckoning, we will traipse

through some distinctive Pine Barrens habitats: upland pine/oak forests, intriguing lowlands, mysterious bogs, and magnificent old cedar swamps. After completing this course, you'll be capable of navigating cross-country anywhere in the Pine Barrens. Nature lore along the way makes the event memorable. 8am-4pm. \$35. PPA.

Saturday, December 6

Helping Wildlife over the Holidays

Are you looking for environmentally friendly holiday gift ideas? We'll share craft ideas, decorating suggestions, and animal-friendly gift giving. 11am - 2pm. Admission: \$3.00 adults, \$2.00 children over 2. No reservations required. Call 856 983-0326 for details. Woodford.

Sunday, December 7

Big Swamp Cougar Hunt

Be prepared for some rugged trekking, as we'll be going into places few others go. Dress wisely, and pack a lunch and drinks. We'll examine our surroundings for cougar sign as we pass through some of the most remote locations in the Pinelands. 8am-4pm. \$35. PPA.

Sunday, December 7

Deep Run Bogs Hike

7-9 miles. Moderate pace. Hike along old woods roads and fire cut trails through the woods to Depp Run bogs. 10am. Contact Joseph Trujillo (856 468-4849) for details. OCSJ.

Saturday, December 13

Canoe the Mullica River

Atsion to Pleasant Mills. Meet at 9am at Atsion Ranger Station on Rt. 206. Bring lunch. Reservations required. Contact Fred Keeper (856 232-5450) or Dick Parsells (856 881-2846) for details. SJCC.

Monday, December 29

Headquarters to Ong's Hat Hike

7-9 miles. Hike the BATONA Trail to Ong's Hat and have lunch at Anapa's, then hike back. Meet at 10am at Brendan Byrne State Forest office. Contact John Bauer (609 877-7018) for more details. OCSJ.

Thursday, January 1

Happy New Year!

Thursday, January 1

Welcome 2004 Hike

7-9 miles. Moderate pace. Continue the tradition to start the New Year with a hike. Bring lunch. Meet at 10am in field, off Rt. 206, Atsion, just beyond Recreation Area sign. Contact Joseph Trujillo (856 468-4849) for details. OCSJ.

Saturday, January 10

Canoe the Great Egg Harbor River

Piney Hollow Rd. to Rt. 54. Meet at 9am at Piney Hollow Rd. and river. Bring lunch. Contact John Reynolds (856 232-5450) or Karl Billerts (856 783-3171) for details SJCC.

Saturday, January 10

Forked River Mountain Jamboree!

Spend a few hours exploring the Forked River Mountain Preserve, looking for tracks and learning some winter botany. Next we are off to the Forked River Diner for some grub and then to the Albert Music Hall for live country, bluegrass and pinelands music. 1:30-11pm. Meet at Wells Mills County Park, Waretown. Dinner and admission to the music are paid individually. Free. TNC.

Saturday, January 17

Basic Wilderness Survival

In a single day, we'll cover the practical skills needed in a survival situation. The hands-on nature of the course makes it both fun and memorable. By the end of the day, you'll be able to acquire shelter, water, fire, and food. You'll also have a grasp on land navigation with the compass and USGS topo map. 8am-5pm. \$35. PPA.

Saturday, January 24

Hootenany!

Go on a night prowl for owls! (Moderate difficulty). We will hike around Whitesbog Village to listen for barred, screech and great horned owls among others. Bring a flashlight and your sense of adventure. There is limited space for this trip - sign up early. 7-9:30pm. Meet at the Pine Barrens Program Office, Whitesbog Village. TNC.

Saturday, January 24

Canoe the Toms River

Toms River, Rt. 70 to Rt. 37. Meet at 9am at roadside rest area, Rt. 70, just before Lakehurst traffic circle. Contact George & Ginny Carty (732 286-5116) or George & Leona Fluck (609 259-3734) for details SJCC.

Saturday, January 31

Basic Wilderness Survival

See January 17.

Sunday, February 1

20th Annual Ocean County Bluegrass Festival

Be prepared to be entertained Pinelands-style while listening to leading bluegrass bands from the tri-state area. Noon-5pm. Admission: \$8.00 adults, \$1.00 children under 12. For more information, call 609 971-1593. Albert Music Hall.

Fairs & Festivals

Saturday, February 7, 8am-5pm

Cumberland County Raptor Festival
Mauricetown Firehall, Mauricetown
Stop by the PPA booth and check out our new merchandise.

If your organization is having an activity you would like to see listed contact *Inside the Pinelands*, 114 Hanover Street, Pemberton, NJ 08068; ph: 609-894-8000; e-mail mikeh@pinelandsalliance.org. Next deadline: January 5, 2004.

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Membership Categories

Basic	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Friend	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60
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

THE PINE BARRENS BY JOHN MCPHEE IS ONE BOOK NJ'S BOOK OF THE YEAR-SEE PAGE 6

A Sponsor will receive an *Exploring the Pine Barrens of New Jersey* map
A Patron will receive a copy of *Exploring the Pine Barrens of New Jersey* book
A Benefactor will receive a Pinelands Botanical Print by Robin Jess
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