



PINELANDS
PRESERVATION
ALLIANCE

August/Sept. 2010

Volume 17

Number 6

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Upcoming PPA Events

Sunday, October 10

Pinelands

Discovery Festival

at Historic

Whitesbog Village

17 PEMBERTON ROAD
SOUTHAMPTON, NJ 08068
T - 609.859.8860
F - 609.859.8804

WWW.PINELANDSALLIANCE.ORG

INSIDE THE PINELANDS



Credit: PPA

Black Run Preserve, Evesham Township

ANNUAL STATE OF THE PINELANDS REPORT

by Rich Bizub, Director for Water Programs

On June 24th PPA released its annual *State of the Pinelands* report. The report assesses the state of Pinelands protection, and rates how specific actions of government agencies and elected officials have either helped or harmed the Pinelands during the previous twelve months. This year's report includes some 48 items about Pinelands issues.

This past year illustrated that there is real cause for concern about the actions of government agencies responsible for safeguarding the Pinelands environment. It also pointed out that these very same agencies can accomplish great things if they choose.

The New Jersey Pinelands Commission – the lead government agency planning growth and preservation in the Pinelands – is staffed by experts with a real commitment to preserving the Pinelands environment. The vast majority of new develop-

ment is taking place in the areas designated for growth in the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP). However, during the past few years PPA has witnessed a slow shift in philosophy from the CMP *as rules with regulatory teeth*, to the CMP *as guidelines only*, to be negotiated, ignored or enforced on a case-by-case basis for the convenience of local governments, developers, and even the Commission itself. Making compromises to previous compromises seems to be the norm these days. An example is the proposed expansion of Richard Stockton College. In 1990, a formal agreement was signed between the college and the Commission to permanently protect over 1,000 acres of Pinelands. The college is now back before the Commission to undo that agreement and it is becoming clear that Commission staff is laying the groundwork to facilitate the nullification of the original agreement.

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www.pinelandsalliance.org

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Each year October is proclaimed as Pinelands Month in the state of New Jersey.

This is the 15th year of the kickoff event of the fall festival season in the Pinelands, and PPA is pleased to announce new partners in the Pinelands Discovery Festival. The PINES Program at Burlington County College has become the main sponsor of this event, in partnership with PPA, NJ Conservation Foundation, NJ Pinelands Commission, DEP Parks & Forestry, Outdoor Club of South Jersey, and Whitesbog Preservation Trust. The Pinelands Discovery Festival encourages a day of discovery and environmental awareness, while providing a microcosm of the Pinelands experience. Held at Historic Whitesbog Village in Browns Mills, Burlington County, on Sunday, October 10, the event runs from 11:00am to 4:00pm.

The day will include walking and tractor driven tours, presenters on a wide range of Pinelands subjects, sounds provided by icons in the Pine Barrens music community, children's activities, great food, and exhibits that offer a wealth of information.

Presentations will include speakers on a variety of Pinelands topics, including plants, animals, history, and culture.

Historic Whitesbog is the site of the first cultivated blueberry. The surrounding bogs and forest provide an opportunity to view a pinelands ecosystem. Participants can enjoy cranberry bog tours, historic tours of Whitesbog Village (including

Sunningive, the home of Elizabeth White, who first cultivated the blueberry), and ecology walks led by naturalists. Tours will continue throughout the day.



Credit: Kevin Sparkman

PPA's Russell Juelg releases a red-tailed hawk at the Pinelands Discovery Festival

A wide variety of exhibitors, artists, nature photographers, and interactive displays will be showcased, all featuring the different facets and crafts of the Pinelands. Many of the region's environmental organizations will be on hand. Information and pamphlets will be available for festival-goers to collect as a resource.

The Tour de Pines, a series of bicycle rides celebrating the importance of the Pinelands, will arrive at Whitesbog on the afternoon of the festival. Riders are invited to participate in rides across the Pinelands from Wednesday through Sunday. Register for this event on the PPA website.

The Pinelands Month Calendar of Events, a compendium of PPA and other organizations' activities and events in the month of October, will be available online at www.pinelandsalliance.org under *Events Calendar*.

Discover something new about the New Jersey Pinelands at the 15th Annual Pinelands Discovery Festival!

More Roads More Traveled Make All the Difference

by Russell Juelg, Director for Outreach

Biologists have thoroughly documented the adverse impacts of roads on natural communities. While *some* of the side effects of *some* roads can be beneficial to *some* plants and animals, by and large, roads are just bad for natural areas.

But people like roads. Most of us think it inconvenient if we can't drive right up to our destination. And for people in the business of building roads, every opportunity to pave or widen a road or create a brand new road means money in the pocket.

Then also, there's the tiresome and predictable claim that more roads and better roads *make the public safer*, because emergency vehicles can get around easier. This assumption doesn't seem to take into account the increased number of accidents that are bound to accompany increased motorized traffic and higher speeds.

If the adverse impacts of roads in the Pinelands were slight, we might well just let the road system continually expand. But consider some of the inevitable consequences of roads and traffic in the Pinelands:

- Direct loss of habitat.
- Direct mortality to animals.
- Fragmentation of the forest.
- Disturbance (noise, lights, etc.) to reproductive cycles of wildlife.
- Increased poaching.
- Pollutants via road building materials and auto emissions and leaks.
- Vectors for invasive plant species.

From the perspective of the natural plant and animal communities of the

Pinelands, there's probably no such thing as a good road, and every expansion of the road system is bad. PPA first began to raise this issue with the Pinelands Commission in the context of a big paving project in Woodland Township, partly in the Preservation Area, within T&E species habitat. The Commission had a rather startling response. The Commission argued that since no one has published any scientific analysis of the adverse impact of new paving in a natural area, it seemed logical to assume that the paving would *not* have an impact that might violate their rules.

This was an historically important moment for the Commission, because not only did it show how naïve the Commission was concerning the impacts of an expanding road system, it was also the first time (as far as we know) that the Commission deliberately relieved an applicant of the burden of proof that a proposed development complies with the rules.

Considering the various motivations behind the expansion of the road system and the naiveté and faulty reasoning of the Commission, it's not unreasonable to expect that, given enough time, virtually every unpaved road will eventually become paved, and virtually every road will keep getting wider.

Since the Commission has been slow to address this problem, and since proposals to widen and pave roads continue with no end in sight, PPA

created an informal survey to see what the public thinks about the trend. About 90% of the nearly 450 respondents, as of July 7, indicate they are alarmed by the trend, and do not want to see this endless process of expansion.

Most importantly, about 97% of respondents agreed that the Pinelands Commission should evaluate the cumulative ecological impact of the road systems of the Pinelands before authorizing future road "improvements," (with the exception of improvements truly required for public safety).

It's time for the Commission to take the road less travelled, and start bearing down on applicants who want to expand the road system. Science and the public demand it.



Tour de Pines October 6 - 10

Join us for the annual
5 days of bicycle tours
celebrating Pinelands
Month in October.

Registration/info online:

www.pinelandsalliance.org/exploration/todo/bicycling/tourdepines/

or email

tour@pinelandsalliance.org

or call (609) 859-8860 x24

2010 Pinelands Lecture Series Overview

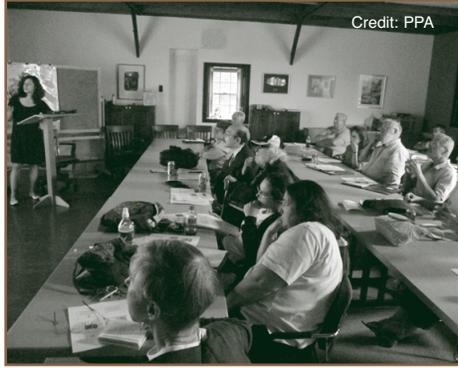
by Becky Free, Director for Philanthropy

The staff of the Pinelands Preservation Alliance work on a wide variety of topics related to the protection of the natural and historical resources of this region. At any given time staff could be analyzing development applications, pressing legislators on Pinelands issues, training teachers in Pinelands ecology and history, advocating for the inclusion of sustainable design principles, working to protect endangered species, and reviewing water allocation requests. We wanted to give our members and the general public a glimpse into our work so we organized the **2010 Pinelands Lecture Series**. This free series of presentations covers important Pinelands topics and runs from June to November. The presentations are given by PPA staff or experts in the field.



Millicent Moore talks about *The Secret Life of Plants* at PPA's Pinelands Lecture Series

The first presentation in the series was given by Millicent Moore and titled, *The Secret Life of Pine Barrens Plants*. Ms. Moore covered all the major families of the plants that could be found in the Pinelands, along with interesting botanical or medicinal facts. The second presentation was given by PPA staff and was titled *Designing a Sustainable Community*. This program provided a comprehensive



PPA's Jaclyn Rhoads explains how to design a sustainable community

overview of sound community design techniques that can be implemented in the Pinelands and throughout New Jersey. Topics included walkable/bikeable neighborhoods, energy conservation measures, green building, water quality and much more. The presentation was attended by 23 people, including several members of local environmental commissions. Attendees received a free Design Toolkit provided on CD which includes model ordinances, codes, and checklists. This free presentation is available for Pinelands municipalities. To schedule a presentation for your town or organization, please contact Mike at mikeh@pinelandsalliance.org or call (609) 859-8860.

Later in the year PPA staff will give a presentation about *Current Issues Facing the Pinelands*, including the increasing use of intergovernmental memorandums of agreement (MOAs) by the Pinelands Commission. The use of MOAs has been rising and PPA staff will discuss the implications of that as well as other current Pinelands issues. Later this year PPA staff will also discuss the steams, wetlands and aquifers of the Pinelands in the presentation *Water – Lifeblood of the Pinelands*. Learn about the region's water resources and how the distinctive

nature of Pine Barrens waters sustains the plant and animal communities of this ecosystem. Additional presentations this fall will include *Threatened and Endangered Species of the Pinelands* and *How to Become a PPA Ambassador*. For more information about these programs contact Becky at becky@pinelandsalliance.org or 609-859-8860.

Fairs & Festivals

August 21

**Monmouth County
Friends of
Clearwater Festival**

*Sunset Park,
Asbury Park*

September 26

**Arts in the Park
Southampton**

October 3

**Cattus Island
Nature Festival**

*Cattus Island County
Park, Toms River*

October 9

**Pine Barrens
Jamboree**

*Wells Mills County
Park, Waretown*

October 10

**Pinelands Discovery
Festival**

*Whitesbog Village,
Browns Mills*

**Stop by the PPA
exhibit and check out
our Pinelands
resources, information
and gear!**

PPA's ANNUAL STATE OF THE PINELANDS REPORT

continued from cover page

It is also becoming increasingly clear that the Commission is giving preferential treatment to municipal and county government for their development applications compared to private development, despite the fact that both types of development can have the same negative impacts on the environment. For example, this year the Commission advanced a streamlined review process for public agencies. In addition, in a stunning reversal of 30 years of practice, the Commission suddenly re-interpreted its rules to limit public comment on government applications. Public comment is the bedrock principle of any government process, and is something that PPA takes very seriously. A formal petition by PPA to modify the CMP may be the only answer to fix the problem.

On the positive side, the Commission continued the funding of significant land acquisitions through its Pinelands Conservation Fund. Approximately \$3 million have been allocated for approximately 2,500 acres. And the annual Pinelands Short Course continues to grow in size and interest by the public.

This year, along with a new governor came calls for regulatory "reform" and fiscal constraint. Today there is a growing list of proposed legislation by both political parties to weaken environmental regulations and undo what has been accomplished since the first Earth Day in April 1970.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

(DEP) affirmed its commitment to protecting threatened and endangered species by rejecting a formal petition by a builders association to remove protections for the Northern Pine Snake. In addition, DEP denied a second permit application for a Wal-Mart because it would impact the habitat of a threatened species. PPA gives DEP high marks for its handling of these two cases, which illustrate that regulations to protect the environment can work when enforced.

Some of the other items in the report include a thumbs up for Hammonton's innovative downtown planning, and Evesham Township educators for their work with PPA on the Black Run Preserve Summer Teachers Institute. The report gives a thumbs down to Buena Vista Township for proceeding with five development projects in Richland Village without Pinelands Commission approvals. This past year cemented PPA's belief that if the Pinelands is going to survive as a distinctive place for future generations, it is going to require more than government regulations. It is going to take a citizenry committed to holding our elected and appointed officials feet to the fire. And perhaps most of all, it is going to require a new generation of citizen activists to accomplish this important task.

The complete report is available at:
www.pinelandsalliance.org.

Check out our WEBSITE!
www.pinelandsalliance.org

Features include:

Attractive new design / easy to navigate
Photo/information galleries of plants and animals
In-depth information on issues and campaigns

Pinelands Channel - stunning videos and slideshows

Things To Do - hiking, cycling, camping,
canoeing / kayaking, historic sites

Bookmark our website and share with friends!

And check out PPA on Facebook - become a Fan!
www.facebook.com/Pinelands

Join the more than 1,000 PPA Facebook Fans

**PINELANDS
COMMISSION
MEETINGS**

Friday, Aug. 13, 9:30 am

Friday, Sept. 10, 9:30 am

**MEETINGS ARE OPEN
TO THE PUBLIC**

CALL (609) 894-7300

FOR DETAILS

PPA MEMBERandom: Bob McBride

Bob McBride has been a PPA member since 2006 and has since volunteered for PPA in a number of ways.

PPA: How long have you been a member of PPA?

Bob McBride: I moved to Burlington County from Camden County in late August, 2006, and shortly after settling in, I attended a Medford Historical Society meeting. The guest speaker at that meeting was Mike Hunninghake from the Pinelands Preservation Alliance who spoke about the ecosystem and ecology of the Pine Barrens along with a narrated DVD. Right there I was attracted to the Pinelands and soon found my way to the PPA Visitor Center in Southampton for more input into the PPA and what knowledge that would feed my interest in the history and ecology of the Pine Barrens. I immediately became a member of PPA and purchased the DVD *The Pine Barrens Up Close & Natural*, plus John McPhee's *The Pine Barrens*.

PPA: What PPA programs or events have you attended?

BM: My first adventure in the Pine Barrens was the Navigating the Pinelands field course with Russ Juelg, PPA's instructor. I can only say it was quite an experience for a 70+ year old city boy: learning to read a compass, staying on course and having to stay with the group with Russ barking, "Keep up Bob". Of course, that did not happen, as I still lagged behind most of the time. I wasn't ready for pushing through brush and some sloping terrain and also learning the course all in one day. But I can now hike alone in the Pine Barrens with enough knowledge, a proper compass, and USGS maps to assure my wife I will not get lost!

Following my passion as a non-professional photographer, I enjoy photographing plant life and wildlife in the Pine Barrens and surrounding areas. This led me to join the Pinelands Photography Group led by Ann-Marie and Steve Woods. The group holds monthly meetings at PPA, sharing photos that members shot on field trips and on our own. At times, members display their photos at the PPA Visitor Center where they can be purchased.



March of the Red Bellies

PPA: What has PPA done for you?

BM: Since joining PPA, I've obtained a world of knowledge and appreciation for the Pine Barrens by the use of many books and field guides available through PPA's Pinelands Visitor Center and its monthly newsletter and lectures, in addition to the NJ Pineland Commission's yearly Pinelands Short Course at Burlington County College.

PPA: Why would you urge others to join PPA?

BM: Because of my love of photography, I have volunteered to assist and document by camera the yearly functions, such as the Pineland Discovery Festival, the Blueberry Festival, and many other events. All and all, my connection with PPA has been rewarding for me, and I thank PPA for accepting me into the organization, and would urge others to do the same.

Pine Barrens Hall of Fame Gala

Fall 2010

Location:

To Be Announced

Join us as we celebrate the theme of "Pinelands Protection" with the 2010 Pine Barrens Hall of Fame honorees:

Richard Sullivan

Former Chairman of the NJ Pinelands Commission and chief architect of the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan

Betty Wilson

Former Chairperson of the NJ Pinelands Commission

Contact Becky at
(609) 859-8860 x21 or
becky@pinelandsalliance.org
for information
and to order tickets.

For more on the
Pine Barrens Hall of Fame,
including past honorees,
go to:
www.pinelandsalliance.org

Hon. Brendan Byrne
*Honorary Chair
 Former Governor,
 State of New Jersey*

Howard P. Boyd
*Trustee Emeritus
 Pinelands Author*

Richard J. Sullivan
Trustee Emeritus

David F. Moore
Chair

Leon M. Rosenson, Ph.D.
*Vice Chair
 Retired, Liposome Company*

Robert Tucker, Ph.D.
*Treasurer
 Retired Scientist*

Anne E. Heasley
*Secretary
 Conservation Consultant*

Timothy J. Byrne
Attorney

Charles M. Chapin
Upper Raritan Watershed Association

Emile DeVito, Ph.D.
New Jersey Conservation Foundation

John Dighton, Ph.D.
Director, Rutgers Pinelands Field Station

Thomas B. Harvey
Attorney

Michael Gallaway
Sierra Club

Janet Jackson-Gould
Nonprofit Consultant

Don Kirchhoffer

Blanche Krubner
League of Women Voters

Jessica Rittler Sanchez, Ph.D.
Water Resource Planner

Harry Shallcross, Ph.D.
Health and Human Services Consultant

Kevin Sparkman
Fusionspark Media

Richard Turner

Nan Hunter-Walnut
Pine Barrens Coalition

Angela Wenger
New Jersey Academy of Aquatic Sciences

August & September 2010

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.

Outdoor Club of South Jersey (OCSJ). Call leaders to confirm trip. www.ocsj.org

Pinelands Preservation Alliance (PPA) 17 Pemberton Rd., Southampton. (609) 859-8860. www.pinelandsalliance.org. 10% discount on Pinelands Adventures programs to PPA members. Pre-registration required for all PPA programs.

West Jersey Chapter of the New Jersey Sierra Club (SC), <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org>

Whitesbog Preservation Trust (W). All events meet at the Whitesbog General Store, Historic Whitesbog, mile marker 13, Rt. 530, Pemberton Township. (609) 893-4646, www.whitesbog.org.

Friday, August 20
Canoe/Kayak the Oswego River

10am. The Oswego is a favorite destination for paddlers as it winds through diverse and varied Pinelands forests and savannas. Meet at Lake Oswego. Boats can be rented from Mick's Pine Barrens Canoe and Kayak Rental 800-281-1380 or www.mickscanoerental.com/ Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. George & Leona F. 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. SC.

Sunday, August 22
Great Egg Harbor River Paddle

Weymouth Park to Lake Lenape. We stop to enjoy the water, stop for lunch and stop along the way again. Bring water to drink, sun screen/ hat as the lake offers no shelter. Meet at 10am Weymouth Park. Call or E-mail to confirm. Leader: Vicki S. 856-256-9568 or ravingwriter@netzero.com. OCSJ.

Monday, August 23
Canoe/Kayak the Great Egg Harbor River (Atlantic City)

Enjoy a 10-mile summer paddle on the "Egg" from Penny Pot to

Weymouth Furnace; option for additional 7 miles to Lake Lenape. Rentals are available from Palace Restaurant and Outfitters 609-625-8552 or www.palaceoutfitters.com Meet at Palace Restaurant, 6924 Black Horse Pike. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. George & Leona F, 609-259-3734, leona@pineypaddlers.com. SC.

Saturday, August 28
Moonlight Walk at Whitesbog Village

7:00pm. Sturgeon Moon. Reservations requested. \$5/person. Listen to the night sounds of the Pines, learn about Whitesbog and experience the seasonal changes of the Pinelands. All walks are 3-5 miles in length, weather permitting and led by experienced leaders. (609) 893-4646. W.

Sunday, September 5
Mullica River Paddle

Meet at 10am at Atsion Rangers Station. Paddle from Rt. 206 thru "Lillypad City" ending at Pleasant Mills takeout. Leader: Vicki S. 856-256-9568 or ravingwriter@netzero.com. OCSJ.

Sunday, September 12
33rd Ocean County Bluegrass Festival

Noon - 5:00pm. Albert Music Hall, 131 Wells Mill Road (Rt. 532), Waretown. Program features a live stage concert of bluegrass music. Be prepared to be entertained Pinelands style while listening to eight leading regional bluegrass bands from the tri-state area. \$8/adults, \$1/children 11 years old and under. Light refreshments and gift items may be purchased. No alcoholic beverages permitted. 609 971-1593. Sponsored by the Pinelands Cultural Society.

Sunday, September 19
Canoe/Kayak with your Pooch on the Wading River

9am. Fortunato invites his "cousins" and dog lovers for a fun day paddling 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 or www.mickscanoerental.com Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. George & Leona F. 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. SC.

Saturday, September 25
Moonlight Walk at Whitesbog Village

7:00pm. Harvest Moon. Reservations requested. \$5/person. Listen to the night sounds of the Pines, learn about Whitesbog and experience the seasonal changes of the Pinelands. All walks are 3-5 miles in length, weather permitting and led by experienced leaders.(609)893-4646. W.

Saturday, October 2
Whitesbog Village Tour

Whitesbog Village Tour 1 PM \$5/person. Stroll the Historic Village, learn about Whitesbog's role in history and visit Suningive, Elizabeth White's historic home, the worker's cottages and other buildings that speak to Whitesbog's heritage. (609) 893-4646. W.

Sunday, October 10
Pinelands Discovery Festival

11:00am - 4:00pm, Whitesbog Village. A day of fun and learning about the NJ Pinelands! Sounds provided by icons in the Pine Barrens music community, children's activities, great food, and exhibits that offer a wealth of information, and a wide variety of exhibitors, artists, nature photographers, and interactive displays will be showcased, all featuring the different facets and crafts of the Pinelands. Many of the region's environmental organizations will be on hand. Information and pamphlets will be available for festival-goers to collect as a resource. PINES, Burlington County College, (609) 893-1765.

If your organization is having an activity you would like to see listed, contact Inside the Pinelands, 17 Pemberton Road, Southampton, NJ 08088; (609) 859-8860; mikeh@pinelandsalliance.org. Next deadline: August 15, 2010.

Check out the Events Calendar on PPA's website for more complete listings.



Pinelands Preservation Alliance

Bishop Farmstead
17 Pemberton Road
Southampton, NJ 08088

Address Service Requested

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #12
Vincentown, NJ 08088

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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 \$35

Family \$60

Sponsor \$100

Patron \$250

Benefactor \$500

Chairman's Circle \$1,000

Other _____

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

A Sponsor will receive an *Exploring the Pine Barrens of New Jersey* map
A Patron will receive a copy of *The Pine Barrens: Up Close and Natural* DVD
A Benefactor will receive a Pinelands Botanical Print by Robin Jess
A member of the Chairman's Circle will receive a personalized tour of the Pinelands

See the Pinelands Heritage Series schedule at
www.pinelandsalliance.org