



PINELANDS  
PRESERVATION  
ALLIANCE

April/May 2011

Volume 18

Number 4

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### Upcoming PPA Events

Saturday, April 30

Native Plant Sale

11:00am - 3:00pm

Bishop Farmstead,  
Pinelands  
Preservation Alliance

17 PEMBERTON ROAD  
SOUTHAMPTON, NJ 08068  
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# INSIDE THE PINELANDS

Credit: PPA



*Northern Pine Snake, the threatened species that has been found on the property proposed for a WalMart development in Toms River*

## State Proposes to Waive Coastal Protections for Barnegat Bay for WalMart Store

by Carleton Montgomery & Theresa Lettman

Early this year, Governor Christie announced a 10-point plan to restore the health of Barnegat Bay from its current, steep ecological decline. The main cause of this decline is the addition of excessive nitrogen to the Bay from human activities, including the massive over-development of the Bay's watershed. Yet the Christie administration is now proposing to use a legal "settlement" process to approve an enormous new WalMart superstore in the Barnegat Bay watershed – a development that will wash even more nutrients into Barnegat Bay in direct contradiction of the governor's commitment to restoring the Bay.

The settlement would allow Jaylin Holdings, LLC to construct a 189,797 square foot store with a 5,703 square

foot seasonal garden center and parking for 833 vehicles in Toms River. Roofs and parking lots collect and concentrate nutrients from the burning of fossil fuels and other sources. Despite elaborate stormwater structures, experience in our region shows that impervious surfaces send these contaminants into our watersheds and, ultimately, coastal bays and estuaries.

The site is in the Pinelands National Reserve, but protection of water quality and permitting of development in this area is the responsibility of the state's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) under coastal zone regulations.

What makes the administration's proposal even more surprising is that the

*continued on page 5*

Published six times a  
year by the Pinelands  
Preservation Alliance

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*Mailing services generously  
donated by Swift Mailing  
Services of Bensalem, PA  
(www.swiftmailing.com)*

Our newsletter is available  
at:

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

*Printed on 100% recycled  
paper (made from post-con-  
sumer pulp produced in a  
chlorine-free pulping and  
bleaching process)*

**Circulation: 5500**

# Your Will Can Make It Happen!

By Becky Free, Director of Philanthropy



We at the Pinelands Preservation Alliance appreciate all our donors have given us over the years. Your donations of time, money and property have sustained us and helped us to continue advocating for one of the Earth's unique natural resources.

Some members support our crucial conservation work by including PPA in their estate plans. These members are part of PPA's Evergreen Society and have made a gift that not only funds our present, but also ensures the future of PPA. Bequests help protect the future of our organization by funding our endowment, thus enabling PPA to advance its important mission for years to come. The endowment has been crucial to PPA's ability to keep working at full strength through the recession.

You can help protect the Pinelands when you name PPA to receive:

- A specific dollar amount from your estate, or
- A percentage of your estate's value, or
- All or part of the remainder of your estate in your will or trust, or
- All or part of the proceeds of a life insurance policy or retirement plan, or
- A gift of "long term" appreciated securities.

A gift through the Evergreen Society can extend the impact of your lifetime philanthropy, as well as provide a more secure future for your loved ones. Careful estate planning preserves your wealth, lowers estate and income taxes, perpetuates your values and provides for your family and loved ones.

If you love the outdoors, if you cherish the joys of nature and want to save New Jersey's wilderness for others, a

planned gift to PPA might be for you. Your attorney is the best person to help you decide the form and wording of your bequest or gift to PPA. If you choose to remember PPA in your will, a simple codicil is all that is needed and your attorney can help you with the wording. Please contact us for sample wording to take to your attorney.

Please consider leaving a long-lasting legacy, and notify us when you do. To discuss joining the Evergreen Society, contact Director of Philanthropy, Becky Free, at (609) 859-8860 ext. 21 or at [becky@pinelandsalliance.org](mailto:becky@pinelandsalliance.org).

The New Jersey Pinelands are a scenic treasure – help us keep it that way forever.

## Reader Mailbag

To the Editor: In your February-March issue of *Inside the Pinelands* (Vol. 18, #3), the well-deserved tribute to [retiring Pinelands Commission Executive Director] John Stokes was lacking acknowledgment to an overlooked issue of Pinelands protection and oversight: Cultural Resources. This important portion of Pinelands Management has always been treated as a "second fiddle"; notwithstanding without the "Plan", whose ultimate focus is on natural and environmental concerns, thousands of historic and prehistoric "sites" would not have been known, providing new knowledge or potential knowledge, and indeed is another part of John Stokes' legacy.

For what it's worth,  
Jack Cresson  
Principal, Primitive Industries

# Stream Critters: Monitoring the health of our local waterways

By Caroline DiGiovanni, NJ AmeriCorps Watershed #19 Ambassador

Ever wonder how to tell if a stream is clean and healthy? Creatures that live in our streams called benthic macro-invertebrates can tell you a lot about the quality of a stream's water. Let's start out with breaking down the word: *benthic* = bottom dwelling, *macro* = large enough to be seen without magnification, *invertebrate* = lacking a backbone. We are looking at creatures that live below the water's surface and don't have a backbone. This can include insect larva, crustaceans, mollusks and worms. We call these guys "macros" for short.

We can look at the community of macros living in a stream to conduct a biological stream assessment. Using a biological assessment you can make conclusions about the stream's water quality based on which macros you find living there. This is because different macros have different levels of tolerance to pollution.

There are three groups of macros: pollution tolerant, pollution sensitive and pollution intolerant. Pollution tolerant macros can live in degraded waterways, such as a stream that drains a city and also receives effluent from a sewage treatment plant. Some examples of pollution tolerant macros include rat-tailed maggots, aquatic worms, leeches and midge fly larva. Pollution sensitive macros need higher water quality to survive; they can handle a little bit of pollution but not too much. Some examples of pollution sensitive macros are damselfly larva, dragonfly larva, sow bugs and crane fly larva. The last group, the pollution intolerant

macros, need the cleanest, highest quality water to thrive. Examples include mayfly larva, stonefly larva and caddisfly larva.

For example, if we were to go out to a stream, take a sample and find high numbers of pollution tolerant macros, two or three pollution sensitive macros and no pollution intolerant macros, this would tell us that the water quality of the stream is being compromised by the surrounding land use and any discharge going into the stream. If we went to a stream and found a few pollution tolerant macros, a few pollution sensitive macros and a large number of pollution intolerant macros, we would know that the stream's water quality is being minimally impacted by human activity, leaving it relatively clean.

When performing a biological assessment it is important not to forget about species diversity. Finding a pollution tolerant macro doesn't automatically mean the stream is degraded. Finding macros from all three categories indicates a healthy stream with a wide range of habitats to support a wide range of different macros.

**If you are interested in learning more about macros and how to assess our local streams, you can sign up for a FREE daylong, hands-on stream monitoring workshop on Saturday, May 21, at PPA. For more details or to sign up, please contact Caroline DiGiovanni by either email at [caroline@pinelandsalliance.org](mailto:caroline@pinelandsalliance.org) or by phone at (609) 859-8860 x56.**

## PPA's Native Plant Sale

Saturday, April 30  
11:00 – 3:00 p.m.

**\*\*\*Special Member's Only Preview Sale\*\*\***

Friday, April 29, 3 - 6pm

**Must be a current member (or become a member that day) to attend!**

Trees, shrubs and wildflowers native to the Pinelands will be for sale.

**Gardening Lectures and Tours of the Historic House and Barn**

Proceeds of the native plant sale go towards furthering PPA's mission to protect and preserve the Pinelands.

For more information and a plant list, visit PPA's website:

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

## NEW BOOK!

### WILD NEW JERSEY

by David Wheeler

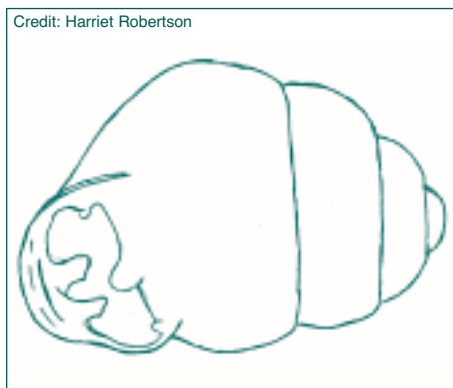
The new book *Wild New Jersey* invites readers along Wheeler's whirlwind year-long tour of **the most ecologically diverse state for its size in America**. Along with the expert guidance of charismatic wildlife biologists and local conservationists, he explores mountains, valleys, beaches, pine barrens, caves, rivers, marshlands, and more—breathtaking landscapes and the state's Noah's Ark of fascinating creatures.

Signed copies are available for \$20.00 at PPA. Call (609) 859-8860 x15 or visit PPA's web store to order your copy

# New Species Discovered in the Pine Barrens!

By Dr. Robert Robertson, Emeritus Curator of Malacology, Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia

It is generally supposed that most mollusks (snails, clams, etc.) do not live in acidic conditions. Their shells consist largely of calcium carbonate, which acids dissolve. The acidic conditions of the New Jersey Pinelands were thought to be barren of mollusks because of this. It was therefore with surprise that malacologists and Pinelands



Credit: Harriet Robertson

*Vertigo malleata*

ecologists learned from an article by B.F. Coles and J.C. Nekola in *The Nautilus* (vol. 121, no. 1, pp. 17-28, 2007) that a previously unrecognized land snail is common in, and specific to, the Pinelands. They named the new species *Vertigo malleata*. The shell body whorl at low to moderate magnification appears beaten (“malleated”). The snail ranges in similar habitats from Alabama and northern Florida to Maine. Its shell is olive-yellow to dark brown, and is up to only 2.1 mm. long. The tiny size

had been the reason it had been overlooked.

For their study, Coles and Nekola collected a total of 3,234 specimens of *V. malleata*, 340 of them in the New Jersey Pinelands. Here it lives in dense leaf litter from heathland shrubs and red maples at the edges of bogs, in white cedar swamps, and in some upland pine-oak forests, but not recently burned areas. It also occurs in *Sphagnum* peat moss.

The New Jersey Pinelands is home to a fascinating variety of plants and animals. For more information go to the the Ecology section of PPA’s website:

[www.pinelandsalliance.org/ecology/](http://www.pinelandsalliance.org/ecology/)

## PINELANDS WATCH NETWORK

Through PPA's Pinelands Watch program citizens keep up to date on important issues and also engage with local planners and officials to advocate for Pinelands protections. Learn about current issues and receive issues of the *Pinelands Watch Newsletter*.

Contact Theresa at (609) 859-8860 x24 or [theresa@pinelandsalliance.org](mailto:theresa@pinelandsalliance.org) to sign up.



## Coming in June:

### 5th Annual State of the Pinelands Report

The report details how the specific actions of government agencies and appointed & elected officials either helped or harmed the Pinelands during the previous year, including the Pinelands Commission, NJ DEP, NJ State Legislature, Governor, mayors, township councils, federal representatives and actions by the courts. The report is released each year during the last week in June to coincide with the anniversary of the signing of the Pinelands Protection Act on June 28, 1979.

### Annual Life Science Field Training Institute June 20 - 24, 2011

Location: The NJ Pinelands

A multi-day field science experience for educators designed to strengthen field-based investigations.

*\$50 refundable deposit*

Professional development credits & Rutgers graduate credit available

**Reg. Deadline:** June 10, 2011

*Sponsored by PPA and funded by a generous grant from The Bonazzi Foundation for the Promotion of Science Education*

Contact Mike at (609) 859-9960 x24 for details or go online to register at <http://www.pinelandsalliance.org/teachers/teacherresources/>

# Barnegat Bay / WalMart

*continued from cover page*

proposed development is the same one that DEP already denied in March of 2010 because it violates a number of regulations under the Coastal Area Facilities Review Act (CAFRA).

So how is it that DEP is now proposing to approve that same development by calling it a “settlement”?

In 2010, DEP denied the development permit based on several grounds, among which the two most prominent were that the site contains protected habitat for Northern Pine Snakes, a threatened species in New Jersey, and that the enormous development footprint violates limits on impervious cover set out for this area in the CAFRA rules.

The proposed settlement is based on a mitigation plan that speaks only to the threatened species habitat issue. In submitting the settlement for public comment, DEP has not explained how it intends to get around the impervious cover limit and other grounds for its prior permit denial.

The proposed mitigation plan is to buy several disconnected parcels and “improve” them for Pine Snakes (which have never been sighted on these parcels) as compensation for degrading or destroying habitat on the development parcel. This kind of trade-off, though, is not permitted by CAFRA rules, which do not allow developers to harm threatened and endangered species habitats on a site by fixing up habitats on other lands.

CAFRA rules state that “development of endangered or threatened wildlife or plant species habitat is

prohibited” so developers need to show that under their plans “endangered or threatened wildlife or plant species habitat would not directly or through secondary impacts on the relevant site or in the surrounding area be adversely affected.” The point is that development in the coastal area cannot harm rare species habitats on site and in the surrounding area – both are forbidden.

In addition, the mitigation plan is fatally flawed by numerous scientific and practical defects. For example, all but one of the mitigation parcels the developer is to buy and “improve” are miles from the development site and separated from it by Route 70 – a known death trap for snakes, turtles and other land-bound creatures.

In the end, this development is simply too big for the site, given its water quality, habitat and other qualities. A substantially smaller footprint could work, but the developer seems intent on getting the state’s approval to ram a square peg into a round hole.

PPA has submitted a detailed critique of the settlement to DEP, including three expert reports on: the Pine Snake mitigation plan, the nitrogen and stormwater impacts of the development, and a variety of engineering problems. All this material and comments from other organizations can be found on PPA’s web site under [www.pinelandsalliance.org/protection/work/currentissues/walmartomsrivermanchester/](http://www.pinelandsalliance.org/protection/work/currentissues/walmartomsrivermanchester/).

DEP will make a final decision on whether to finalize the settlement sometime in the coming months.

## FAIRS & FESTIVALS

**SUNDAY, APRIL 17**

**WHARTON STATE FOREST  
EARTH DAY CELEBRATION**

*Batsto Village, 12 - 4pm*

**SUNDAY, MAY 1**

**ACUA EARTH DAY  
FESTIVAL**

*Egg Harbor Township,  
10am - 4pm*

**SUNDAY, MAY 15**

**OUTDOOR ADVENTURE  
EXPO**

*Turkey Swamp Park,  
Freehold, 11am - 5pm*

**SATURDAY, JUNE 18**

**BURLINGTON COUNTY  
EARTH FAIR**

*Smithville Park, Eastampton,  
10am - 4pm*

**SATURDAY, JUNE 25**

**WHITESBOG BLUEBERRY  
FESTIVAL**

*Historic Whitesbog Village,  
Browns Mills, 10am - 4pm*

**Stop by the PPA table and  
check out our selection of  
books, clothing and other  
merchandise!**



*New sign for the Michael W. Huber Center for Pinelands Policy & Education at PPA, named in honor of former PPA Trustee and first Board Chair Michael Huber, who passed away in January 2009*

# PPA MEMBERandum: Susan Dowling

*Susan Dowling is a Medford resident and a long-time PPA volunteer.*

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

**Sue Dowling:** I have been a member of PPA since July 1997.

**PPA:** What prompted you to become a member?

**SD:** I became a member of PPA after attending a dinner meeting where PPA's first Executive Director, Sally Price, was the speaker. We had just moved into the area, and I did not, at the time, know much about the history or ecology of the Pine Barrens. I found her talk and slides captivating, and wanted to learn more and experience what the Pines had to offer. Joining PPA seemed to be the perfect choice.

**PPA:** What PPA programs or events have you attended?

**SD:** I have attended many events held at PPA, and can often be found staffing the front desk in the Pinelands Visitor Center.

**PPA:** What specific PPA activity (outreach, policy, Adventures, etc.) has really impressed you?

**SD:** I have had the opportunity to canoe several of the rivers of the Pine Barrens with other PPA members, and each time has been a wonderful experience.

**PPA:** What has PPA done for you or your town?

**SD:** PPA has helped my town, Medford, and many other towns throughout the Pinelands protect important habitats and open spaces from development.

**PPA:** Why would you urge others to join PPA?

**SD:** PPA is a great organization, with great people working here. The message about preserving the Pine Barrens needs to get out to people, and PPA are doing a great job of doing this!



*PPA Executive Director Carleton Montgomery was part of a panel on "Energizing the State Plan to Advance Redevelopment" at the NJ Future Redevelopment Forum in March*

## PINELANDS COMMISSION MEETINGS

Thurs., April 8, 9:30am

Friday, May 13, 9:30am

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**CALL (609) 894-7300 FOR DETAILS**

## WHITESBOG

### BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL

**SATURDAY, JUNE 25**

**10AM - 4PM**

**HISTORIC WHITESBOG VILLAGE, RT. 530 BROWNS MILLS**

CELEBRATE ALL THINGS BLUEBERRY AT THIS OLD-FASHIONED FESTIVAL. GREAT FAMILY FUN – BLUEBERRY PICKING, HISTORICAL PRESENTATIONS AND TOURS, ARTS AND COUNTRY CRAFTS, MUSIC, FOOD AND LOTS MORE.

**VISIT THE PPA BOOTH TO BROWSE OUR MERCHANDISE AND RECEIVE UPDATES ON CURRENT ISSUES.**

## Forked River Mountain Cleanup

**Sunday, April 17**

The Forked River Mountain Coalition, in cooperation with the Ocean County Parks Department and the Pinelands Preservation Alliance, will conduct a cleanup of the Forked River Mountain area for Earth Day, Sunday, April 17, 2011. For more information or to pre-register call (609) 971-1635 or visit [www.frmc.org](http://www.frmc.org)

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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*Pine Barrens Coalition*

Angela Wenger  
*New Jersey Academy of Aquatic Sciences*

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Carleton K. Montgomery  
*Executive Director, Pinelands Preservation Alliance*

## Pinelands Calendar of Events

### April & May 2011

#### Saturday, April 16

*Making Philadelphia the Greenest City in the Country (Lewis W. Barton Arboretum Lecture)*

11am. Medford Leas, One Medford Leas Way Medford, New Jersey. Drew Becher, President, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, at Medford Leas. Drew Becher, President, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, will be the guest speaker at the Lewis W. Barton Arboretum Lecture at Medford Leas. Drew's topic, "Making Philadelphia the Greenest City in the Country", will highlight ways that PHS programs add to the life of Philadelphia. Reservations for the program are appreciated. Please phone 609-654-3527 to confirm your attendance. More Information: (609) 654-3527.

#### Sunday, April 17

*Forked River Mountain Cleanup*

The Forked River Mountain coalition, in cooperation with the Ocean County Parks Department and the Pinelands Preservation Alliance, will conduct a cleanup of the Forked River Mountain area for Earth Day. For more information or to register contact 609 971-1635.

#### Monday, April 25

"Pinelands: A Visual Journey" slide show

6:30pm. Monmouth Sierra Club, Brookdale Community College, Lincroft, NJ "Pinelands: A Visual Journey" slide show by fine art landscape photographer Al Horner.

#### Sunday, May 1

*Canoe/Kayak the N. Branch Rancocas Creek (Burlington Co).*

9am. Celebrate May Day on our 14 mile trip from BCCC to Mount Holly. Meet at the Vincentown Diner; arrive early for breakfast. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. Sponsored by the West Jersey Group-Sierra Club. More Information: George & Leona, 609-259-3734

#### Sunday, May 8

*Canoe/Kayak the Oswego River (Burlington Co)*

10am. The Oswego is one of the prettiest Pines waterways as it winds through varied landscapes. Meet at Lake Oswego, Lake Oswego RD. Boats can be rented from Mick's Pine Barrens Rental 800-281-1380

or [www.mickscanoerental.com/](http://www.mickscanoerental.com/)  
Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. More Information: George & Leona, (609) 259-3734.

#### Sunday, May 15

*Batsto Village Decoy Show*

9:00am - 4:00pm, Batsto Village. Highlights include: Lectures, Decoy, Vendors, Waterfowl Outfitters, Water Dog Demonstrations. This favorite Decoy Show at Batsto will feature decoy carvers both local and from across the region. They will conduct carving demonstrations and sell their wares. Duckboats of many varieties and the Barnegat Sneak Box will be part of the venue. Wildlife photographers and artists will display their talents and products. Sponsored by the Batsto Citizens Committee, Inc. More Information: Mike, 856-783-2941.

#### Saturday, May 21

*Pinelands Revisited Art Exhibit Reception*

Exhibit Dates: May 13 - June 20

Long Beach Island Foundation, 120 Long Beach Blvd., Loveladies.

Reception: Saturday, May 21, 5:00pm - 7:00pm. Back by popular demand, an exhibit in partnership with the Princeton Artists Alliance and the New Jersey Conservation Foundation, PAA artists were taught about the unique biology of the Pine Barrens by biologists from the New Jersey Conservation Foundation. Members of the Alliance have created images inspired by what they have learned about this wonderful environmental resource. More Information: (609) 494-1241.

*Stream Monitoring Workshop*

10am - 3pm. Pinelands Preservation Alliance 17 Pemberton Rd. Southamton. Ever wonder about the water quality in our streams? Take a FREE stream monitoring workshop with you local AmeriCorps New Jersey Watershed Ambassador. Join us to learn how to biologically and visually assess a stream. Workshop includes indoor presentation and hands on in stream portion. Preregistration is preferred. For more information or sign up contact Caroline (609)589-8860 x56.

*If your organization is having an activity you would like to see listed, contact Inside the Pinelands, 17 Pemberton Road, Southamton, NJ 08088; ph: (609) 859-8860; e-mail [mikeh@pinelandsalliance.org](mailto:mikeh@pinelandsalliance.org). Next deadline: April 15, 2011.*

**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

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

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



*This code can be scanned and read from an app available from the iTunes or Android web stores*

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

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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

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[www.facebook.com/Pinelands](http://www.facebook.com/Pinelands)



Please Recycle this newsletter! When finished give it to a friend or neighbor and encourage them to learn about PPA's mission and programs.