



PINELANDS
PRESERVATION
ALLIANCE

Sept- Oct 2009
Issue 51

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PPA Event

Special 20th
Anniversary Field
Trip

October 24, 2009
9am - 3pm

Join PPA staff geologist
Rich Bizub as we explore
some of the water
resources and geologic
features of the area.

\$10/person; register ahead
of time.

Fee is non-refundable.
Information or to register
contact Tom at
(609) 859-8860 x14 or
tomdunn@pinelandsalliance.org

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PINELANDS WATCH



Land such as this in Ocean County needs funding to be purchased

Support Open Space, Farmland and Historic Preservation!

by Jaclyn Rhoads

On June 25, 2009, the New Jersey Senate and Assembly voted with strong bi-partisan support to place a \$400 million bond measure on the November ballot to let voters decide whether to continue funding for the Green Acres, Blue Acres and Farmland Preservation programs and the NJ Historic Trust.

Funds from the 1998 Garden State Preservation Trust and the 2007 bond measure have all been appropriated for state, county, local and non-profit open space, farmland and historic preservation projects throughout the state, leaving coffers virtually empty for any new projects. Without additional funds, New Jersey will suffer the first gap in funding for these

efforts in over two decades and miss out on tremendous land conservation opportunities and reduced land values in the current real estate market.

NJ voters have approved 13 of 13 statewide ballot measures for preservation efforts since 1961. An April survey of 600 likely voters found that a majority are likely to support a November bond measure, especially when told the benefits and cost.

State preservation programs are a high-return investment in our state. A recent analysis based on extensive DEP data found that a \$400 million open space investment could protect 73,500 acres and yield \$10 in economic value for

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every \$1 invested, in the form of ecosystem services (such as water purification, waste treatment and flood mitigation), natural goods (such as fish and farm products), and eco-tourism revenue across the state. The annual cost per household would be \$10.

Pinelands Preservation Alliance is a member of The New Jersey - Keep It Green (KIG) Campaign, which represents over 125 statewide, local and regional organizations ranging from sportsmen's groups and environmental organizations to affordable housing and urban park advocates. New Jersey Conservation Foundation, in cooperation with the Keep it Green Coalition, has created a series of three White Papers describing the *Benefits, Accomplishments* and *Future Needs of State Preservation Programs*. Some of the findings on economic and environmental benefits are as follows:

Economic Benefits for Land and Property

- The average home price increases 16% when it is located near permanently preserved open space
- The value of a vacant lot increases 35% when it is located next to permanently preserved open space
- Parks contribute up to 20% of the value of homes in urban areas
- 1,931 farms generated \$30 million in income from sales of edible farm products in 2007
- Properties listed on an historic register benefit from at least a 5% increase in market value

Jobs

- 29 jobs are created for every \$1,000,000 spent rehabbing historic residential buildings
- 38 jobs are created for every \$1,000,000 spent rehabbing historic non-residential buildings
- Each \$1 million spent on non-residential historic rehabilitation creates 2 jobs more than the same money spent on new construction

A study of five NJ towns found that...

- For every \$1 collected in residential property taxes, over \$1.00 is spent in municipal services, in a range from \$1.10 to \$1.51
- For every tax dollar collected from privately owned natural lands, less than a dollar is spent on municipal services, in a range from 33 to 66 cents

Environmental Benefits

- For every 10% increase in forest cover, water treatment and chemical costs decrease by 20%
- One tree provides \$62,000 in air pollution control
- New Jersey's estuaries and bays provide \$5.3 billion in ecosystem services
- Open spaces in New Jersey support 2,134 known native plant species
- Open spaces in New Jersey support close to 900 wildlife species

The complete White Papers are available at www.njconservation.org.

Most New Jersey residents would agree that preservation of land is important to our society, to our health and to our well-being. The bond act allows the State Treasurer to issue bonds, which must be paid back within the next 30 years from existing revenue sources. New Jersey residents win by purchasing land now at its current market value, rather than waiting for the values to skyrocket and sacrificing what precious land we have left.

What You Can Do:

- Support protection of farmland, open space and historic preservation by voting YES on the ballot question on November 3rd.
- Ask your organization, board, town and county to pass a resolution in support of the ballot question. For model resolution – visit <http://njkeepitgreen.org/getinvolved.htm>.
- Donate to the campaign by visiting the following website: Visit <http://njkeepitgreen.org/donate.htm>.
- Write letters to the editor in favor of the ballot question.

For more information about the campaign, please contact Jaclyn Rhoads at Pinelands Preservation Alliance 609-859-8860 ext. 18 or jaclyn@pinelandsalliance.org



Pinelands-Friendly Yard and Garden Fair

Saturday, September 12th
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Woodford Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge
Medford, Burlington County

*The event features a presentation by **Mike McGrath**,
host of the nationally-syndicated radio show "**You Bet
Your Garden**"*

Native Plants will be available for purchase from:
*Earth First Natives, Pinelands, Rare Find and
Triple Oaks Nurseries.*

Additional highlights:
*Nature walks and educational programs.
Landscape and native planting advice*

*For more information log onto:
www.nj.gov/pinelands or www.pinelandsalliance.org*



Editor: Theresa Lettman

Distributed to members of the Pinelands Watch Network and other members of the public. If you would like to receive these alerts, please contact Theresa Lettman at (609) 859-8860 Ext 22 or theresa@pinelandsalliance.org.

Prior issues are available at: www.pinelandsalliance.org

Printed on 30% recycled paper.

Check out our NEW WEBSITE!

www.pinelandsalliance.org

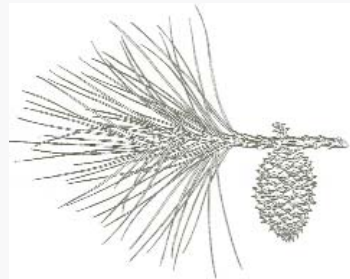


New features include:

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 photo slideshows. Things To Do - hiking, cycling, camping, canoeing, historic sites.

Bookmark our new website and share with friends!

And checkout PPA on Facebook - become a fan!



Upcoming Pinelands Commission Meetings

Friday, October 9, 2009
Friday, November 13, 2009
Friday, December 11, 2009

Pinelands Commission meetings are open to the public. Agendas are posted one week prior to the meeting date at www.nj.gov/pinelands

The Pinelands needs your help...and so do we!
Please support our mission & become a member

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: _____

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 and Pinelands Adventures

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 & 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



Pinelands Preservation Alliance

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**Support Open Space, Farmland
and Historic Preservation!**



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