



PINELANDS
PRESERVATION
ALLIANCE

April - May 2012
Issue 60

INSIDE:

Pinelands Commission
membership 3

Upcoming Event

Pinelands Preservation
Alliance's Native Plant
Sale at the Bishop
Farmstead in
Southampton Township

PPA Members-only
Plant Sale
Friday, April 27th
3:00pm-6:00pm

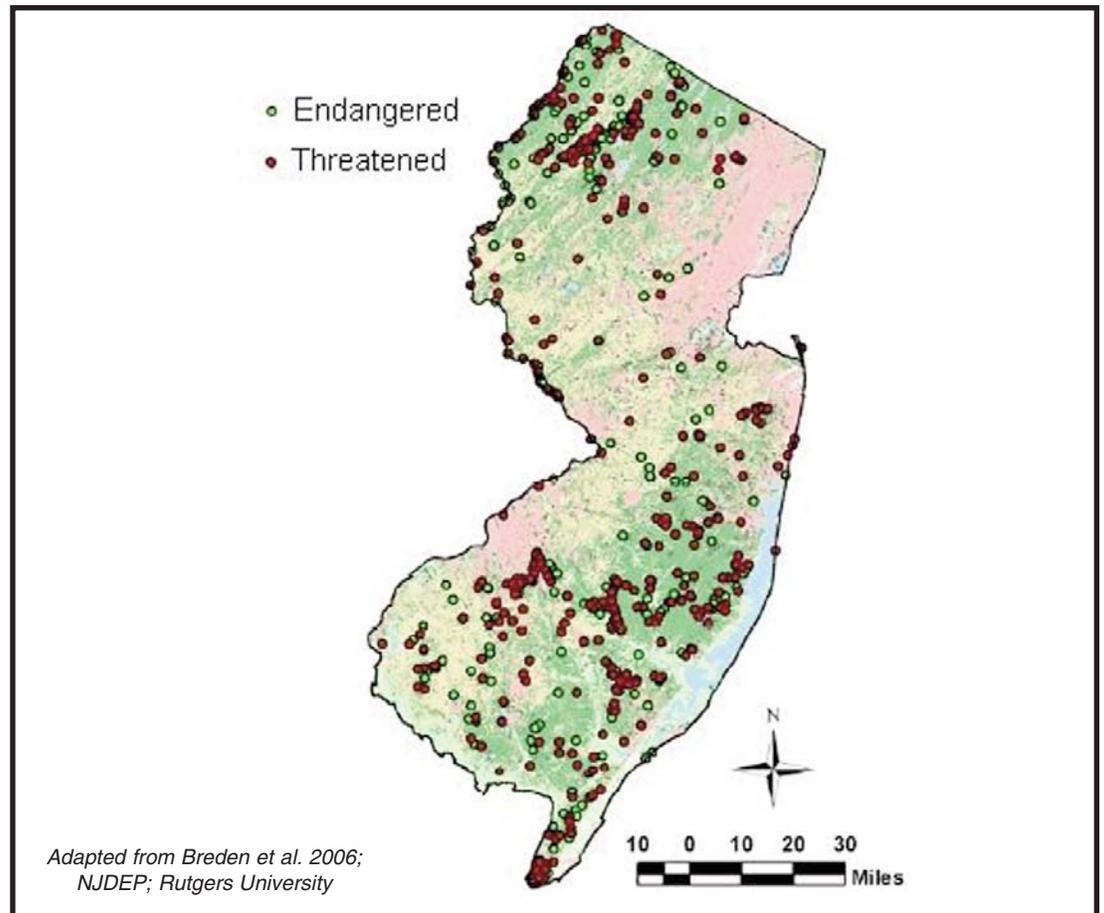
and

Public Sale
Saturday, April 28th
11:00am-3:00pm

We'll have lots of plants to
choose from, including
natives of the Pinelands and
of South Jersey in
general - from Asters and
Bearberry to Vervain and
Winterberry.

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PINELANDS WATCH



Adapted from Breden et al. 2006;
NJDEP; Rutgers University

Existing Endangered and Threatened Plant Populations in New Jersey

Support Rare Plant Protection in New Jersey

Biologists have long been aware of New Jersey's extraordinary flora. Though densely populated, New Jersey is home to almost 2200 native plant species. The great botanical diversity of the state is due in large part to its geographic diversity and variety of habitats -the hemlock forests of the Highlands, the bogs of the Pinelands, the dunes and salt marshes of the shore. Despite such diversity, approximately 39% of the state's native plant species are considered to be threatened. At least 32 plant species have already been

extirpated from the state. Thirty plant species are known from only a single population occurrence in the state and 52 species found in New Jersey are globally rare. Some of these species exist only in New Jersey, and nowhere else in the world. And yet, no state-wide protection of these rare plant populations exists.

The New Jersey Endangered Plant Species List Act of 1989 requires only that a list be created of plant species found to be endangered in New Jersey as well as plant "species of concern." This Act does

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not require actual protection of these listed plants. Other statutes, such as the Pinelands Protection Act, the Highlands Act, and the Coastal Area Facility Review Act (CAFRA) call for protection of the listed endangered plants within their jurisdictions, but many rare plant populations throughout the state remain unprotected.

Plant diversity is a critical component of overall biodiversity. Biodiversity drives the complex interactions within our ecosystem that provide us with such things as food, maintenance of air and water quality, waste decomposition and soil generation, nutrient cycling, pollination services, natural pest control, climate stabilization, flood and erosion control, and medicines and pharmaceuticals. In addition to these ecological services that our communities require, many people view biodiversity as having intrinsic value worth protecting. The species with which we share our environment can be appreciated for their own sake of existence – for being living examples of the wonder of nature and for making our world feel full and whole and interesting.

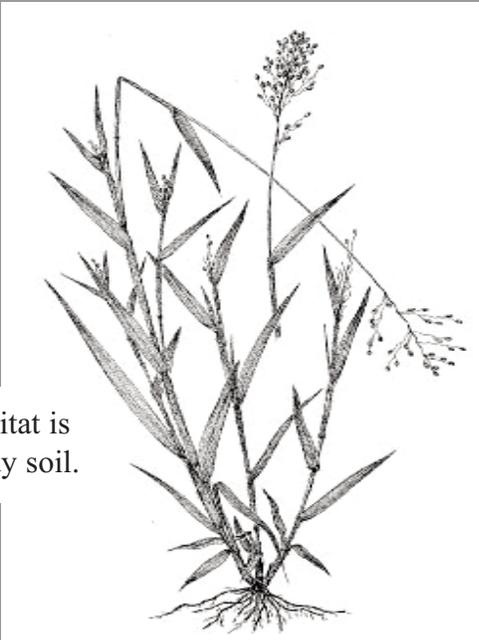
The original authors of the Endangered Plant Species List Act intended for this legislation to fully protect rare plant species in New Jersey. Unfortunately, a less effective version of this Act, calling only for the creation of a list, is the one that was passed by the state legislature. Pinelands Preservation Alliance, New Jersey Conservation Foundation, and the Partnerships for New Jersey Plant Conservation are picking up where this earlier legislation has left off with a new effort to formally protect our rare native flora. We have drafted language for a New Jersey Native Plant Protection Act that, if enacted, would legally protect rare plants and rare ecological communities throughout the state from harm and habitat destruction and also require the creation of conservation plans for existing populations of rare plant species. It's time for New Jersey to protect its rare and endangered plants to the same extent it protects its wildlife. Plants and wildlife are part of the same ecological community, and one group cannot be protected if the other is ignored.

We need the support of local environmental advocacy groups, conservation groups, scientific organizations, ecologists, naturalists, outdoor enthusiasts, and

any other individual or group concerned with rare plants and biodiversity conservation. In particular, we are currently looking for New Jersey organizations to list as supporters of this effort. The more supporters we have, the greater the chance of successful plant protection. PPA is also offering to give presentations to your organization – from conservation groups to garden clubs – about our plant protection campaign.

For more information, please visit PPA's website at www.pinelandsalliance.org/protection/work/currentissues/ecological/rareplantprotection/ and contact Amy Karpati at amy@pinelandsalliance.org to sign on as a supporter or to schedule a presentation.

Officially unprotected:
***Panicum oligoanthos*, Few-fruited Panic-grass**
State Rank: S1



The habitat is dry, sandy soil.

Illustration courtesy Utah State Univ. Grass Manual (on-line version)

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

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Partnerships for New Jersey Plant Conservation

The Partnerships for New Jersey Plant Conservation was formed in 2003 as a cooperative effort among scientists, government agencies, and non-profit organizations to promote the conservation, protection, and restoration of rare plants in New Jersey. Participants include Pinelands Preservation Alliance, New Jersey Conservation Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the NJDEP Natural Heritage Program, the Pinelands Commission, and local botanists and ecologists, including those of Drexel University, Rutgers University, and Raritan Valley Community College.

Check out our WEBSITE!

www.pinelandsalliance.org

Features include:

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.

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www.facebook.com/Pinelands

New Jersey Pinelands Commissioners

The Pinelands Commission is made up of 15 Commissioners. One member is appointed by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior and one member is appointed by each of the seven counties with land in the Pinelands. The remaining seven seats are filled by the Governor, subject to review and consent of the New Jersey Senate. Members of the Commission serve staggered three-year terms. The Governor also appoints the Chairperson.

The mission of the New Jersey Pinelands Commission is to preserve, protect and enhance the natural and cultural resources of the Pinelands National Reserve, and to encourage compatible economic and other human activities consistent with that purpose.

County Appointments

Atlantic County appointee: Paul E. Galletta, Owner and Director, Atlantic Blueberry Company.

Burlington County appointee: Sean W. Earlen, Director, Real Estate & Acquisitions, Constructural Dynamics, Inc., PA.

Cape May County appointee: William Brown, President, William J. Brown Real Estate Agency.

Cumberland County appointee: Leslie Ficcaglia, past member of the Maurice River Township Planning Board.

Camden County appointee: Edward McGlinchey, Public Works Manager, Winslow Township.

Gloucester County appointee: Francis A. Witt, Joseph F. McKernan Architects and Associates.

Ocean County appointee: John Haas, retired Ocean County Recycling Coordinator.

Gubernatorial Appointments

Mark S. Lohbauer, JGSC Group, a retail market-making firm that focuses on revitalizing downtown commercial corridors, currently serving as chairman.

Candace McKee Ashmun, serving as a member of the Pinelands Commission since its creation in 1979.

Robert Jackson, former Mayor of West Cape May, Cape May County.

Edward Lloyd, Clinical Professor of Environmental Law, Columbia Law School.

Gary Quinn, Mayor of Lacey, serving on the Lacey Township Committee since 2003.

D'Arcy Rohan Green, Councilwomen, Bay Head Borough, Ocean County.

Rick Prickett, Councilman, Pemberton Township since 2002.

The Federal Appointee of the Secretary of the Interior

Rick Harris, Associate Regional Director Natural Resources & Science, Northeast Regional Office, National Park Service.

For more information about the members see <http://www.state.nj.us/pinelands/about/memb/>

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

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



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Support Rare Plant Protection in New Jersey



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