



PINELANDS
PRESERVATION
ALLIANCE

June - July 2014
Issue 68

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Barnegat Bay
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**Upcoming
PPA Event**

**Celebrate 25 Years
with PPA
Saturday, July 26
5pm to 9pm**

**PPA Headquarters
17 Pemberton Rd.
Southampton**

You are invited to
celebrate our 25th
anniversary! Art open-
ing, dancing, and
much more. Hope to
see you there.

17 Pemberton Road
Southampton, NJ 08088
T - 609.859.8860
F - 609.859.8804
Email: ppa@pinelandsalliance.org
Web: www.pinelandsalliance.org

PINELANDS WATCH



Leslie Ficaglia served for 18 years as Cumberland County's representative on the N.J. Pinelands Commission

Do you know your Pinelands Commission County Representative?

When the Pinelands Protection Act was passed in 1979, it established a 15-member public body to be known as the Pinelands Commission. This Commission was charge with putting into place a comprehensive management plan for 1.1 million acres in order to protect, preserve and enhance the resources of the New Jersey Pinelands.

Seven members of the Commission are appointed by the Governor, with advice and consent of the Senate. Seven members are appointed from each of the seven counties with land in the New Jersey Pinelands region. These counties are Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester and Ocean County. The final member is appointed by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior and serves as the federal representative. All Commissioners are unpaid volunteers.

County members are appointed by the county Board of Chosen Freeholders. Do you know who is serving from your

county?

The current county members are Atlantic, Paul Galletta; Burlington, Sean Earlen; Camden, Edward McGlinchey; Cape May, William Brown; Gloucester, Francis Witt; Ocean, Alan Avery. Information about each of these individuals is posted on the NJ Pinelands Commission web site at www.state.nj.us/pinelands/about/memb/.

The last of the seven counties is Cumberland. Cumberland County's representative for the last 18 years was Leslie Ficaglia, but on April 22, 2014 she was replaced. The Cumberland County Freeholder Board appointed Jane Jannarone a local business owner and former Cumberland County freeholder. Ms. Ficaglia had no notice that she would be replaced.

Leslie Ficaglia had served as a member of the Maurice River Township Planning Board for almost twenty years,

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including seven as Chair. She was Vice Chair of the Cumberland County Planning Board until 2007, and is currently a member of the County Tourism Council and a trustee of the Citizens United to Protect the Maurice River and its Tributaries.

Leslie Ficaglia was one seven Pinelands Commissioners who voted, in January 2014, against the 22 mile high pressure pipeline that South Jersey Gas wanted to put through the Forest Management Areas of Cumberland, Atlantic and Cape May Counties. This pipeline was to serve the B.L. England plant on Beesley's Point, Upper Township. The final vote was tied 7-7 and they needed 8 votes in favor for the project to move forward. But now the Pinelands Commission is under a lot of pressure to overturn this decision. In March 2014 South Jersey Gas appealed the Commission's decision to the Superior Court of New Jersey. And now Cumberland County has removed a crucial "no" vote by replacing Leslie Ficaglia.

County Pinelands Commission appointments are made by the board of freeholders in each county. The meetings of Freeholder Boards are open to the public and most Boards post their agendas prior to the scheduled meeting. These meetings give Pinelands supporters an opportunity to attend and speak out in support of Pinelands protection!

What can you do?

- Attend your Board of Freeholder meetings and speak out in support of Pinelands protection; remind them that every applicant should follow the Comprehensive Management Plan regulations.
- Write a letter to the editor. Tell your local, daily or weekly paper by writing a letter letting residents in your area know who your county representative is and how they vote on important issues before the Commission.

Pinelands Commission Has Public Development Web Page

The Pinelands Commission has a web page to assist the public in learning which applications for Public Development or Waivers of Strict Compliance are being reviewed. This page can assist the public in learning which applications have been submitted even before the applicant's public notice is published in the newspaper.

Log onto www.state.nj.us/pinelands, and navigate to "Permitting & Applicant Services" then to "Application Status Reports."



Web locations for Pinelands County Freeholder Board Meeting Agendas

Atlantic County

http://www.aclink.org/Freeholders/mainpages/freeholder_mtg_schedule.asp

Burlington County

<http://press.co.burlington.nj.us/PRESS/Meetings/Default.aspx>

Cape May County

<http://www.capemaycountygov.net/Cit-e-Access/Meetings/?TID=5&TPID=385>

Camden County

<http://www.camdencounty.com/government/freeholder-meetings/2014-freeholder-meetings>

Cumberland County

<http://cumberland.iqm2.com/citizens/Default.aspx?AgencyName=Cumberland>

Gloucester County

<http://www.gloucestercountynj.gov/opengov/freeholderagenda/2014agenda/default.asp>

Ocean County

<http://www.co.ocean.nj.us/AgendaListings.aspx?Name=1>

Get Involved!

Attend a Pinelands Commission Meeting

Regular monthly meetings:

Thursday, June 12, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Friday, July 11, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.

Friday, August 8, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, September 11, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Friday, October 10, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.

Plan Review committee meetings:

Friday, July 11, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.

Friday, October 10, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.

Friday, December 12, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.

CMP Policy & Implementation Committee meetings:

Friday, June 27, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.

Friday, July 25, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, August 27, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.

Friday, September 26, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.

Pinelands Commission meetings are held at 9:30 a.m. at the Richard J. Sullivan Center for Environmental Policy and Education, 15C Springfield Road, New Lisbon. Agendas are posted one week prior to the meeting date at:

www.state.nj.us/pinelands/about/mtng/

Bay Advocates Issue Evaluation of Christie Administration's 10-Point "Comprehensive Action Plan" to Protect Barnegat Bay

Score Card Outlines Progress, Setbacks and Hope for Success

On December 9, 2010, Governor Chris Christie announced a comprehensive action plan to address the ecological health of the 660-square-mile Barnegat Bay watershed. Now that the plan has had the opportunity to advance for over three years, environmental groups working to protect and restore the Bay are offering their evaluation of how they feel the plan is progressing.

On Friday, April 25th NJDEP Commissioner Martin delivered the Department's official public update on the plan. In response, Pinelands Preservation Alliance, American Littoral Society, Clean Ocean Action, and Save Barnegat Bay evaluated the plan thus far and offered "Thumbs Up", "Thumbs Down" and "Fingers Crossed" on each of the 10-Points.

The groups are supportive of the plan and maintain that it provides a good framework to build upon, but have urged the Christie Administration to take stronger legal steps to clean up the Bay. The most important and immediate step that the Governor needs to take is to declare the Bay impaired for excessive nutrients. An impairment designation under the Clean Water Act is the strongest step on the path to a healthy Bay.

The challenges facing Barnegat Bay haven't changed and time continues to pass by without the action needed to reverse the decline in the Bay's health. The Governor's Plan lays the foundation for steps that are needed to improve the Bay, but lack of action is leaving a good plan on the shelf.

The public is encouraged to **sign an online petition** to request the administration declare the Bay impaired for nutrients under the Clean Water Act. This action is the first step in developing a pollution reduction budget (Total Maximum Daily Load).

<http://tinyurl.com/barnegatbay>

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

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Address: _____

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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 *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



Pinelands Preservation Alliance

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17 Pemberton Road
Southampton, NJ 08088

Address Service Requested

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Do you know your Pinelands Commission County Representative?



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