Gov. Brendan T. Byrne - Father of the Pinelands

by Carleton Montgomery, Executive Director

Former governor Brendan T. Byrne passed away in January at the age of 93, and we mourn his loss. Brendan Byrne was truly the father of the Pinelands. And after signing the Pinelands Protection Act in 1979, he never stopped advocating for the Pinelands in the face of all the challenges and threats he saw over the ensuing years. He was an ever-present inspiration to all of us who advocate for the Pinelands. We at PPA believe it is important that we keep him and those who helped him in our thoughts, both as a tribute to their achievements and to keep us on our toes as we carry on the struggle for the Pinelands.

Brendan Byrne was governor of New Jersey from 1974 to 1982. He is famed for his honesty, charm and humor as well as his many achievements in public life. He brought big changes to the state, including the income tax to fund schools and reduce reliance on property taxes, Atlantic City casinos, and voter registration reforms among others. But the achievement of which he was most proud was the creation of the Pinelands.

Governor Byrne did not invent the idea of protecting the Pinelands through large-scale planning to control growth. Citizens and scientists had been advocating for protection for some years, seeing the destruction of forests, farms and water that sprawling development was bringing to New Jersey. But Byrne became persuaded this was an important cause, partly through his friendship with John McPhee and reading McPhee’s seminal book, The Pine Barrens. And he decided to make this cause his own. As he said a few years ago, “I said to myself, if this is a good thing to do, I should do it.” And he did.

In his second term, he brought together all the ideas and energies of other dedicated people, from then-Congressman Jim Florio to thousands of citizen activists, and made their dream a reality. It wasn’t easy at all. He had to make clear to his

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Planting native species around your home or business instead of non-natives limits your impact on the surrounding environment.

Native plants serve as hosts for many native insects and are well adapted for growing in the sandy, acidic pine barren soils. Native plants don’t require the additional fertilizers and watering that many non-native ornamentals do. This not only saves money, but also limits the negative impacts fertilizers may have on our unique pine barren soils and water. Providing cover for animals and attracting native bees and butterflies are some of the other benefits to planting a native garden. Add to the plant diversity of your home or business by planting a native garden this spring!

PPA will hold its annual Native Plant Sale on April 21st at our Bishop Farmstead in Southampton from 11am-2pm. Our PPA members-only pre-sale will take place Friday, April 20th from 3pm – 6pm. You must be a current PPA member to attend.

We will have over 60 species and varieties of plants with prices ranging from $2.50 for plugs to $20.00 for larger trees and shrubs. Plants that are native to South Jersey and the New Jersey Pine Barrens will be for sale.

Before you come to the plant sale we urge you to explore the website www.JerseyYards.org. This innovative website allows you to search for native plants based on the ecoregion you live in. You can even create a username and save your list to review later. This website was is a joint project between the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Ocean County Soil Conservation District and the Barnegat Bay Partnership. Planting natives is a great way to eliminate lawn fertilizers and reduce the impacts of stormwater runoff.

PPA also offers a full color brochure to guide people looking for native Pinelands plants. We hope you will make your yard Jersey-Friendly this spring!

Come out to our Plant Sale and meet our staff, we hope to see you there!

Check our website to see what plants we will have available this year. The plant sale price list will be posted in April. Contact Ryan Rebozo, Director of Conservation Science, with any questions regarding the native plant sale – phone 609-859-8860 ext 126, email ryan@pinelandsalliance.org.
期间2017年，致力于保护Pinelands的志愿者们组织了工作，总共花费了1,683小时在田间工作，目的是保护Pinelands。这些志愿者的工作超出了我们的预期。他们清理了90,000磅来自非法倾倒的垃圾，这些垃圾来自州森林、公园和野生动物管理区。志愿者们还创建了335个州森林标志牌，以帮助定义边界线，显示规则和规定，并控制公共土地上的机动车辆。他们还帮助在新菲尔德、Wharton州森林、新泽西保护基金会（NJCF）Evert小径保护区和Brendan T. Byrne州森林维护小径，并在Gloucester县的Franklin镇的Piney Hollow保护区种植了几十棵树。

Pinelands的志愿者们还帮助保护了许多地区免受非法越野车的侵害，他们通过安装物理障碍物并报告违规行为来实现这一目标。这项工作是在Wharton州森林、NJCF的Franklin Parker保护区、Bass河州森林和重要的自然地保护区内完成的。这些成就只可能是在数百名志愿者的帮助下实现的，他们相信这个事业。

在2018年，我们希望增长这个志愿者队伍，以便帮助其他非营利保护组织以及环保部门（DEP）在Governor Murphy的领导下完成其使命。我们需要解决的一个关键问题是，实现Pinelands委员会的决议，该决议旨在保护Wharton州森林，而这些志愿者帮助实现这一目标。今年的结果是证明了一群人对地方的承诺，我们希望这将有助于在未来几年受益于Pinelands和水体。如果您对参与志愿工作感兴趣，可以联系我，电话是609-859-8860 ext 125，或通过电子邮件Jason@PinelandsAlliance.org。
Off Shore Drilling Threatens the Pinelands
by Katie Smith, Policy Advocate

On January 4, the federal administration unveiled a proposal that would open up almost all of the nation’s federal waters for off-shore oil and gas drilling, including off the coast of New Jersey. The Draft National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program would allow oil and gas drilling in over 90% of the Outer Continental Shelf area. The proposal is a sharp reversal of current policy, which protects over 90% of this area from oil and gas drilling.

Offshore drilling poses significant risks at all stages. Workers on rigs risk their lives working 12-hour shifts, and any missteps can be fatal. Oil spills at sea devastate ecosystems and fishery- and tourism-based economies. It can take decades for ecosystems to recover from spills, and some species may not rebound at all. Extracting this oil and gas increases our dependence on fossil fuels instead of renewable energy. In turn, the burning of fossil fuels exacerbates pollution and climate change.

Transporting oil and gas from the rig to refineries brings additional risks of ruptures, explosions, and leaks, which would directly endanger drinking water and communities, like those of the Pinelands. Former Governor James Florio, among others, has repeatedly cited the risk offshore drilling would pose to the Pinelands as a driving force behind his support of legal and regulatory protections for the region. The Pinelands sits atop the 17-trillion gallon Kirkwood-Cohansey aquifer, which services almost one million New Jersey residents and provides habitat for over 40 threatened and endangered wildlife species.

Unless the courts reject the Pinelands Commission’s recent decisions, the way the Commission has twisted the Comprehensive Management Plan to approve the New Jersey Natural Gas and South Jersey Gas pipelines leaves little potential for the Pinelands rules to prevent oil or gas pipelines from traveling from the coastline across the Pinelands to refineries in Philadelphia. Approval of this draft plan presents a significant and imminent danger to the Pinelands, and it is our responsibility to step up in opposition. In addition to these ecological and public health catastrophes, approval of this plan would also endanger New Jersey’s $20 billion shore-driven tourism economy and the livelihoods of the New Jerseyans who depend on this income.

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management is accepting public comment on its proposal until March 9, 2018.

Comments can be submitted online by going to their comments page here: https://goo.gl/EnVnDz

You can also call (703) 787-1613 to voice your objection. If you prefer you can send a letter to the address below:

Ms. Kelly Hammerle
National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program Manager
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (VAM-LD)
45600 Woodland Road
Sterling, VA 20166-9216

29th Annual Pinelands Short Course

March 10th
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Stockton University
101 Vera King Farris Drive
Galloway NJ 08205

The Pinelands Short Course features educational programs on the history, ecology and culture of the Pinelands. Learn about coyotes, frogs and toads, raptors and reptiles, Pinelands history or take a field trip!

Professional credits available.

Register online at:
www.stockton.edu/pinelands

$50 per person for adults.

Questions? Call 609-894-7300.

Sponsored by the state Pinelands Commission and Stockton University.

Fairs & Festivals

Stop by our table at this great event!

Atlantic County Utility Authority Earth Day
28th Annual Festival
April 22nd, 10am - 4pm

ACUA Environmental Park
6700 Delilah Road
Egg Harbor Twp, NJ
Rain or Shine

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Father of the Pinelands

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staff and to the legislature that this action was critical to him. There was strong opposition from South Jersey politicians and from landowners who did not want to lose development options for the future.

After finally signing the Pinelands Protection Act in 1979, Byrne never stopped advocating for the Pinelands in the face of all the challenges and threats he saw over the ensuing years. He was especially outraged and worried about the South Jersey Gas and New Jersey Natural Gas pipeline developments. He joined former governors Tom Kean, Jim Florio and Christine Todd Whitman in publicly opposing these projects and Governor Christie’s efforts to pack the Pinelands Commission with reliable pro-pipeline votes. He joined in a friend of the court brief in PPA’s appeal of the Pinelands Commission’s approval of the South Jersey Gas pipeline.

If not for Governor Byrne’s decision to make protecting the Pinelands one of his primary goals in public life, it is certain we would have lost the vast open spaces we find and value here today. Development would have carved it up, fragmented the forest, polluted the water and driven out much or all of the cranberry farms. He took great pride in the fact that the Pinelands Protection Act has been so successful, and after leaving office, he was not going to stand by while others tried to weaken or undermine that achievement.

On a personal level, Governor Byrne has been an inspiration to me since I first met him when I came to PPA in 1998. Just as important, he was an active supporter of the work we were doing right up to his final days. It was a privilege to know that he was counting on me and PPA (among a lot of others!) to carry on and safeguard the achievement in his public life for which he most wished to be remembered.

I have the distinction of being the only person who has tipped him over into a Pine Barrens stream – unintentionally of course. I hadn’t been at PPA very long, I had only met him a couple of times before our trip on the Batsto River, and he was a great figure to me. So you can imagine how distressed I was when we went over in a deep spot of the stream and he briefly disappeared beneath the water. But he did what you would expect of him: he made jokes instead of giving me a hard time – mostly about “getting immersed in the Pine Barrens again.” He made it a bond between us, rather than a terrible memory for me.

A little while ago, I took Governor Byrne and three of his friends for a picnic near Whitesbog Village in Brendan T. Byrne State Forest on one of those absolutely perfect days. He loved it, and so did I.

What is the Pinelands Commission?

The Pinelands Commission is an independent state agency overseen by a 15-member board of unpaid Commissioners. Seven members are appointed by the Governor of New Jersey, and confirmed by the state Senate; one member is appointed by each of the seven Pinelands counties; and one member is appointed by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior.

Their regular monthly meetings are open to the public and they need to see and hear from you. There is always time for general public comments on the agenda.

Upcoming Meetings:
Fri., April 13th, 9:30 am
Fri., May 11th, 9:30 am
Fri., June 8th, 9:30 am

Contact Information:
New Jersey Pinelands Commission
P.O. Box 359
15 Springfield Road
New Lisbon, NJ 08064
Ph: (609) 894-7300
www.nj.gov/pinelands

Get Commission Email Alerts:
E-mail info@njpines.state.nj.us and ask to be included on Pinelands News and Events Alerts.
Include your name.

A video tribute to Governor Byrne:

The Man Who Preserved the Pines

See our video tribute to Governor Brendan T. Byrne.

www.pinelandsalliance.org/protection/brendanbyrne

E-mail info@njpines.state.nj.us and ask to be included on Pinelands News and Events Alerts.
Include your name.
The Pinelands Preservation Alliance worked with a volunteer committee composed of professional and amateur photographers to host our first-ever juried photography exhibit focused on the Pinelands National Reserve in 2017. The exhibit hung in PPA’s renovated barn from November 4th to December 10, 2017.

We want to thank all the photographers, volunteers and guests for making our first juried photo exhibit a resounding success! We received over 420 stunning images from 86 photographers. Over 200 people attended the exhibit opening, with subsequent visitors dropping in each day to enjoy the exhibit and the beauty of the Pinelands. Through social media and various news articles, this exhibit helped us reach thousands of people to share our Pinelands message. See the 2017 exhibit webpage for more information on the photographers and a video slideshow of all photos submitted - http://bit.ly/ppaphoto2017.

Images were judged by Bill Horin the founder and creative director of ArtC and a professional photographer based in Linwood, NJ.

This exhibit was such a success we decided to make it an annual event. Our 2018 exhibit will honor the life of Governor Brendan T. Byrne by celebrating his greatest legacy, the New Jersey Pinelands National Reserve. We will have two categories: Open (includes Pinelands landscape, flora/fauna, and culture) and Student (22yrs and under). We are looking for powerful images that capture the essence, beauty, uniqueness and fragility of the Pinelands National Reserve.

The 2018 exhibit will open on November 3rd. Photo submissions will be accepted between July 1 - September 14 (more information in the weeks to come).

Help us spread the word! We encourage photographers of all skill levels to participate. Even if your photo is not selected to hang in our exhibit, all photo submissions will be included in a video slide show that will be shown as part of the exhibit. If you are interested in participating and would like more information, please sign up by emailing Tom at Tom@PinelandsAlliance.org so he can add you to our mailing list.

Photography is a very powerful communication tool and a great way for people of all ages to discover the Pinelands and understand the importance of protecting it for future generations. Bernie Knaupp, a 2017 participant said, “Growing up outside and living all of my adult life in the Pine Barrens I didn’t really learn to appreciate the beauty until I picked up a camera.”

Congratulations to the 2017 Winners:

1st Place Best in Show
1st Place Communities/Architecture
Brooke Gould by Bruce Himelman

2nd Place Best in Show
1st Place Landscape
Friendship Bogs by Tom Jenkins

3rd Place Best in Show
1st Place Flora
Pitcher Plant by Larry Lyons

Honorable Mention Best in Show
1st Place Wildlife
Taking a Peek by Sara Ascalon

1st Place People in Nature
Sharing a Secret by Elizabeth Jackson

1st Place Student
Elfin Dragonfly Awakening by Daniel Bossett
Visit [www.pinelandsalliance.org](http://www.pinelandsalliance.org) and click on Event Calendar for a complete listing of Pinelands programs and trips provided by a wide variety of groups and organizations.

For more information visit [www.linesonthepines.org](http://www.linesonthepines.org) or [linesonthepines@comcast.net](mailto:linesonthepines@comcast.net) or contact Linda Stanton at 609-338-8220.

**PPA Members—Only Preview Native Plant Sale**

April 20, 3 pm to 6 pm. Held by the Pinelands Preservation Alliance, 17 Pemberton Rd, Southampton 08088

Current PPA Members are invited to attend the plant sale before it is open to the public. This is a great member benefit since we usually sell out of several species. Trees, shrubs, and wildflowers native to the Pinelands and South Jersey will be for sale. A plant list will be available on our website in April.

The Pinelands Visitor Center will also be open, with books, DVDs, clothing and other Pinelands merchandise.

Plants supplied by Pinelands Nursery, New Moon Nursery, and Fernbrook Nursery.

**Earth Day Native Plant Sale**

April 21, 11 am to 2 pm. Held by the Pinelands Preservation Alliance, 17 Pemberton Rd, Southampton 08088

We hold a spring and fall plant sale where you can find Pinelands natives and plants native to southern New Jersey. Trees, shrubs, and wildflowers will be for sale. A plant list will be available on our website in April.

The Pinelands Visitor Center will also be open, with books, DVDs, clothing and other Pinelands merchandise.

Plants supplied by Pinelands Nursery, New Moon Nursery, and Fernbrook Nursery. Our fall plant sale takes place in September.

**Blueberry Music Jam**

Sun., April 8th & April 22, 11:00 am - 2 pm, Whitesbog Village, 120 Whitesbog Rd, Browns Mills NJ 08015

Stop into the historic village of Whitesbog in Brendan Byrne State Forest to listen to the tunes of local musicians, the open music jam is acoustic and FREE for musicians and listeners alike to enjoy and join. While you are here, stop in the General Store and support history and local artists and craftsmen! Organized by the Whitesbog Preservation Trust and you can learn more at: [www.whitesbog.org](http://www.whitesbog.org).

**April Moonlight Walk**

Sat. April 28th, 7:00pm, Whitesbog Village, 120 Whitesbog Rd, Browns Mills NJ 08015

Come explore Whitesbog Village and the bog by moonlight, this special opportunity is scheduled on or as close to the full moon as possible. An experienced guide will share insights about Whitesbog and the nature that surrounds us with a different topic each month. Whitesbog is located within Brendan Byrne State Forest. Organized by the Whitesbog Preservation Trust and you can learn more at: [www.whitesbog.org](http://www.whitesbog.org).

Meet your guide in the General Store before the start time and look around prior to the start. All walks are 3-5 miles in length. Dress weather appropriate.

Reservations are requested by calling and leaving your name, phone number and number of participants at 609-893-4646, the walk is $5/person.

**Wilderness First Aid Training with REI and NOLS**

The Pinelands Preservation Alliance is pleased to host this two day Wilderness First Aid Training. Whether spending time in the backcountry is your passion or your profession, you should never ask, “What do I do now?” In this 2 day course you will learn skills and abilities to make sound decisions in emergency situations. March 31st and April 1st. Cost is $265. You must register by March 1st.

Learn more on their website: [www.tinyurl.com/reifirstaid](http://www.tinyurl.com/reifirstaid)
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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:
• PPA membership card
• Year-long subscription to Inside the Pinelands
• PPA window sticker
• 10% off at Pinelands Adventures and on PPA merchandise

Our mission is to protect and preserve the natural and cultural resources of New Jersey's Pinelands.

Sponsors receive a copy of The Pine Barrens: Up Close & Natural DVD
Patrons receive John McPhee’s seminal book The Pine Barrens
Benefactors receive The Pine Barrens of New Jersey, a photographic history of this region
Chairman’s Circle members receive the book Seasons of the Pines and a personalized tour of the 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.