



PINELANDS
PRESERVATION
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INSIDE:

Master of the Skies . . . 3

Pass the Endangered &
Threatened Plant
Protection Act 4

PPA Receives Generous
Land Donation 6

Pinelands Events 7

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INSIDE THE PINELANDS



NJ is one of only five states to require 50% of its electricity to come from renewable sources by 2030.

A New Day for Energy Policy in New Jersey

by Tom Gilbert, Campaign Director ReThink Energy NJ and New Jersey Conservation Foundation

It's a new day when it comes to energy policy in New Jersey.

Last year, Gov. Phil Murphy signed into law a history-making measure that makes New Jersey one of only five states to require 50 percent of its electricity to come from renewable sources by 2030. He followed it up with an even more ambitious executive order to develop a plan for New Jersey to achieve 100 percent clean energy by 2050.

And, the state Board of Public Utilities recently released a draft Energy Master Plan that is open for public comment through mid-September. The plan identifies a number of key strategies, including ramping up renewable energy and efficiency efforts, electrifying the transportation and building sectors, and modernizing the electric grid.

All signs point to New Jersey making rapid progress toward clean energy by

implementing key policies that will:

- Improve energy efficiency to at least 2 percent per year, from the current 0.6 percent
- Continue to expand solar power through a revamped incentive system, and new Community Solar Pilot Program
- Harness 3,500 megawatts of New Jersey's offshore wind power
- Develop 2,000 megawatts of energy storage by 2030

These policies are a breath of fresh air – literally – that will reduce emissions that harm our health and climate, and bring thousands of good, local jobs and other economic benefits to New Jersey.

But this clean energy future is threatened by a massive build-out of fracked gas pipelines and other fossil fuel infrastructure proposed throughout the state,

continued on page 5

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15th Annual Tour de Pines Bicycle Ride Takes Place in October

The Tour de Pines, sponsored by Pinelands Preservation Alliance, celebrates Pinelands Month in October with five consecutive single-day bicycle tours of the New Jersey Pinelands. Proceeds benefit our work to protect this special place. This year's ride takes place from October 2nd to October 6th. We hope you can join us!

Each ride ranges from 43-55 miles per day and they begin and end at the same location. Cue sheets are provided to all registered riders allowing you to go at your own speed.

Participants provide their own transportation, food and lodging as this is an unsupported ride. Shorter loops between 25-27 miles are available for some of the rides. There is a rider leader and a ride sweep for all rides.

You can ride as many days as you wish for the same price - \$45/person.

Tour de Pines 2019 Ride Schedule:

Oct. 2: NEW! BLUEBERRY FIELDS FOREVER (48 or 29 miles) Discover why Hammonton is the "Blueberry Capital of the World". Historic Batsto Village, Mullica River, old churches and homemade pies! Start location: White Horse Winery, Hammonton NJ

Oct. 3: NO WHINING RIDE (43 miles) Horse farms, rural roads, Historic Walnford, Colliers Mills and Assunpink Wildlife Management Areas (with a few steep hills mixed in) Start location: Laurita Winery, New Egypt NJ

Oct. 4: ATLANTIC-CAPE RAMBLE (48 miles) Low traffic roads and undeveloped land. Historic sites of Aetna Furnace and the Head of the River Church, and wildlife management areas. Also Belleplain State Forest. Start location: Estell Manor Park, Estell Manor, NJ.

Oct. 5: NEW! PINELANDS MEETS THE BAY (48 and 24 miles) Travel through small towns, wildlife areas, and pass the famed "Chair on the Roof" - a

small Victorian house with a high roof topped by a chair. The long ride travels to the Great Bay. Start location: Bass River State Forest, Tuckerton NJ.

Oct. 6: NEW! HIGH UP IN BURLINGTON COUNTY (48 and 26 miles) Traverse Arney's Mount, the highest point in Burlington County. Ride travels along the edges of the Pinelands. Chili & beer after the ride! Start location: PPA Headquarters in Southampton.

Visit www.TourdePinesNJ.org for more information or to register. Like us on Facebook @tourdepinesnj.

Sponsors Needed! Contact Becky at 609-859-8860 or becky@pinelandsalliance.org.

2019 Tour de Pines Sponsors (as of August)

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Team Tour Sponsor

Flying Fish Brewing Co.

Bicycle Shop Sponsors

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Master of the Skies

by Frank Pignataro, guest writer

I have never known anyone who has had the good fortune of observing them in flight who was not filled with awe at their mere appearance. I am speaking, of course, about one of the most majestic of birds to grace the sky in the New Jersey Pinelands, the Bald Eagle, *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*.

Our national symbol, these incredible birds with wingspans up to 7-8 foot across were once near the point of extinction in New Jersey. They only recovered due to the astonishing effort of a few dedicated individuals that ensured their upturn from a mere solitary pair nesting in the thick forests of Bear Swamp in the Pinelands National Reserve to well over a hundred pairs and counting today.

Once ubiquitous throughout the lower 48 states, Alaska and Canada, the bald eagle fell victim to the insidious effects of insecticides, particularly DDT, from the late 1940s until early 1980s. This primarily fish-eating raptor was devastated by the trickle-down effect of this nefarious pesticide.

It made its way through the food chain in the Garden State from farmer's fields and orchards to our waterways and their inhabitant fish which comprise nearly 85% of the bald eagle's diet. DDT was finally banned in 1972 in the U.S. because of its heinous effect in thinning the shells of the eagle's eggs, as well as other birds, like ospreys. Unfortunately, the cumulative effects from decades of DDT's use still hadn't allowed any viable hatchlings from that solitary eagle pair by the early 1980s. That is when the NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife stepped in.

Utilizing resources from the Endangered and Nongame Species Program (ENSP) biologists precariously "stole" an egg in 1982 from that solitary nest for artificial incubation in a government-funded lab in Maryland. While doing so, they hoodwinked the eagles with a plaster egg and eventually returned the incubated hatchling to its anxious parents.

Astonishingly, this program eventually used chickens rather than mechanical means to incubate the eagles' eggs until eagles could once again do it themselves without their eggs prematurely cracking under their parent's weight in their nests.

In order to speed recovery and ensure the program's success they also introduced more than 50 eagles from Canada. They did this slowly, over nearly a decade, in various parts of the state. They focused on



Bald Eagle in the Pines © Jason Howell

the forested expanse of the Pinelands and the Delaware Bay's periphery bordering Cumberland and Salem counties where more than 50% of the state's entire eagle population can now be found.

Juvenile bald eagles are a motley mixture of mostly brown coloring until reaching full maturity in about four to five years. Upon maturity they come to possess their unmistakably distinguishing white heads and tails. Relying almost exclusively on fish for food during the summer months (often stolen from a nearby flying osprey) in southern NJ bay areas, they will upon necessity feed on small mammals and carrion during the winter months. This is true in their Pine Barrens habitats when most of the shallow lakes and bogs near where they reside are ice covered.

These massive birds weigh between ten to fifteen pounds and occupy the top of the food chain. They have large yellow beaks and powerful yellow talons specially adapted with a back claw, almost like an

opposable thumb, that assists in their ability to swoop down and capture unaware fish swimming near the surface. A very large pair of eagles nest, and are often spotted, soaring in the Chatsworth area in the Pine Barrens heartland. They are truly a sight to behold.

Call for Artists!

3rd Annual Pinelands Juried Photography Exhibit

Share your images taken within the boundaries of the Pinelands National Reserve! Landscape, flora, wildlife, and people will be accepted.

The exhibit will hang at our offices.

**Registration deadline
extended to:
September 21, 2019**

Categories:

Open Submissions
Student Submissions

Over \$2,500 in cash prizes!

*Opening Reception

Saturday, November 9, 2-4pm

Exhibition Dates:

Nov. 10 - Dec. 14

*Awards announced at
reception.

Submission guidelines are in the
2019 Exhibit Prospectus
available online:

www.PinelandsPhotoExhibit.org

Pass the NJ Endangered & Threatened Plant Protection Act

by Ryan Rebozo PhD, Director of Conservation Science

Even though New Jersey has a list of rare and endangered plant species, these plants are not yet protected by state law.

Assemblymen Herb Conaway and Kevin Rooney have teamed up to co-sponsor bill A5201, the New Jersey Endangered and Threatened Plant Protection Act, which will offer protection to New Jersey's rare plant species.

New Jersey is home to over 2000 native plant species, though 18% are currently at risk for extinction. Most people do not recognize that unlike animals, rare plants do not have any statewide protections and do not have a recognized threatened category. Plant protections are limited to regional plans like the Highlands Act and the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan, and often do not extend protections to all of our rare plant species.

This legislation would protect our rare plants from intentional damage and sale or transport with some specific exceptions. The bill will also establish a threatened category for plants. This ensures that our recognition and characterization of rare species uses language that is consistent with other states and the federal government. Lastly, this bill directs the commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to establish an "Endangered and Threatened Plant Species Advisory Committee".

This committee would be tasked with developing conservation plans for priority rare species, which will ensure that the DEP is not only protecting the rare plants we know of, but actively working to increase the number of individuals with the ultimate goal of delisting species if appropriate.

Biologists have long been aware of New Jersey's extraordinary flora yet New Jersey lags far behind other states in terms of rare plant protections. Though densely populated, the state boasts dramatic floral diversity, due in part to its geographic diversity. Even so, local scientists have noted alarming trends with respect to many of the state's plant communities and plant species. From 2006 to 2016 the number of listed state endangered plants increased by 26 and the number of extirpated, or locally extinct, went up by six species. In order to stop this decline, better protect the four species that only exist in New Jersey and the 42 globally rare species in the state, we need the public to support rare plant protection legislation.

Compare this to the protections that exist for wildlife. In 1973, New Jersey signed into law the NJ Endangered Species Conservation Act, which established laws to protect and restore endangered and threatened wildlife in the state. This legislation led to the creation of the Endangered and Nongame Species Program to do the work necessary to protect the state's rare wildlife. Currently, 35 wildlife species are listed as endangered and 25 are threatened. The Endangered Species Conservation Act has protected our wildlife from capture, kill, harassment, habitat destruction, over-exploitation, and pollution for close to 40 years - it's about time we protect our botanical heritage as well. Plant and animal communities are inextricably intertwined. Our plants and plant communities are the sole source of food and habitat for wildlife and cannot be neglected if we are to truly protect our wildlife.

There have been calls for rare plant

protection legislation for decades. Now is the time to take action.

This bill is currently in the Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee. Contact the members of this committee and let them know you want to see this bill passed through committee and let your senator know you want to see a senate version of this important legislation. Questions? Contact us at 609-859-8860.

Fairs & Festivals

We hope you can stop by our table at one of these great events!

Fall Float

October 6th, 9am - 2pm

Historic Smithville Park
Eastampton, NJ

*Free! Canoe/Kayak trips.
We don't have a table but Pinelands
Adventures provides all the boats!*

Pine Barrens Jamboree

October 12th, 10am - 4pm

Wells Mills County Park
Waretown, NJ

Country Living Fair

October 20th, 10am - 4pm

at Historic Batsto Village
Wharton State Forest

Pinelands Commission

*Attend a Pinelands Commission
meeting - the public is welcome and
needed! Next meeting dates:*

Oct. 11th & Nov. 8th, 9:30 am

Location:

15 Springfield Road
New Lisbon, NJ 08064

Ph: (609) 894-7300

www.nj.gov/pinelands

New Jersey's Energy Policy

continued from cover

including the Southern Reliability Link now under construction, and the proposed PennEast pipeline.

Natural gas is now the primary source of emissions in the electric, residential, and commercial sectors, and we can't meet our clean energy goals without transitioning away from gas. Building more gas infrastructure moves us backwards, not forward.

While there is a lot to like in the draft Energy Master Plan, it needs to be clear that expanding gas infrastructure is contrary to the goals of the plan, and direct state agencies to use their full authority to deny projects that don't meet New Jersey's strict environmental standards. We all need to make our voices heard in calling on the BPU to strengthen the plan in these areas.

Clean energy isn't just safer and more environmentally sound. In many parts of the country, it's also the least expensive energy, in part because the cost of renewable energy from solar and wind is at an all-time low. Solar costs 86% less across North America than it did in 2009, and wind costs dropped 65% over the same period.

It's estimated that stronger energy efficiency measures alone could save New Jersey consumers \$200 million annually. That's a lot of extra spending money.

Unhealthy, unsustainable fossil fuels are even more expensive when the costs of pollution's impacts on public health and the damage wrought by a changing climate are factored in. Poor air quality is linked to respiratory conditions like asthma and increases the risk of life-threatening conditions like cancer,

according to the Union of Concerned Scientists. Airborne particulate matter is linked to up to 30,000 premature deaths nationally each year. And, extreme weather events paired with health problems caused by climate change carry a massive economic price tag, to the tune of hundreds of billions of dollars in the U.S. in the past decade alone.

In addition to being better for our health and the environment, renewable energy projects create three times as many jobs as fossil fuel energy projects. A recent Fairleigh Dickinson University Poll found that two thirds of New Jersey voters said the jobs created by pipelines are not worth the environmental and health risks, and we should instead create jobs through clean, renewable energy projects.

Already, more than 51,000 New Jerseyans work in clean-energy jobs, with about 33,000 working in energy efficiency. That number will grow rapidly as the new energy efficiency policies are implemented. These jobs are local and can include manufacturing LED products, installing efficient HVAC systems, and construction (which makes up 64% of the jobs in this industry).

A single offshore wind farm could generate \$702 million in economic benefits to our state, and the Northeast Wind Center estimates 8,000 megawatts of offshore wind now planned in the Northeast would create about 36,300 full-time jobs in our region. With Governor Murphy's 3,500 megawatt offshore wind target the highest of any state, a significant portion of those regional jobs and the economic growth tied to this burgeoning

industry should come to New Jersey.

The FDU Poll found that three of four New Jersey voters say our state should invest in renewables, not in more fossil fuels. With the upcoming update of the state's Energy Master Plan, New Jersey has the opportunity to boost and incentivize renewable energy, reduce harmful emissions and energy costs, and watch our jobs and economy grow.

With this in mind, the best path forward – moving to 100 percent clean, renewable energy – couldn't be clearer.

Editor's Note: Tom Gilbert is campaign director for ReThink Energy New Jersey and the New Jersey Conservation Foundation. To learn more about ReThink Energy NJ and ways to get involved, visit www.rethinkenergynj.org/take-action.

15th Annual Tour de Pines

Oct. 2 to Oct. 6, 2019

*Tour New Jersey's largest
wilderness by bike!*

**Ride as many days as you
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Locations:

- 10/2 - White Horse Winery
- 10/3 - Laurita Winery
- 10/4 - Estell Manor Park
- 10/5 - Bass River State Forest
- 10/6 - PPA Offices

To learn more visit our website:

www.TourdePinesNJ.org

PPA Receives Generous Land Donation

by Carleton Montgomery, Executive Director

The Pinelands Preservation Alliance received an extraordinary donation of farmland adjoining its headquarters, the Bishop Farmstead, on July 29, 2019. Cindy Yingling, Louis Eni and Chris Eni inherited the 70-acre farm from their aunt and uncle, Lore and George Giacchino. Cindy, Louis and Chris are proud multi-generation residents of Burlington County. This gift reunites land that had once formed part of a large farm first established by Quaker settlers in 1704.

The Alliance is excited to receive this wonderful gift and looks forward to using this land to promote sustainable farming and land management. The land is in the Farmland Preservation Program, and farming is a core part of the life and history of this region. PPA is committed to continuing farming the land.

In the coming months, the Alliance will work with the Natural Resource Conservation Service, the Burlington County Agricultural Development Board, and other experts to explore how this farm can produce great food, retain its topsoil in our increasingly violent storms, and provide wildlife habitat.

"My brothers and I are very pleased to help restore a piece of our region's heritage by reuniting land that was farmed as part of the Bishop Farmstead for hundreds of years," said Cindy Yingling.

In 1704, Thomas Bishop, Thomas Haines and Jeremiah Basse purchased about 400 acres from Native Americans through a so-called "Indian Deed" which can be found recorded in the New Jersey State Archives.

Of the three settlers, Thomas Bishop acquired 200 of these acres and added it to 100 acres he already owned. Over time, the Bishop

family expanded the farm and, in 1753, built the present brick farmhouse, which serves as PPA's headquarters and Pinelands visitor center. The farmhouse represents one of the finest surviving examples of a brick Georgian style house in southern New Jersey.



1753 Farmhouse at Bishop Farmstead
© Ernest Cozens

The Irick and Bishop families were united when John Stockton Irick married Emeline Bishop in 1832. The farm grew and remained in the same family, with one brief interruption, until 1932, when the Robbins family purchased the farm to raise cows and crops. After the Robbins sold the farm in 1961, it was broken up into smaller lots. The Fralinger family bought the 12-acres known today as the Bishop Farmstead, which includes the 1753 house and a Louden barn built by the Robbins' in 1932. Lore and George Giacchino purchased two parcels surrounding the farmstead



Louden Barn at Bishop Farmstead
© Ernest Cozens

on three sides and totaling 70 acres. George farmed the land and

ultimately left it to his niece, Cindy, and nephews, Louis and Chris.

The Bishop Farmstead is on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places because its owners, culminating in PPA, have preserved the historic house and barn as exceptional examples of architecture that tells the story of this region's ways of life since European colonization. PPA bought the farmstead from Ronn and Ellen Shaffer in 2002 with help from the State Green Acres program.

We feel very fortunate that all the prior owners, and especially Ronn and Ellen Shaffer, took such great care of the farmstead and its buildings.

Today, people can visit the Bishop Farmstead and see two buildings, the 1753 house and the 1932 Loudon barn, that are increasingly rare today. This year, PPA is completing historically sensitive renovations of the barn, so it can be used for events and enjoyed by visitors. Now we have the opportunity to add sustainable farming to the visitor experience.

We offer our thanks to Cindy Yingling, Louis Eni and Chris Eni for making such a generous donation of land to the Pinelands Preservation Alliance.

Thank You!

To all the people who support the Pinelands Preservation Alliance. You really make a difference!

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Calendar of Events

Pinelands Trips & Events

Fall 2019

Pinelands Adventures is our outdoor recreation program! Make your reservation today.



At Pinelands Adventures you can rent a canoe or kayak, take a guided tour, and so much more. Join us today! Pinelands Adventures is an initiative of PPA.

Learn more on the web:
PinelandsAdventures.org

Pre-Registration is required for all trips and rentals and can be done online or by calling 609-268-0189.

John McPhee Pine Barrens Today (Bus)

9/28 and 10/6, 10a.m. about 5 hours. Trip meets at Pinelands Adventures, 1005 Atsion Rd, Shamong NJ

Join this small group driving tour to visit many places described in John McPhee's landmark book *The Pine Barrens*. Many of the places he wrote about have remained largely unchanged because this book challenged citizens and political leaders to protect the unique Pine Barrens ecosystem and culture from development. Participants in this tour will travel by van making stops and taking short hikes at places like Paisley, Apple Pie Hill, Hog Wallow and the Forks on the Mullica.

Cost is \$65 per person. For ages 10 and up.

Mullica River 101 (Paddle)

Oct. 12 & 27, 1:30 p.m. Meet at Pinelands Adventures, 1005 Atsion Rd, Shamong NJ

Take a 3 hour trip down the Mullica River from First Beach to Beaver Dam with guide and naturalist John Volpa. Participants will get a Pine Barrens Primer by exploring the river for an overview of Pine Barrens habitats, history and plants and animals.

Cost is \$55 PP in a Canoe and \$60 Kayak and \$50 PP BYO Canoe or Kayak. For ages 8 and up.

Batona Trail - Franklin Parker Preserve (Hike)
11/2/19 at 8:30am. 6-8 hours. Meet at Pinelands Adventures, 1005 Atsion Rd, Shamong NJ

During the 1960s, the Back to Nature Movement urged Americans to experience our national and state parks. Local conservationists planned and constructed the Batona Trail, a fifty-four mile hiking trail in the Pine Barrens. Join Naturalist, John Volpa, as we explore two of its most beautiful sections, which include a variety of wetlands and uplands. We'll keep a moderate pace between frequent stops for stories and exploration of Pine Barrens flora and fauna.

Cost is \$45 per person. Ages 16 & up.

Fairs, Festivals and More

Fall Float

Oct. 6th from 9am to 4pm. Historic Smithville Park, 803 Smithville Rd, Eastampton, NJ.

A free, family float festival at Smithville Park! Canoe / Kayak on the Rancocas Creek or Smithville Lake and see the fall foliage as you float along. Paddlers will be shuttled back to Smithville Park for food, entertainment and activities for all ages. Learn more at www.co.burlington.nj.us. Sponsored by the Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders. Canoe and Kayaks provided by Pinelands Adventures.

Pine Barrens Jamboree

Oct. 12th 10am - 4pm. Wells Mills Park, 905 Wells Mills Road, Waretown 08758

Take part in celebrating the people, traditions and rich history of the NJ Pine Barrens. Stretch out and relax in your beach chair and listen to the sounds of the Pines as some of the most famous local musicians from Albert Music Hall perform. Take a scenic paddle around Wells Mills Lake, go on a nature walk, sit in on a

demonstration or slide show, or browse over 40 exhibitors both commercial and non-profit. There will be opportunities to purchase locally created arts & crafts. PPA will have a table at this event. Stop by and say hi!

Country Living Fair

October 20th from 10am to 4pm. Historic Batsto Village, Wharton State Forest, 31 Batsto Rd, Hammonton 08037

There will be something country for everyone. There will be crafts, exhibits, music, old-time engines and cars, food, antiques, pony rides, farm equipment, chain-saw art, quilting, and more. Sponsored by the Batsto Citizen Committee.

PPA will have a table at this event. Stop by and say hi!

Pinelands Commission Meeting

Oct. 11th, Nov. 8th & Dec. 13th starting at 9:30 am. Pinelands Commission, 15C Springfield Road, New Lisbon, NJ

The Pinelands Commission is the state agency that oversees conservation and development within the Pinelands. They meet on the 2nd Friday of the month. They need to hear from you! You can find the agenda for each meeting on www.nj.gov/pinelands.



**PINELANDS
PRESERVATION
ALLIANCE**

Keeping the Pinelands Green for 30 Years!

Do you have an event that takes place in the Pinelands?

Let us know so we can put it on our calendar.

Email:

becky@pinelandsalliance.org
with the details.



Pinelands Preservation Alliance
Bishop Farmstead
17 Pemberton Road
Southampton, NJ 08088

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Inside:

Master of the Skies - p. 3

Pass the Endangered & Threatened Plant Protection Act - p. 4

PPA Receives Generous Land Donation - p. 6

Pinelands Events - p. 7

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Membership Categories

Basic	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60
Sponsor	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Patron	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250
Benefactor	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500
Chairman's Circle	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> _____

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

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

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