



Contact:

Paul Leakan, NJ Pinelands Commission
Phone: (609) 894-7300, ext. 124
E-mail: info@pinelands.nj.gov

Diane D'Amico – News & Media Relations
Stockton University
Phone: (609) 652-4593
E-mail: Diane.DAmico@stockton.edu

For Immediate Release

Organizers cancel this Saturday's Pinelands Short Course *Event was slated for March 14th at Stockton University*

Organizers of the Pinelands Short Course have chosen to cancel the 31st annual event, citing the need to protect public health amid concerns about the COVID-19 coronavirus.

The daylong education program was slated for Saturday, March 14th at Stockton University's main campus in Galloway Township, NJ.

"We are disappointed that we are unable to hold this year's event, but public safety is paramount," said Nancy Wittenberg, the Executive Director of the New Jersey Pinelands Commission, which co-organizes the event with Stockton.

On March 10, Stockton joined other universities in New Jersey in announcing plans to mitigate the potential transmission of the coronavirus in the state. Those plans include the cancellation of large events on campus.

"We are taking these precautionary measures to help keep the community healthy," said Stockton President Harvey Kesselman. "The Pinelands Short Course is a wonderful program and we look forward to welcoming it back in the future."

Approximately 530 people registered to attend this year's Short Course, which featured a lineup of 42 educational presentations that explore the region's unique history, ecology, culture and music. **Registrants will receive an email from Stockton University with information about requesting a refund.**

####