

The

PINELANDER

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Edward McGlinchey of Winslow Township appointed as Camden County's representative on the Pinelands Commission

Edward McGlinchey, who has lived and worked in Winslow Township for 38 years, has been appointed as Camden County's representative on the New Jersey Pinelands Commission.

The Camden County Board of Chosen Freeholders appointed McGlinchey to the Commission during the board's meeting on July 22. He said he appreciates the opportunity to serve on the Commission, which oversees land-use, development and natural resource protection in the million-acre Pinelands Area of southern New Jersey.

"I take this appointment very seriously," said McGlinchey, who took the oath of office during the Commission's regular meeting on August 13. "I've always want-

ed to be on the Commission because I'm very interested in the Pines. I live, work and play in the Pinelands.

"I think there always has to be a balance," he added. "There has to be common sense to things, and I've always tried to do that."

John C. Stokes, the Commission's Executive Director, said McGlinchey has a vast knowledge of the Pinelands Protection Program, noting his many years of experience as Winslow's Zoning Officer and Manager of Public Works. "His experience will provide an important perspective to the Commission, and we look forward to working with him,"



Deputy Attorney General Jean P. Reilly administered the oath of office to Edward McGlinchey (left) during the Commission's August 13 meeting. Photo/Paul Leakan

Stokes said.

McGlinchey has served as Winslow Township's Public Works Manager since

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Commission issues new report highlighting successful efforts in Fiscal Year 2010

The New Jersey Pinelands Commission has issued a new report that details the panel's accomplishments during Fiscal Year 2010.

The report, entitled "A Year in Review," highlights many, but by no means all, of the Commission's efforts during the past fiscal year (July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010), including the permanent preservation of thousands of acres of land and the adoption of new rules that will better protect the Pinelands' sensitive and unique ecosystem.

"The Pinelands Protection Program has faced many challenges in recent years, and Fiscal Year 2010 was no exception," said John C.

Stokes, Executive Director of the Commission. "However, despite a 19 percent drop in staffing levels, the Commission was successful in approving and advancing a series of initiatives that will better protect the Pinelands for future generations."

As outlined in the report, the Commission in Fiscal Year 2010:

■ **Dedicated more than \$1.9 million from its Pinelands Conservation Fund to preserve 1,612 acres in Atlantic, Burlington, Cape May and Ocean counties in the Pinelands.**

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Commission issues new report highlighting success

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During the past three years, the Commission has allocated a total of \$5.75 million from this Fund toward the permanent preservation of 4,640 acres of land. In many cases, these properties provide critical habitat for rare plants and animals, and they connect adjacent lands that are already preserved, creating a large, contiguous area of undisturbed forest;

■ **Added \$5.3 million to the Pinelands Conservation Fund (initially started with \$13 million) to support permanent land protection, conservation planning and research and community design projects;**

■ **Approved new rules aimed at encouraging specific practices that can be used to sustain and improve the overall health of Pinelands forests.** The rules detail a series of recommended, ecologically-based forest management techniques that are incorporated in amendments to the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan, the rules that govern land-use and natural resource protection in the million-acre Pinelands Area.

The amendments define 14 different forestry techniques and indicate where and how a particular practice should be conducted, and what controls should be applied to avoid potentially negative environmental impacts;

■ **Approved an amendment to Pinelands rules to facilitate the restoration of wetlands systems in the Pinelands.** Wetlands cover 35 percent of the Pinelands and are an invaluable resource that receives special protection



A 700-acre property in the Pinelands in Hamilton Township, Atlantic County (above) is among the properties that were permanently preserved with funds administered by the Pinelands Commission in FY 2010. Photo/Paul Leakan

in the Pinelands. Wetlands provide habitat for 80 percent of the region's rare plants and animals. They also purify water by removing sediments, fertilizers, toxins and heavy metals;

■ **Approved an amendment to Pinelands rules that establishes ecologically-based maintenance practices for electric transmission rights-of-way in the Pinelands.** The plan covers 3,000 spans along approximately 233 miles of right-of-way. The primary objectives of the plan are to create and maintain early successional (low-growth) habitats that are characteristic of the Pinelands, provide habitat for native and rare plant and animal species, and ensure the reliability and safety of the electric transmission system in the Pinelands;

■ **Approved changes to the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan that establish new management standards for advanced wastewater treatment systems in the Pinelands.** These treatment technologies can remove more than 65 percent of the pollution that is typically generated by standard septic

systems but do need to be properly maintained to ensure their reliability;

■ **Began the last year of a \$5.5 million, multi-agency study of the Kirkwood-Cohansey aquifer,** which are layers of sand and gravel that lie beneath the Pinelands and hold an estimated 17 trillion gallons of pure water.

The study, launched in October 2003, is being implemented by the Commission in cooperation with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Rutgers University, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the United States Geological Survey (USGS).

Scientists from these agencies are seeking to address two major research questions: First, what are the probable hydrologic effects of groundwater diversions from the aquifer on stream flows and wetland water levels? Second, what are the probable ecological effects of these changes on aquatic and wetland communities?

■ **Helped institute new management practices aimed at better protecting and promoting native vegetation, including rare plant species, along roadsides in the Pinelands.** (Please see page 4 for more information);

■ **Continued to carry out scientific surveys of Pinelands watersheds as part of a comprehensive, nationally-recognized, long-term environmental monitoring program;**

■ **Reviewed hundreds of applications to ensure compliance with regulations that protect Pinelands resources,** such as water, wetlands and habitat for rare

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Edward McGlinchey of Winslow Township appointed as Camden County's representative on the Pinelands Commission

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1979 and as the township's Zoning Officer since 1982. As the Manager of Public Works, McGlinchey oversees a staff of approximately 40 employees who maintain the township's roads, bridges, vehicles, parks and playgrounds and are responsible for trash pickup and snow removal. He also serves as the township's coordinator for safety, recycling, stormwater management and clean communities.

McGlinchey is also Winslow's liaison to the Pinelands Municipal Council. The Council is composed of the mayors of the 53 municipalities in the Pinelands Area or their designees, and it is empowered to review and comment on rule changes proposed by the Pinelands Commission. McGlinchey served as the Secretary of the Pinelands Municipal Council from 2004-2006, and he currently serves on the Pinelands Development Credit Bank Board of Directors, the Camden County

Agriculture Development Board and the Diocese of Camden Real Estate Review Committee. McGlinchey graduated from Camden Catholic High School and served in the United States Navy Seabees from 1968-1972.

McGlinchey fills a position that was previously held by Norman F. Tomasello, a retired farmer who had served as Camden County's representative on the Commission since July 12, 1996. Tomasello had served as the Commission's Vice Chairman since 2006 and became the Acting Chairman in October 2008. He tendered his resignation on May 1, 2010.

On July 9, the Commission passed a resolution honoring Tomasello for his service.

During his tenure on the Pinelands Commission, Tomasello served on the Policy and Implementation Committee, Personnel and Budget Committee and Audit Committee. He was an alternate member of the Commission's Public and Governmental Programs Committee

and Permanent Land Protection Committee.

"Norm is a genuine friend of the Pinelands whose years of dedicated service has greatly strengthened the Pinelands Protection Program," Stokes said. "His service, insight and affable personality will be greatly missed."

Since Tomasello's departure from the Commission, fellow Commission members selected gubernatorial appointee Candace Ashmun to serve as the panel's Acting Chairperson. John A. Haas, Ocean County's appointee, was selected as the Acting Vice Chairman.

The Pinelands Commission consists of 15 members: seven appointed by the Governor of New Jersey, one appointed by each of the seven Pinelands counties and one appointed by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior. Members of the Commission serve staggered, three-year terms and are uncompensated for their service.



Commission issues new report highlighting success

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plants and animals. Commission staff investigated 206 violations in FY 2010;

■ **Completed another comprehensive study charting the economic health of the Pinelands.** The study shows that Pinelands communities are outperforming municipalities in the non-Pinelands area of southern New Jersey in several economic indicators. For example, the unemployment rate in the Pinelands is lower than in the

non-Pinelands area of southern New Jersey. Also, average residential property taxes in the Pinelands are \$756 lower than in the non-Pinelands area of southern New Jersey and \$2,611 lower than the state as a whole;

■ **Educated a total of nearly 7,000 people about the Pinelands' natural treasures.**

■ **Made arrangements for a new, online mapping service** that will allow the public to view Pinelands Commission map layers, including management areas, zoning and wet-

lands boundaries. This mapping service will be available on the Commission's website later this year; and

■ **Expanded a backyard habitat protection program.** This includes organizing and carrying out the second annual "Pinelands-Friendly Yard and Garden Fair," delivering educational presentations, creating and distributing a new native landscaping brochure and launching a new web page aimed at encouraging practices to better protect Pinelands habitat.





Pinelands Commission details new practices aimed at better protecting native vegetation, including rare species, along roadsides in the Pinelands

During its regular meeting on May 14, the New Jersey Pinelands Commission detailed a series of new management practices aimed at better protecting and promoting native vegetation, including rare plant species, along roadsides in the Pinelands.

"Roadsides throughout the Pinelands provide important habitat for a host of characteristic, native plants, including some rare species that thrive in these open-canopied, sun-exposed environments," said John C. Stokes, Executive Director of the Commission. "These practices provide county and municipal governments with specific guidance for managing road shoulders in a manner that protects and perpetuates native vegetation, while also ensuring traffic safety along Pinelands roads. Moreover, these practices will reduce maintenance costs, hinder the spread of invasive, non-native vegetation, and help to

curb the use of costly soil amendments and herbicides."

The practices specify techniques for managing vegetation along Pinelands roads, including when, where, how and if vegetation should be mowed. They also call for using clean fill dirt along roads, ensuring that the fill is obtained from a local source. The use of nutrient-rich or high pH soil and soil amendments is also discouraged. These practices will help to minimize the establishment of non-native plant species.

In addition, vegetation will be maintained in a manner that does not obstruct sight lines or pose potential hazards to drivers. Special measures will be taken to ensure that rare plant communities growing along roadsides are protected.

The Commission is currently working with officials from the seven counties in the Pinelands (Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester and Ocean), as well as state transportation agencies, to implement this ecological approach for maintaining road shoulder vegetation. The



Pine Barrens Gentian (*Gentiana autumnalis*) is among the rare, native plant species that can be found growing along Pinelands roadsides. Photo/Donna McBride

practices are incorporated into agreements that the Commission reached with all seven Pinelands counties on July 9. (Please see page 5 for more information.)

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (DOT) will be following these practices this year when it conducts a pilot project along the entire length of state Route 72 in the Pinelands. The practices are consistent with the DOT's Grassland Eco Mow Zone Program, which the transportation agency has implemented on other roadways in the state.

As part of the project, the DOT also agreed to develop pilot projects using native vegetation along select Pinelands roadsides. In June, workers with the transportation agency planted approximately 3,200 native Pinelands plants at the intersection of Route 70 and New Road. (see photo on left) in Southampton Township, Burlington County.



In June, the New Jersey Department of Transportation planted approximately 3,200 native Pinelands plants at the intersection of Route 70 and New Road (above) in Southampton Township, Burlington County as part of a cooperative project to protect and promote native vegetation along Pinelands roadsides.

Photo/Paul Leakan





Commission approves agreements to provide for efficient, thorough reviews of certain public development applications

NEW LISBON, N.J. – During its regular meeting on July 9, the Pinelands Commission approved agreements that will provide for more efficient reviews of certain public development applications being proposed by Pinelands counties.

The Commission voted to authorize intergovernmental agreements with each of the seven Pinelands counties (Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester and Ocean) in the million-acre Pinelands Area of southern New Jersey.

The agreements enable the Commission's staff to review and approve small development projects proposed by counties rather than a lengthier process that ultimately requires the full 15-member Pinelands Commission to approve these projects at their monthly meeting. The proposed projects covered by the agreements still

must meet all of the zoning and environmental standards contained in the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan, such as the protection of ground and surface water resources, wetlands, threatened and endangered plants and animals, vegetation, and historic resources.

"These agreements will result in more efficient reviews of minor public development projects, such as traffic signals, street lights and guide rails, that typically do not raise Pinelands issues," said John C. Stokes, Executive Director of the Commission. "However, the review of these applications will be no less rigorous, and all Pinelands standards must be met."

Fees to review applications that qualify under the provisions of the agreements would be eliminated. Additionally, the agreements call for the Commission and the counties to continue their work to implement specific management prac-

tices that will better protect and promote native vegetation, including rare plant species, along roadsides in the Pinelands. A series of best management practices have been prepared, and they provide specific guidance for managing road shoulders in a manner that protects and perpetuates native vegetation, while also ensuring traffic safety along Pinelands roads. The practices also reduce maintenance costs, hinder the spread of invasive, non-native vegetation, and help to curb the use of costly soil amendments and herbicides.

For the benefit of the public, the Commission will maintain a listing on its website that shows all public development applications that have been filed by counties and are subject to the agreements. The listing will also provide information regarding the status of each application.



Pinelands Commission adopts Fiscal Year 2011 budget

Spending plan is over 10 percent less than last year's budget

NEW LISBON -- During its regular meeting on July 9, the Pinelands Commission adopted a Fiscal Year 2011 operating budget that is \$466,500 less than the panel's budget for last year.

The spending plan includes the budgets for the Operating Fund, the Kirkwood-Cohansey Aquifer Assessment Study Fund, the Pinelands Conservation Fund and the Pinelands Development Credit Purchase Program Fund.

The total \$4.1 million operating budget includes a State appropriation of

\$2,169,000, or \$324,000 less than the FY 2010 appropriation and \$1,079,000 less than the state's appropriation to the Commission in FY 2008.

Largely due to the reduction in the Commission's State appropriation, the FY 2011 operating budget estimated that expenditures will exceed estimated revenues. To help balance the budget deficit, the Commission anticipates drawing \$400,270 from its unreserved, undesignated fund balance.

The budget shortfall has necessitated a

reduction-in-force, with financing for five full time positions being eliminated in early July. Since Fiscal Year 2007, the Commission's budgets authorized a staffing level of 66 full-time equivalent positions. As a result of unfilled positions and the reduction in force, the Commission's staffing levels will be down by a total of 20.5 full-time equivalent positions, a reduction of more than 31 percent.





Commission kicks off fourth annual Pinelands Speaker Series with educational presentations on Carranza, rain barrels

The Pinelands Commission kicked off its fourth annual Pinelands Speaker Series with a presentation about a famous Mexican aviator and a workshop in which participants made their own rain barrels.

Organized and sponsored by the Commission, the Speaker Series is an annual educational initiative that seeks to raise awareness and appreciation of the natural, cultural and historic resources of the million-acre Pinelands area. The presentations are held at the Commission's headquarters in Pemberton Township, Burlington County.

The first presentation, "Flying with Emilio," was held on June 24 and featured a screening of a 47-minute documentary of Captain Emilio Carranza. Carranza was a famous Mexican aviator whose plane crashed in a heavily wooded area of the Pinelands in Tabernacle Township, Burlington County in 1928. More than 25 people attended the seminar, which included discussions by several members of the American Legion, Mount Holly Post

11. Each year, members of the organization hold a special ceremony to honor Carranza.

The second presentation in the Speaker Series was held on July 22 and featured a hands-on workshop that detailed the benefits of using rain barrels. Rain barrels are placed under a gutter's downspout and collect rainwater that can be used to water gardens and help to reduce flooding and pollution.

During the presentation, participants used power drills and other tools to make their own 55-gallon rain barrel. They also learned how to properly install and maintain the barrels.

Mike Haberland, an Environmental and Resource Management Agent with the Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Burlington and Camden counties who conducted the workshop, said rain barrels are an easy way for homeowners to get involved in water conservation on a small scale.

Haberland noted that New Jersey typically receives about 42 inches of rain each year.

"We have a lot of people in New Jersey," he said. "We also have a lot of water demands, so we really need to conserve. Rainwater is free. Why don't you make it work for



Teamwork was key as participants in the July 22nd Pinelands Speaker Series presentation used drills and other tools to build their own 55-gallon rain barrel.

Photo/Paul Leakan

you?"

Aside from using rain barrels, Haberland said homeowners can help conserve water supplies by planting native vegetation, using mulch around plants, installing rain gardens and porous pavers and by using appliances, garden hoses and toilets that are designed to reduce water consumption.

The third presentation in the Speaker Series, "Living and Landscaping in New Jersey's Pinelands," will be held on **Thursday, August 26 at 2 p.m.** The seminar will detail the benefits of using native plants in the home landscape. The presentation will be delivered by Paul Leakan, the Commission's Communications Officer.

To pre-register for the presentation, please call (609) 894-7300 or send a message to info@njpines.state.nj.us.



Mike Haberland of the Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Burlington and Camden counties (left) helped participants build their own rain barrels during the second presentation in this year's Pinelands Speaker Series. Photo/Paul Leakan





21st annual Pinelands Short Course draws record crowd of more than 800 people

The 21st annual Pinelands Short Course attracted a record crowd of more than 800 people.

The daylong educational event was held on March 20 -- the first day of spring -- at Burlington County College's Pemberton Township campus.

"Each year, I am pleasantly surprised by the enthusiasm exhibited by participants and presenters," said Joel Mott, a

Public Programs Specialist with the Pinelands Commission. "Attendance records have been set during each of the past five years, and we're thrilled to see such a strong interest."

The Short Course was traditionally held on the first Saturday in March, but the past year's event was moved to a later date. Organizers took advantage of the later date and warmer temperatures by scheduling additional field trips and other outdoor activities. The success of the later date has prompted organizers to hold the 22nd annual Short Course on March 26, 2011.

The Short Course is sponsored by the Pinelands Commission and Burlington County College's Pinelands Institute for Natural and Environmental Studies.

The 21st annual event featured four live musical performances, six field trips, two all-day bus

tours and Pinelands art exhibits and demonstrations, including photography, decoy carving, woodworking, painting and basket-making.

The new courses included an all-day bus tour focusing on historic sites in the Pinelands, as well as courses on primitive survival techniques in the Pinelands, New Jersey's biodiversi-

ty, historic uses of Pinelands plants for medicine and other purposes, a photographic journey of preserved natural sites, birding, botany and canoeing in Gloucester County, bats, butterflies and moths, Pinelands pollinators, the value and characteristics of red and white cedar trees, the history of Brotherton and Shamong, cranberry culture and the business of farming, lesser known stories about Pinelands people, the effects of fire and disturbance on Pinelands soil, the impacts of land use changes on the natural environment, and a viewing and discussion of a new documentary that charts the history of the Central

Railroad of New Jersey's most famous train: the Blue Comet.

Four of the six field trips were held at the historic Whitesbog Village in Pemberton, including an orienteering and "treasure hunt" and tours of Elizabeth White's house, gardens and original blueberry test fields.

The event also featured popular courses from previous years, including a guided, all-day bus tour focusing on Pinelands ecology, and presentations on Pinelands birds, vultures, frogs and toads, fish, gardening for Pinelands wildlife, fungi, traditional Pinelands lifestyles, the history of Double Trouble State Park, lost and forgotten towns of the Pinelands and Lenape living.

Save the Date
22nd annual
Pinelands
Short Course
March 26, 2011



The Bad Dogz (above) were among the four live bands who performed during the 21st annual Pinelands Short Course.

Photo/Paul Leakan



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