The Pinelands Municipal Council serves as a sounding board among the 53 municipalities within the State-designated Pinelands Area and the New Jersey Pinelands Commission. They work on cooperative programs with the Pinelands Commission, review legislation that affects their communities, and try to find issues of common concern to the various towns in the group. The communities are both big and small, and the needs vary. Through better communication between residents and the various layers of government, a better understanding and appreciation can be found to respect the environment and provide for progress.

The Pinelands Municipal Council was created by the Pinelands Protection Act (N.J.S.A. 13:18A-1 et seq) and is made up of the mayors of the 53 municipalities in the Pinelands Area or their designees. The Council is empowered to review and comment upon changes proposed by the Pinelands Commission in the New Jersey Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan. The Council also advises the Commission on matters of interest regarding the Pinelands and takes positions on issues affecting the region. The Council meets periodically to conduct business. The meetings are located in various municipalities throughout the year. A quorum of 15 members of the Council is necessary to take any action. All meetings of the Council are open to the public, and interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

**Council Officers for 2018:**

- **Chairman:** William Pikolycky, Mayor, Woodbine Borough
- **Vice-Chairman:** Deborah Buzby-Cope, Mayor, Bass River Township
- **Secretary:** Karen H. Vaccaro, Designee, Manchester Township
- **Treasurer:** Patti Gross, Mayor, Maurice River Township
- **Member at Large:** James Renwick, Designee, Shamong Township

**Upcoming meeting dates for 2019:**

**Tuesday, March 5** - Buena Vista Township Municipal Building, 890 Harding Highway, Buena, NJ

**Tuesday, May 21** - Weymouth Township Municipal Building, 45 South Jersey Avenue, Dorothy, NJ

**Tuesday, July 23** - 4:00 p.m., Pinelands Commission Headquarters, 15C Springfield Road, New Lisbon, NJ

**Tuesday, September 24** - Maurice River Township Municipal Building, 590 Main Street, Leesburg, NJ

**Tuesday, November 26** - Estell Manor City Municipal Building, 148 Cumberland Avenue, Estell Manor, NJ