



New Jersey Pinelands Commission

Press Release

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Contact: Paul Leakan or Joel Mott, NJ Pinelands Commission

Phone: (609) 894 7300, ext. 124

(609) 894 7300, ext. 125

E mail: info@njpines.state.nj.us

For Immediate Release:

Pinelands Short Course to feature new venue, 36 educational presentations

25th annual event to be held at The Richard Stockton College on March 8th

NEW LISBON, N.J. – The 25th annual Pinelands Short Course will feature a new venue and 36 presentations that will explore the unique history, ecology, culture and music of the 1.1-million-acre Pinelands National Reserve in southern New Jersey.

The daylong event will be held at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey in Galloway Township, Atlantic County on March 8, 2014. Stockton is hosting the Short Course for the first time since 2003.

“The Short Course has educated thousands of people about this special region during the past 25 years, and we’re proud to offer such a diverse lineup of presentations,” said Nancy Wittenberg, the Commission’s Executive Director. “With expanded space and diverse facilities, we can accommodate more courses and more attendees.”

A total of 20 new presentations will be offered. New courses include presentations on Southern Pine Beetles, the Jersey Devil, dragonflies and damselflies, butterflies and moths of the Pinelands, native bees and other Pinelands insects, wildlife habitat restoration, owls of New Jersey, the Pine Barrens Byway, the Kirkwood-Cohansey Aquifer system, stream health, the Batsto Village, the Bass River State Forest and the Mullica River.

"Stockton's campus in the Pinelands National Reserve and our distinctive Environmental Studies program - one of the country's best - make us uniquely suited to host the Pinelands Short Course, now in its 25th year," said President Herman Saatkamp. "The college's location near the Mullica River has prompted several classes that will highlight the river's natural beauty and impact on local history, including the production of iron and glass at Batsto Village and the Revolutionary War battle at Chestnut Neck."

Courses will be held in Stockton’s Campus Center and in the new Unified Science Center, two buildings that were designed to reduce energy and environmental impacts.

The 154,000-square-foot Campus Center, which opened in May 2011, was awarded the Gold Certification for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) by the U.S. Green

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Building Council. The building, which features an 8,000-square-foot event room, a theater, meeting rooms and a food court, uses 40 percent less water and 30 percent less energy than standard construction.

The Unified Science Center is a three-story, 66,000-square-foot building adjacent to the Campus Center. The Science Center includes 11 research labs, six multipurpose classrooms for natural science and math programs, computer classrooms, labs for Life Science, Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Analytical/Physical Chemistry, Genetics, Microbiology, and faculty and adjunct instructor offices. The building has been designed for energy efficiency in accordance with LEED guidelines.

Coffee, food and other refreshments will be available for purchase at the Campus Center.

Participants should register early to help ensure that they receive their first course selections. The Pinelands Short Course is registered with the New Jersey Department of Education, and professional development credits are available to New Jersey teachers who attend. Discounted registration fees are offered to senior citizens and students. The Short Course brochure and registration form includes complete, detailed descriptions of every program and presenter.

To request an event brochure/registration form or for more information, please call (609) 894-7300, ext. 125. The brochure/registration is also available online and can be downloaded and printed from the Pinelands Commission's Web site. The address is: www.nj.gov/pinelands.

To register online directly go to: <https://pssb.stockton.edu/flexreg/index.jsp?frc=PNLD>
Or visit Stockton Continuing Studies office at: www.stockton.edu/continuingstudies

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***** ATTENTION EDITORS/REPORTERS:** Digital photos of previous Short Course presentations and images related to this year's Short Course topics, including the photos on the following page, can be obtained via e-mail by contacting Paul Leakan at (609) 894-7300, ext. 124.



Above: Erin Kiefer, a naturalist with the Woodford Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge in Medford, NJ, holds a great horned owl during last year's Pinelands Short Course. Live owls will also be featured during this year's event.

Photo/Paul Leakan



Above: The Pine Barrens Treefrog is one of many native Pinelands species that will be featured a presentation during this year's Short Course.

Photo/John Bunnell