
by Amy Karpati & Jaclyn Rhoads

Native to the southeastern U.S., the Southern Pine Beetle (SPB) has disturbed pine forest ecosystems for many decades. Though the SPB population fluctuates over time and has resulted in the mortality of thousands of pine trees, it has historically been a consistent participant in southeastern pine forest dynamics. Pine forests actually depend on disturbance for their survival. In fact, scientists have suggested that the interaction between SPB and wildfires naturally maintained forest structure and function by resetting the successional process and maintaining open pine forests, inhibiting succession to hardwood (oak) forests. The interaction also led to high community diversity and productivity, enabling these forests to reduce nutrient losses and respond rapidly to disturbance. However, recent wildfire suppression has disrupted this natural dynamic in these forests and could be contributing to SPB outbreaks.

The range of the SPB has likely advanced into New Jersey due to a recent series of warmer winters, the late 1990’s drought, and increased interstate commerce. NJ Forest Service foresters have been investigating sites in Atlantic, Burlington, Cape May, Cumberland, and Salem Counties where patchy outbreaks have killed pine trees. The affected areas are approximately 0.10 - 305 acres in size and scattered. Like the southeastern pine forests, the New Jersey Pinelands also rely on regular disturbance – particularly disturbance from high-intensity wildfires. However, decades of fire sup-

continued on page 5
Cool Ways to Spend Fall Days in the Pinelands

Fall is a great time to get out and explore the Pinelands. The heat of summer has given way to warm days and cooler nights. The foliage is beginning to spread splashes of color throughout the green canvas of the Pines. Whether by foot, by bicycle or by canoe, it’s a great time of year to enjoy the natural splendor of the Pinelands. Here are some suggestions (see our calendar of events on page 7 for a sampling of events during Pinelands Month in October; see our website calendar for a complete listing):

If walking or hiking is your thing, why not discover (or re-discover) some portions of the sugar sand ribbon of the 50 mile Batona Trail. Get Back To Nature by following the pink blazes to some highlights along the trail. Bring your binoculars for the panoramic views from Apple Pie Hill fire tower, where the skylines of Atlantic City and Philadelphia can be glimpsed on a clear fall day. Get your boots muddy on the trails around Pakim Pond in Brendan Byrne State Forest. Or brush up on your history with a visit to the restored Batsto Village, home of the industrial power house that converted bog iron into cannonballs and other military supplies during the Revolutionary War. Or Whitesbog Village, an historic company town, founded in the 1870s by Joseph J. White which was once one of the largest cranberry and blueberry farms in the state, active through the mid-20th century. The cultivated blueberry, a hybrid of the native Vaccinium caesariense, was developed and commercialized here by Elizabeth White and Frank Coville. Wherever you go, bring a picnic lunch!

If paddling sounds appealing, the Pinelands offer several opportunities to explore the quiet, tea-colored rivers that empty into the Atlantic Ocean. Trips can range from two to eight hours, and there are several canoe liveries in the Pinelands that offer rentals. Some rivers to meander down include the Mullica, the Wading, the Batsto and the Oswego. If you are a novice, or an organized outing is more your speed, why not join an organized tour of a Piney River? Check the PPA website events calendar for more information.

However you decide to get out into the Pinelands this fall, please take a moment during your adventures amongst the natural and historical treasures that you encounter, to reflect on what a unique and special environment exists right here in your backyard, and what you can do to help keep it that way.

Go to PPA’s website: www.pinelandsalliance.org/exploration/todo/ for more information on these and loads of other outdoor activities in the Pines.
An Ally in the Pines

The Pinelands Preservation Alliance, a Southampton-based group focused on protecting the Pinelands, released its annual “State of the Pinelands” report last week.

The document highlighted several success stories related to Pinelands protection — including an educational partnership involving teachers from the Evesham and Lenape Regional school districts to promote the stewardship and preservation of the Black Run Creek. But the report also indicated that several decisions by the Pinelands Commission, other state agencies and local government officials are troubling — and potentially harmful to the region.

And that concerns us.

The New Jersey Pinelands National Reserve is a national treasure. There is no other region like it. In 1978, 1.1 million acres of the Pine Barrens, which include large portions of Burlington County, were designated as the Pinelands National Reserve.

The Alliance’s report is critical of what appears to be the commission’s shift in policy — that regulations were being subverted or degraded. The report pointed out a number of decisions that changed previous agreements that set land aside as open space in perpetuity. And the handling of the development of a large shopping center and residential project in the Pinelands in Ocean County was cited as an example of the degradation of Pinelands rules. Not good.

The Pinelands Commission is charged with preserving the area and controlling its development. And the Alliance’s job is to keep the commission on task. We should all be thankful for that. In this overpopulated, overdeveloped Garden State, the Pinelands needs every ally it can get.

The Pinelands Preservation Alliance and the Pinelands Commission, by necessity, have a unique relationship. They must partner to foster and protect the Pine Barrens, and yet there is an adversarial element to their association. If they agreed on everything, then we would have real reason to worry. We commend the Pinelands Preservation Alliance for its hard work. Its annual report and year-round advocacy for the Pinelands region are crucial to preserving the region for our children and grandchildren to enjoy.
1. Become a member of Pinelands Preservation Alliance and help support our work preserving and protecting the NJ Pinelands!
2. Make something tasty with cranberries and enjoy the fruit of the Pines.
3. Learn about brave Captain Emilio Carranza and visit the Carranza Memorial.
5. Go into the woods with a bird book and binoculars. Stay very quiet and see how many birds are visiting on their fall migration.
6. Attend a NJ Pinelands Commission meeting and see what happens there.
8. Read a book about the Pinelands. We recommend anything by Howard Boyd.
9. Ask your children’s teachers and principals what they teach students about the Pinelands. If the answer is “nothing,” keep talking!
10. Go to Albert Music Hall and enjoy some bluegrass, country and old timey music.
11. Research a forgotten town, an endangered species, or a favorite flora or fauna. Learn everything you possibly can about it. Talk about it at parties.
12. Join your town’s Environmental Commission or Green Team. If your town doesn’t have one, persuade your mayor to create one.
13. Visit Apple Pie Hill, the highest point in the Pinelands. Forest fires are spotted in early stages from the fire tower.
14. Consider how much the Barnegat Bay owes to the Barrens.
15. Think spring gardening! Plan to use native plants in your landscaping. Avoid using herbicides and pesticides, and minimize the use of fertilizers.
16. Visit a cranberry bog when the harvest is happening.
17. Write to your local newspaper about the imperative of protecting the Pinelands. Write often!
18. Give a friend a gift membership in PPA or other organization.
19. Tell any organizations you belong to about PPA’s Speakers Bureau with presentations on the Pinelands, Water, and Threatened & Endangered Species.
20. Your car will get better gas mileage if you have a Pinelands license plate! Over 6,000 New Jersey vehicles are already sporting them.
21. Watch the full moon rising behind a pitch pine.
22. Go canoeing on a cool, cloudy day.
23. Visit the Pine Plains and walk like a giant through the pygmy forests.
24. Volunteer at PPA or another group working to preserve the Pinelands ecosystem.
25. Walk around the perimeter of Pakim Pond, 1.4 miles, in the Brendan T. Byrne State Forest. How many plants can you identify?
26. Come say hello to PPA staff and volunteers at the Bishop Farmstead. Check out our visitors center and native plant garden.
27. Find out what Joe Mulliner, Mother Leeds and Ong are famous for.
28. Visit Batsto Village; see bog iron. Learn why Pinelands water wasn’t sold over a century ago.
29. Meditate on the fragility and finiteness of the Kirkwood-Cohansey aquifer.
30. Learn what New Jersey and PPA are doing to preserve and protect the water supply.
31. The PPA film "The Pine Barrens: Up Close and Natural" makes an excellent gift. Start your holiday shopping at PPA!
Managing the Southern Pine Beetle

continued from cover page

pression in the Pinelands, along with the occasional low-intensity prescribed burns, have removed this natural disturbance from our local ecology. The SPB prefers crowded, aged, stressed trees – exactly the kind of forest that results from fire suppression management.

Currently, the NJDEP is promoting the cut-and-leave approach to control the SPB in New Jersey. This strategy involves identifying affected forest patches, manually cutting down infested trees plus some healthy un-infested trees, and leaving these cut trees on-site to confuse the beetles and inhibit their spread. This approach may help control the SPB in isolated spots, but in the absence of subsequent high-intensity fire to suppress oaks and encourage pine regeneration, these affected forest areas are unlikely to recover as healthy pine forests. Several studies in southeastern pine forests have found that whether the SPB harms or benefits pine forests is determined chiefly by whether high-intensity fires also occur.

If warmer winter temperatures persist in New Jersey, we may need to accept that the SPB could become a regular pest in our pine forests. But, the pine forests could benefit if we also accept that high-intensity prescribed fire should be restored as a natural regional disturbance process. Experience in other states and NJ shows high intensity prescribed fires can be conducted safely in forests like ours. We may need to shift our management efforts from those focused on directly killing the SPB to those that create forest conditions unfavorable to SPB outbreak in the first place. If the SPB does become a regular threat, using high-intensity prescribed fires throughout the region will likely decrease the vulner-

ability of our forests to SPB outbreaks.

It is important to recognize that the current practice of using low-intensity prescribed burns does not provide the ecological benefits of fires that burn at higher temperatures. Low-intensity burns do not actually result in significantly reduced pine stand density. Instead, they result in weakened, but still over-crowded, wildfire-suppressed, even-aged pine stands, which are highly favored by the SPB.

High intensity prescribed burns, in contrast, reduce tree density, encourage pine regeneration and better tree health, suppress the more-competitive oaks, and reduce forest fuel loads to decrease the risk of uncontrolled fires. A more holistic approach to ecological burning is necessary to promote healthy forests in New Jersey that are more resilient to natural pests.

For more information and scientific references about the Southern Pine Beetle, visit PPA’s website – http://www.pinelandsalliance.org/protected/work/currentissues/ecological/ and select Southern Pine Beetle.

MOVIE UNDER THE STARS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

7 - 10:00 PM

FREE

Come join PPA for a fun family night as we show a movie with a Pinelands theme outside and under the stars. Popcorn and refreshments provided. Bring your own chair, relax and enjoy the show!

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

To register or for more information please contact Tom Dunn at tomdunn@pinelandsalliance.org or call 609-859-8860 ext 14.

Fairs & Festivals

October 8

Pine Barrens Jamboree

Wells Mills County Park

October 15 & 16

Chatsworth Cranberry Festival

Chatsworth

October 16

Batsto Country Living Fair

Batsto Village

Stop by the PPA table at these events!

Witmer Stone Weekend

SEPT. 30 - OCT. 2

Medford Leas and Camp Dark Waters, Medford

Celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Stone’s Great Work, “The Plants of Southern New Jersey”

PPA will host the official bookstore for this event.

For more information: www.witmerstoneweekend.com
Barbara Solem is a longtime member and volunteer with PPA, as well as the author of two popular books about the Pine Barrens, including *The Forks: A Brief History of the Area* and *Ghost Towns and Other Quirky Places in the New Jersey Pine Barrens*.

PPA: How long have you been a member of PPA?

Barbara Solem: I have been a member since April 2002.

PPA: What prompted you to become a member?

BS: I had just retired from my state job as an education administrator and felt that I finally had the time to get involved. I had been recreating in the Pine Barrens for a number of years, hiking and kayaking, and I had decided I wanted to be part of an organization that was working to preserve a place I cared very much about. So I began volunteering with PPA and my first assignment was to coordinate the Pinelands Discovery Festival.

PPA: What specific PPA activity has really impressed you?

BS: What I think impresses me the most about PPA is the caliber of the people who work there. Not only are the staff competent, but they are some of the nicest people I have ever worked with. Whenever I am doing a project with them or just calling to get some information, the staff is incredibly supportive and helpful. They are also very appreciative of their volunteers and make sure they acknowledge their contributions.

PPA: What has PPA done for you? your family? your town?

BS: Getting involved with PPA has given me the opportunity to be part of something I consider extremely important -- protecting and preserving the New Jersey Pine Barrens. I have found being a member and volunteer at PPA to be a personally rewarding experience. I have learned a great deal and have met many wonderful people. When my book *Ghost Towns and Other Quirky Places in the New Jersey Pine Barrens* was first published in 2005, PPA graciously invited me to do a book launch at the Bishop Farmstead. It was the perfect venue for such an event!

PPA: Why would you urge others to join PPA?

BS: PPA does the hard work every day of staying on top of the issues that affect the Pine Barrens. There is no question that the work they do is crucial in preserving the treasure that so many of us care about. But they can’t do it alone. Just caring about the Pine Barrens is not enough. We all need to be part of the solution and joining PPA is a great first step!

---

**PINELANDS COMMISSION MEETINGS**

Fri., Oct. 14, 9:30am

Thurs., Nov. 10, 9:30am

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

CALL (609) 894-7300 FOR DETAILS

---

**Green Trading Post**

December 4, 12 - 4 pm

at PPA’s Bishop Farmstead

Shop for “green” gifts for the holidays!

Participating organizations will include:

- Pinelands Preservation Alliance
- Conserve Wild Foundation of NJ
- NJ Audubon Society
- Whitesbog Preservation Trust
- Polination Station
- Burlington County Natural Science Club

Profits help support the missions of the various conservation groups.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Hon. Brendan Byrne
Honorary Chair
Former Governor,
State of New Jersey

Howard P. Boyd
Trustee Emeritus
Pinelands Author

Richard J. Sullivan
Trustee Emeritus

David F. Moore
Chair

Leon M. Rosenson, Ph.D.
Vice Chair
Retired, Liposome Company

Robert Tucker, Ph.D.
Treasurer
Retired Scientist

Anne E. Heasly
Secretary
Conservation Consultant

Timothy J. Byrne
Attorney

Charles M. Chapin
Upper Raritan Watershed Association

Emile DeVito, Ph.D.
New Jersey Conservation Foundation

John Dighton, Ph.D.
Director, Rutgers Pinelands Field Station

Michael Gallaway
Sierra Club

Janet Jackson-Gould
Nonprofit Consultant

Thomas B. Harvey
Attorney

Paul A. King
Chief Operating Officer, The Bannett Group, LTD

Don Kirchoffer

Blanche Krubner
League of Women Voters

Loretta Pickus
Attorney, Former Vice President of Legal Affairs, Trump Entertainment Resorts

Jessica Ritter Sanchez, Ph.D.
Water Resource Planner

Harry Shallcross, Ph.D.
Health and Human Services Consultant

Kevin Sparkman
Fusionspark Media

Richard Turner

Nan Hunter-Walnut
Pin Barrens Coalition

Angela Wenger
New Jersey Academy of Aquatic Sciences

Carleton K. Montgomery
Executive Director, Pinelands Preservation Alliance

Pine Barrens Calendar of Events

October & November 2011

NOTE: Names, addresses, and phone numbers are provided here for frequently mentioned event sponsors. Please contact the sponsor of the event for full information and details of the event.


Outdoor Club of South Jersey (OCSJ), www.ocsj.org

Sierra Club - West Jersey Chapter (SC), http://mysite.verizon.net/zve1/.


October is Pinelands Month!

Saturday, October 8

17th Annual Pine Barrens Jamboree at Wells Mill Park
Live Music: 10:30am – 4pm
Featuring: Timber Creek, Piney Hollow Drifters, Heidi Olsen & The Night, Jim Murphy & The Pine Barons, Saturday Night Express, Cedar Creek, Bluegrass Road, Warm Hearted Country, J&J Company, Regular Saturday Night Show at Albert Music Hall
Doors open: 6:30pm Live Music: 7:30pm thru 11:30pm
Adults: $5.00 Children: $1.00

Wednesday, October 12

Uncovering the Past: A Photographic History of the Pine Barrens (Pinelands Heritage Series)
7pm
Speaker: Karen Riley, author of The Pine Barrens of New Jersey
Location: Pinelands Preservation Alliance, 17 Pemberton Road, Southampton Township
Description: Travel back in time to view ghost towns, abandoned buildings and the world’s 8th tallest structure in a unique peek into the past. Learn about some of the earliest industries in the Pine Barrens including glassmaking, charcoal, cranberry harvesting, and bog iron mining as you view photographs dating back to the late 1800s, many from private collections. Author Karen Riley will present a photographic history of the Pine Barrens based on her recent book The Pine Barrens of New Jersey.

The Pinelands Visitor Center will be open 30 minutes before and after the program.
Cost: $10/person
Registration: Register online or call 609 859-8860 x14 or email tom-dunn@pinelandsalliance.org. PPA

Saturday, October 15

Cranberry Industry Lecture and Living History Tour
10am, Whitesbog Village
$10 donation/person, reservations are required. View a modern wet-harvest (weather & harvest schedule permitting) and learn about the history and cultivation of cranberries in NJ. Tour historic Whitesbog village with Whitesbog’s ‘Cranberry King’, Joseph J. White, his daughter, Elizabeth, and Charles Beckwith, played by historical interpreters. More Information: 609 893-4646. W.

Saturday, November 5

Whitesbog Village Tour
1pm, Whitesbog Village
1 PM $5/person. Stroll the Historic Village, learn about Whitesbog’s role in history and visit Suningive, Elizabeth White’s historic home, the worker’s cottages and other buildings that speak to Whitesbog’s heritage. More Information: 609 893-4646. W.

Legend of the Jersey Devil Show
Live Music begins at 7:30pm
The “Jersey Devil” appears on the Legend of the Jersey Devil Show
Featuring: Heidi Olsen & The Night, Jersey Devil appears with The Libby Prison Minstrels, Basement Musicians, Acoustic Thunder
Adult Admission: $5.00, Children: $1.00. Albert Music Hall

Thursday, November 10

Understanding Low Impact Development Design (Pinelands Lecture Series)
7pm. Speaker: Jaclyn Rhoads, Director for Conservation Policy, Pinelands Preservation Alliance
Description: Low-Impact development is the new buzz word, but what does it exactly mean. In this lecture, PPA staff provides low-impact design techniques, examples, and suggestions on how to incorporate LID into local policies.
Cost: FREE. Registration: Call 609 859-8860 x14 or email tom-dunn@pinelandsalliance.org

Space is limited; registration is required. More Information: Tom, 609 859-8860 x14. PPA

Saturday, December 3

Whitesbog Village Tour
1 PM $5/person, Stroll the Historic Village, learn about Whitesbog’s role in history and visit Suningive, Elizabeth White’s historic home, the worker’s cottages and other buildings that speak to Whitesbog’s heritage. More Information: 609 893-4646. W.

Tuesday, December 6

Groundwater Supply and Ecosystem Needs - Workshop
7 – 9pm. Speaker: Rich Bizub, Director for Water Programs, Pinelands Preservation Alliance
Description: This workshop will focus on the State’s water allocation process, and how groundwater withdrawals for public water supplies and golf courses can impact streamflow and water quality of streams and wetlands. A hands-on component will show participants how to analyze NJDEP documents to determine loss of surface water flow and potential impacts of water withdrawals to endangered species.
Cost: FREE. Registration: Call 609 859-8860 x14 or email tom-dunn@pinelandsalliance.org. PPA

If your organization is having an activity you would like to see listed, contact Inside the Pinelands, 17 Pemberton Road, Southhampton, NJ 08088; ph: (609) 859-8860; e-mail miked@pinelandsalliance.org. Next deadline: November 15, 2011.

Go to the Events Calendar on PPA’s website for a comprehensive listing of events.
Inside:
Cool Ways to Spend Fall Days - p. 2
PPA: An Ally in the Pines - p. 3
31 Ways to Celebrate the Pines - p. 4
PPA Fairs & Fests Schedule - p. 5
PPA MEMBERandum - p. 6
Pinelands Calendar of Events - p. 7

CLICK: www.pinelandsalliance.org
CALL: (609) 859-8860
FOLLOW: www.facebook.com/Pinelands

SCAN: Scan this code to get to PPA's website

This code can be scanned and read by a Smart Phone using a QR Code
Reader app available from iTunes or Android web stores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Address:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City:</td>
<td>County:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone (Day):</td>
<td>(Evening):</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-Mail:</td>
<td>Referred by:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Check enclosed payable to PPA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Mastercard</td>
<td>☐ Visa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Card Number:</td>
<td>Exp. Date:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signature of Card Holder:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Membership Categories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>$35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsor</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patron</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefactor</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chairman's Circle</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$_____</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ALL MEMBERS RECEIVE:**

- A PPA membership card
- A year’s subscription to Inside the Pinelands
- A PPA window sticker
- Discounts on PPA merchandise and events

- A Sponsor will receive an *Exploring the Pine Barrens of New Jersey* map
- A Patron will receive a copy of *The Pine Barrens: Up Close and Natural DVD*
- A Benefactor will receive a Pinelands Botanical Print by Robin Jess
- A member of the Chairman’s Circle will receive a personalized tour of the Pinelands

Follow Pinelands Preservation Alliance on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/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.