



New Jersey Pinelands Commission

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release:

Gaetano “Guy” Matro, a fourth-generation farmer and lifelong resident of the Pinelands, sworn in as new member of the Pinelands Commission

NEW LISBON, N.J., September 12, 2025 – Gaetano “Guy” Matro, a fourth-generation farmer, was sworn in as a member of the Pinelands Commission’s 15-member board during the agency’s meeting this morning.

Mr. Matro’s father in law, Peter J. Burke, Jr., served as one of the original members of the Pinelands Commission, having been appointed to the panel by then-Governor Brendan T. Byrne in 1979.

“I always admired him and what he did, and that’s pretty much why I accepted it (the appointment),” Matro said. “I feel that agriculture needs to be represented on the board, and that’s another reason why I joined.”

Mr. Matro was appointed to serve as Camden County’s representative on the Commission in August 2025. A resident of Elm in Winslow Township, Mr. Matro owns and operates 800 acres of farmland in Atlantic, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem Counties. The farms produce blueberries, sweet potatoes and soybeans. His son and nephew are fifth generation farmers. Mr. Matro is the Chairman of the Camden County Agriculture Development Board, and he serves on the Camden County Open Space Advisory Committee and on the Board of Trustees for St. Joseph Academy in Hammonton. Mr. Matro holds a Bachelor of Science in agriculture from Penn State University.

“We look forward to Guy’s active participation on the Commission and to working with him to ensure the continuation and expansion of agriculture and horticulture in the Pinelands,” said Pinelands Commission Executive Director Susan R. Grogan.

The Pinelands Commission is an independent state agency that is charged with protecting the natural, cultural, and historic resources of the 938,000-acre state Pinelands Area, which includes parts or all of 53 municipalities in Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Ocean counties.

The Commission’s 15-member board consists of seven members who are appointed by the New Jersey Governor, one member appointed by each of the seven Pinelands counties, and one member appointed by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior. Commission members are unpaid volunteers who dedicate countless hours of their time and expertise while serving on the Commission.

***** ATTENTION REPORTERS/EDITORS:** Please contact Paul Leakan at Paul.Leakan@pinelands.nj.gov to receive a .jpeg of the photo below.

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Above: Gaetano “Guy” Matro took the oath of office as a member of the Pinelands Commission during the agency’s meeting this morning. DAG Jason T. Stypinski administered the oath.

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