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## For Immediate Release

### **34<sup>th</sup> annual Pinelands Short Course to feature 28 presentations** *Daylong event to include 21 new, educational programs*

NEW LISBON, N.J., January 5, 2023 – The 34<sup>th</sup> annual Pinelands Short Course will feature 28 presentations, including 21 new programs that will explore the region’s unique history, ecology, culture, and music.

Registration is now open for the daylong event, which will be held at Stockton University’s main campus in Galloway Township, Atlantic County, on March 11, 2023.

“Education is a key part of our efforts to protect the Pinelands, and this event has educated thousands of people about the region’s resources during the past 33 years,” said Susan R. Grogan, the Commission’s Acting Executive Director. “We’re excited about this year’s Short Course, which includes a diverse range of presentations.”

“Stockton University is thrilled that there are so many new educational programs at this year’s Pinelands Short Course,” said Leamor Kahanov, Stockton University provost and vice president for Academic Affairs. “We are especially excited about the presentation featuring our thriving Stockton Maple Project.”

This year’s Short Course includes the following new presentations: Turtles of the Pinelands (with live turtles); Where the Pinelands Meet the Bay: The Unnoticed Symbiosis of Shellfish and the Pinelands; Orchids of the Pinelands and Why the Smithsonian is Interested; Lichens: A Beginner’s Look; Pinelands Roadsides: Native and Invasive Species; Vultures of New Jersey; Four Seasons at Forsythe; Amphibians; Microclimates and Microfauna of the Pinelands; Life with Moths; The Still Family Story: Its Significance and Relevance to the History of South Jersey; Gateway to the Pines: Wells Mills Ocean County Park; Double Trouble Village: A Window into Pinelands Industries; Iron, Glass and Water: Industry and Natural Resources in the Pine Barrens; The Whitesbog Book: New Images from Whitesbog Historic Village; The Stockton Maple Project;

A New England Tradition Comes to South Jersey; Community Science Projects and NJ Pine Barrens: From Forests to Frogs; Winter 2022-2023 in the Pinelands and a Look at the Growing Season; Climate Ready Communities; No Wild Rivers in South Jersey: An Environmental Biography; and The Pinelands: A Natural History of Colors.

The day will also include popular presentations from the past, including the Batona Trail: Premier Walking Path of the Pinelands; Raptors of the Pines (with live raptors); Snakes of the Pine Barrens (with live snakes); a Stockton Campus Birding Walk (field trip); and Harrisville: 19<sup>th</sup> Century Life on the Wading River (field trip with transportation provided).

The event will also feature live musical performances by Jackson Pines and Valerie Vaughn.

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.

To register online, go to: <https://stockton.gosignmeup.com/public/Course/browse?courseid=3217>

**\*\*\* ATTENTION EDITORS/REPORTERS:** Digital photos of the Pinelands can be obtained by contacting Paul Leakan at [Info@pinelands.nj.gov](mailto:Info@pinelands.nj.gov), including the photos below.



**Above:** The 34<sup>th</sup> annual Pinelands Short Course will feature 21 new programs, including one that will focus on turtles of the Pinelands. The photo above shows a native eastern box turtle in the Pinelands.

Photo/John Bunnell



**Above:** The 34<sup>th</sup> annual Pinelands Short Course will feature 28 presentations, including one that will highlight the four seasons at the Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge. The photo above shows snow geese soaring above Wildlife Drive at Forsythe. Photo/Paul Leakan



**Above:** The 34<sup>th</sup> annual Pinelands Short Course will feature 28 presentations, including one that will focus on moths. The photo above shows a giant leopard moth in the Pinelands.

Photo/Paul Leakan