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New Jersey Pinelands Commission to Expands Schedule of Free Webinars Through February

(Updated 1/15/2021)

The New Jersey Pinelands Commission has expanded its schedule of free, educational webinars through February.

The Commission has hosted 27 webinar presentations on its YouTube Channel since 2020, including two webinars so far this month. The newly added lineup for February includes presentations on attracting birds to the residential landscape, the Pinelands jetport and other Pinelands dreams, birding in the Pine Barrens and moths of the Atlantic Coastal Plain region.

All of the webinars will be livestreamed on the Commission's <u>YouTube channel</u>. The Commission will send out weekly notices with direct links to the presentations, which will also be recorded and archived for later viewing.

Here is the full schedule of upcoming webinars:

■ January 21st at 10 a.m. - Through Elizabeth's Eyes: Whitesbog Glass Plate Negatives Allison Pierson, Executive Director, Whitesbog Preservation Trust

Thirty-nine delicate glass plate negatives in the archives of Whitesbog Preservation Trust were conserved and digitized for the first time in 2019, making them available for public viewing. These 1896-1917 photographs were taken by Elizabeth Coleman White, and they include scenes from the active cranberry farm at Whitesbog, New Lisbon scenes, family portraits of Pine Barrens residents, snowy woodland scenes, nature studies and some travel images from Philadelphia and the Delaware Water Gap. These images reveal new views and insights into White's life before she developed the first crop of commercial blueberries, and they paint a portrait of life in the Pine Barrens at the turn of the last century. Click here for the link to watch the webinar.

■ January 28th at 10 a.m. - Pine Barrens Weather and Its Effect on NJ's Microclimate James A. Eberwine, retired Meteorologist (National Weather Service)

The million-acre Pine Barrens of southern New Jersey can experience very hot and very cold temperatures. The region can also provide a tremendous source of moisture that enhances thunderstorm activity. Presenter James A. Eberwine, a retired Meteorologist with the National

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Weather Service, will discuss Pine Barrens weather and its effects on New Jersey's microclimate.

■ February 4th at 10 a.m. - Expanding Biodiversity - Attracting Birds to Your Jersey-Friendly Yard Becky Laboy, M.Ed. Education Outreach Specialist, Ocean County Soil Conservation District

Learn how to create a Jersey-Friendly Yard to attract and support birds. Using an ecologically holistic approach, Presenter Becky Laboy will discuss native plant species that are appropriate for yards and will point out the many ways these species provide essential services to birds. She will also introduce landscape features and practices that support birds, such as leaf litter, brush piles, dead trees, nest boxes, and water features.

■ February 11th at 10 a.m. - The Pinelands Jetport and Other Pinelands Dreams

Timothy Hart Esq., Ocean County Historian and Director of the Ocean County Cultural and Heritage Commission

The proposal to construct the Pinelands Jetport can be seen as the prime motivation to preserve what is arguably the most important ecological resource between Boston and Richmond. Few have actually seen the proposal or seen the diagrams, but through the rediscovery of the original report, Presenter Timothy Hart's program will revisit the actual proposal through illustrations and diagrams. The proposed facility for the reception of Super Sonic Transports was located in some of the most sensitive regions of the Pinelands. And yet, ironically, the planners actually claimed to be proposing a means to limit overall development and preserve the majority of the New Jersey Pinelands. The jetport was not the first or most audacious plan for the Pinelands. A brief description of some of the other plans will be shared.

■ February 18th at 10 a.m. - Birding the Pine Barrens

Susan Puder, Author, Photographer and President of the Southern Ocean Birding Group

In this program, attendees will discover the best birding hotspots in the Pinelands, including the species that can be seen and the best locations for finding elusive songbirds, raptors and waterfowl.

■ February 25th at 10 a.m. - Moths of the Atlantic Coastal Plain Region

Ann-Marie Woods, Photographer and Naturalist

From sugar sand to beach sand, moths are an integral part of habitats found in Pinelands oak-pine forests, the dwarf pine plains, and bogs, and along the Atlantic coastline living in maritime forests, dunes, and saltwater marshes. Join Presenter Ann-Marie Woods as she offers macro photography, gathered data, and insight to enlighten attendees about the nighttime world of moths in this ecologically diverse area.

