



## New Jersey Pinelands Commission **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Nine new presentations highlight 17<sup>th</sup> annual Pinelands Short Course**

*Popular educational event will be held on March 4 at Burlington County College*

**WHEN:** Saturday, March 4, 2006, from 8 a.m. to 2:50 p.m.

**WHERE:** Burlington County College, Route 530, Pemberton Township, NJ.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Registration brochures can be printed from the Pinelands Commission Web site at [www.nj.gov/pinelands](http://www.nj.gov/pinelands). To receive a brochure by mail, call (609) 894-7300, ext. 125. To register by phone, call (609) 894-9311, ext. 1382 or (856) 222-9311.

NEW LISBON, N.J. – The 17<sup>th</sup> annual Pinelands Short Course will feature nine new presentations while still offering attendees the opportunity to enjoy numerous popular presentations from the past.

“Since its inception, the Pinelands Short Course has provided an abundance of wonderful presentations about the unique natural, cultural and historic treasures of the Pinelands,” said John C. Stokes, Pinelands Commission Executive Director. “This year’s Short Course promises to continue that tradition.”

The Pinelands Short Course is sponsored by the New Jersey Pinelands Commission and Burlington County College (BCC), which has hosted the event for the past two years. The Pinelands Institute for Natural and Environmental Studies, a program of BCC, is also a sponsor of the event.

To be held at BCC’s Parker Center on March 4, the program is open to all who are interested in learning about the Pinelands. Last year’s event featured 19 presenters and attracted approximately 375 people.

The nine new presentations for this year’s Short Course will cover the following topics: a tribute to the work of Pinelands folklorist Herbert Halpert, environmentally-conscious art education, an indoor Pinelands field trip, threatened and endangered wildlife, the forgotten town of Cedar Bridge, wildlife

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photography and programs on black bears, butterflies and fish in the Pinelands.

In addition to the new presentations, popular programs from the past will continue to be offered at this year's event. These include a Pinelands overview, traditional uses of native Pinelands plants, Pine Barrens photography, traditional Pinelands music by the Sugar Sand Ramblers, long-distance migratory songbirds of the Pinelands, a history of the Pinelands, turtles of the Pinelands, the Kirkwood-Cohansey aquifer and its effect on the Pinelands environment, Pinelands fire safety, and an educational walking tour of the historic Whitesbog Village.

The event is registered with the New Jersey Department of Education, and professional development credits will be available to New Jersey teachers who attend the Pinelands Short Course. Discounted registration fees are offered to senior citizens and students. The program runs from 8 a.m. to 2:50 p.m.

To request a brochure/registration form or for more information, contact the Pinelands Commission at (609) 894-7300, ext. 125. The Short Course brochure and registration form can also be printed from the Pinelands Commission's Web site ([www.nj.gov/pinelands](http://www.nj.gov/pinelands)). Brochures also are available at numerous county libraries, environmental and nature centers and other locations.

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