



New Jersey Pinelands Commission

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release:

New Jersey Pinelands Commission to host three educational presentations as part of its Pinelands Speaker Series

NEW LISBON, N.J. – Beginning this month, the New Jersey Pinelands Commission will host three presentations on a variety of topics as part of the Pinelands Speaker Series.

The presentations are free and open to the public, and they will be held in the Commission's Richard J. Sullivan Center for Environmental Policy and Education on 15 Springfield Road in Pemberton Township, NJ.

"We are excited to resume our Pinelands Speaker Series, which has educated hundreds of people about the Pinelands," said Nancy Wittenberg, Executive Director of the Commission. "We hosted this series of talks for five years, and attendees learned about topics that ranged from raptors to rain barrels. Given the recent completion of our new Pinelands exhibit, we felt it was the perfect time to revive this excellent educational initiative."

The first presentation, entitled "**Pinelands 101**," is scheduled for **10 a.m.** on **October 17th**. Presenter Joel Mott, a Principal Public Programs Specialist with the Pinelands Commission, will emphasize the importance of water to the area while highlighting the region's cultural and historic resources. The presentation will feature numerous sights and sounds of the Pinelands.

The second presentation, entitled "**Combating Climate Change with a Jersey-Friendly Yard**," is scheduled for **10 a.m.** on **November 14th**. Attendees will learn about the challenges that climate change poses to the residential landscape and how to mitigate the impacts using the Jersey-Friendly Yards' website, tools and resources. The presentation will be delivered by Karen Walzer, Public Outreach Coordinator for the Barnegat Bay Partnership, and Becky Laboy, Education Outreach Specialist for the Ocean County Soil Conservation District.

The third presentation, entitled "**Head of the River Cemetery and the Methodists of Old Tuckahoe: A History in Stone**," is scheduled for **10 a.m.** on **December 12th**. Tony McNichol, a

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Cultural Resource Planner with the Pinelands Commission, will discuss the 18th century cemetery and the Head of the River church in Estell Manor. The church is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. By referencing the early tombstones, McNichol will explore the stories of some of the early families of the region.

For directions to the Richard J. Sullivan Center, please log on to:

<https://www.nj.gov/pinelands/infor/fact/directions.pdf>

For more information about the new Candace McKee Ashmun Pinelands Education Exhibit, please log on to: <https://www.nj.gov/pinelands/infor/educational/rjs/index.shtml>

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