



LONG ISLAND  
PINE BARRENS  
SOCIETY

547 East Main Street  
Riverhead, NY 11901

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PINE BARRENS  
SOCIETY

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A copy of the last annual report filed with the New York State Department of Law may be obtained by writing to NYS Attorney General's Charities Bureau, Attn: FOIL Officer, 120 Broadway, New York, NY, 10271 or may be obtained directly from the Long Island Pine Barrens Society, 547 East Main Street, Riverhead, NY 11901

 Printed on recycled paper.



**THEY DON'T EVEN SPEAK THE SAME LANGUAGE: Developers have an odd sense about what constitutes a preserve, right?**

The Pine Barrens Society's television program airs on Cablevision Channel 20 in the following areas. If your region is not listed here, please call our office at 631-369-3300 to find out how you can help us get it aired on your local Cablevision network. The program can also be viewed on the Society's web site, [www.pinebarrens.org](http://www.pinebarrens.org) by selecting TV Show on the home page. The air times below are effective from April 1st through September 30th.

Town of East Hampton  
Wednesdays 6pm  
Thursdays 9pm  
Fridays 3:30pm

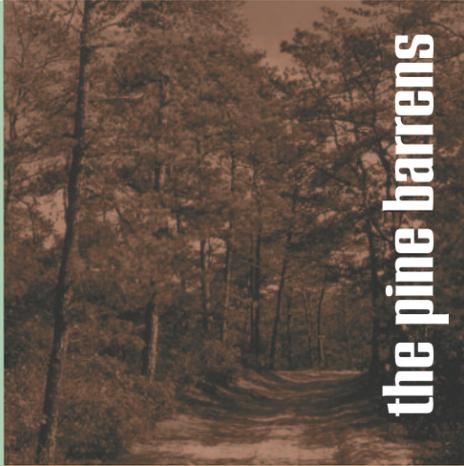
Town of Brookhaven, Town of Smithtown  
and portions of Town of Islip  
Mondays 7:30pm  
Tuesdays 9pm  
Wednesdays 3:30pm

Town of Riverhead, Town of Southold  
and Town of Southampton  
Mondays 8pm  
Saturdays 11am

Town of Babylon, Town of Huntington,  
portions of Town of Islip, and  
all of Nassau County  
Thursdays 3pm  
Mondays 4pm  
Sundays 9am



LONG ISLAND  
PINE BARRENS  
SOCIETY



the pine barrens

# today

PRESERVATION: NOW OR NEVER

## Say it isn't so!

# GUV ENDS STATE LAND PRESERVATION

## Environmentalists Ask Legislature to Restore Funding



**BAD NEWS:** New York Governor David Paterson proposed elimination of open space preservation in his 2010 budget and cut \$79 million from the state's Environmental Protection Fund. The EPF was created in 1993 in connection with enactment of the Pine Barrens Protection Act. Environmentalists are pressing the State Legislature to restore the funding.

New York Governor David Paterson stunned environmentalists by slashing \$79 million from the state's Environmental Protection Fund and eliminating land preservation altogether. The news came in the form of his proposed budget for 2010, released in January. Shocked environmentalists statewide moved quickly to press the State Legislature to restore green funding immediately.

The Environmental Protection Fund was created in 1993 in connection with passage of the Pine Barrens Protection Act. The EPF was intended, in part, to pay landowners fair market value for land needed to protect the Island's purest drinking water supply and to preserve the greatest diversity of plants and animals anywhere in New York State. Observers warned that failure to restore preservation funding could compromise Pine Barrens protection permanently.

The Governor's budget plan follows years of EPF raids or "sweeps" as they are euphemistically called. Some \$500 million has been diverted from environmental programs over the last eight years. Environmental groups around the state are engaged in a major campaign to persuade the New York State Senate and Assembly to restore the funding for land purchases and a host of other environmental programs.

Pine Barrens Society President Alan Singer said, "Maintaining funding for land conservation has been a full-time job for several years, but Governor Paterson's proposal would be devastating and would threaten decades of Pine Barrens preservation, if not overturned by the Legislature."

The news comes as Suffolk and Nassau County's land programs have fallen to new lows. This, although a recent poll shows that eight of ten Long Islanders support maintaining or even expanding land preservation despite the recession. Poll respondents say the decline in land prices makes this a good time to buy.

## BIRTHDAY BASH!

The Pine Barrens Society celebrated 32 years of drinking water protection and land preservation at Oheka Castle, October 22nd. Governor David Paterson received the Society's award for "Outstanding Contribution to Long Island's Environment" and NYPA Chairman Richard Kessel received the Dennis Puleston Environmental Achievement Award. The two were honored for their work on sustainable energy. The event was Co-Chaired by Ross D. Ain, President of Caithness Long Island, LLC, and Executive Vice President of Caithness Energy, L.L.C. Ain was joined by Co-Chair Gary Melius, owner of Oheka Castle.

**A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL:** Hundreds of Long Island leaders attended the Pine Barrens Society's 32nd Anniversary Environmental Awards Gala, held October 22nd at Oheka Castle in Huntington. (More pictures on page three)



Credit: Kathy Kmonicek

# the thicket

## BE TICKED-OFF

### Tips to Stay Tick-Free While Enjoying the Outdoors

by Robert L. Selvey

Industrial Hygiene Manager, Brookhaven National Laboratory

On Long Island, the time of year is approaching when we have to be on guard for ticks. Being aware of the risks of tick bites and taking preventative measures pay great rewards especially for those Long Islanders who like to explore wooded areas such as the Pine Barrens.

Three species of ticks are found on Long Island, each having a distinctive body shape, size and coloring. Each tick species can carry one or more of the different parasites that, when transmitted to humans and other mammals such as deer or dogs via a tick bite, cause different diseases. Fortunately, not all ticks are infected.

The **deer tick** (*Ixodes scapularis*) can carry the Borrelia bacteria responsible for Lyme disease, the Babesia protozoa responsible for babesiosis, and Anaplasma bacteria responsible for anaplasmosis. On Long Island, about 20 to 50 percent of the deer ticks are infected with Borrelia. The percentages of deer ticks carrying the other parasites have not been determined. About ten to 15 percent of ticks that attach to human beings on Long Island are Deer Ticks. In most instances, a deer tick needs to have been attached for at least 24 hours to begin transmitting Lyme disease. See the first photo, below.

The **Lone Star tick** (*Amblyomma americanum*) can carry the parasite responsible for Southern tick-associated rash illness (STARI) and the Ehrlichia bacteria responsible for ehrlichiosis. The rates at which Lone Star ticks carry these pathogens have not been determined. About 80 percent of ticks attaching to human beings are Lone Star ticks, shown below in the third photo from the left.

The **dog tick** (*Dermacentor variabilis*) rarely carries the Rickettsia pathogen which causes Rocky Mountain spotted fever. Although once the most prevalent ticks on Long Island, dog ticks now are only ten to 15 percent of the total ticks that attach to human beings in a season. See the second photo below for some examples.

In addition to appearance differences among tick species, body shape and size differ between adult males and adult females. Photos two and four, below, illustrate the varying size of adult male and female ticks by species.

In a life cycle that takes up to two years to complete, ticks progress through four stages: egg, larvae, nymph, and adult. After hatching, each stage must take a blood meal from a host, such as a human being, deer or dog, to molt to the next stage of life. At each stage, a tick may be actively searching for a host for some two to six months.

The best way to prevent tick-borne diseases is to avoid becoming a host to a tick, and thus, to avoid getting a tick bite. And the best way to avoid getting a tick on you is being properly dressed while you are in tick-infested areas, avoiding high risk habitats, and promptly removing a tick before it can attach and transmit the disease-causing agents.

#### Proven techniques to lessen your chance of picking up a tick are:

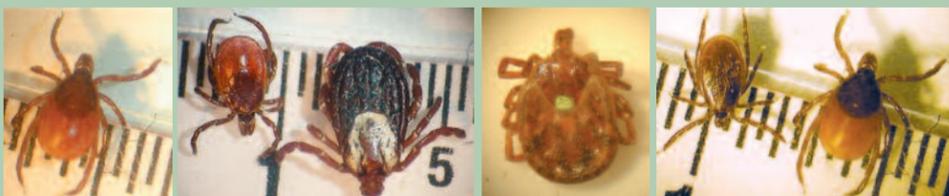
- Stay on paved surfaces, bare soil or sand, or large expanses of well-mown grass.
- Avoid tick habitats, which are the edge of fields at the shrub line, wooded areas, and high grass near wooded areas.
- Stay out of tick areas when ticks are most active. For instance, deer ticks are most active pre-dawn to mid-morning and again in late afternoon to dusk. In addition, ticks are most active on high humidity days, in shaded areas, and in the spring, summer and fall months.

#### When in tick-infested habitat, take special precautions to prevent tick bites, such as:

- Wear light colors, so you can spot any ticks on your clothing more easily.
- Tuck your shirt into your pants.
- Wear long pants and socks, and tuck your pant legs into the socks. This makes a barrier to keep ticks off your legs.
- Check for ticks on your clothing or skin every two to three hours while you are outdoors. Ticks can easily walk from your ankles to shoulders in a few hours.
- Brush off any ticks on clothing before skin attachment occurs.
- Check your entire body and those of your children carefully after being in tick areas.
- Consider careful use of effective repellents. Sprays containing Permethrin repel and kill ticks and other insects. However, permethrin-containing insecticides should be sprayed only on clothes that are then worn only when dry. These insecticides must not be applied to bare skin. DEET-containing spray or liquids, have some success in repelling ticks, and they can be applied to skin or clothes. Neither tick spray, however, should be relied upon alone for protection, as a clothing barrier is the best method.

For additional information on diseases from ticks, visit The Center for Disease Control's Website: [www.cdc.gov/ticks/diseases](http://www.cdc.gov/ticks/diseases).

Happy Hiking!



Deer Tick. Adult female deer (L) & dog (R) ticks. Lone Star Tick. Adult male (L) & female (R) deer ticks.

The ticks are photographed at ten times their normal size, and the hash marks are millimeters.

## ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS NOTES

### Pine Barrens Preservation Pays Off

The Suffolk County Water Authority (SCWA) has negotiated a \$2.6 million deal with Suffolk County that will allow 34 sites in the Pine Barrens to be used for drilling drinking water wells from New York State's purest source.

Credit: LIPBS



**PINE BARRENS PURE:** The Suffolk County Water Authority supplies Long Islanders with water from Long Island's premier ecosystem.

Voters approved preserving more than 18,000 acres under the original Drinking Water Program to protect the aquifer below. The program has been extended to 2030.

"The public authorized a quarter penny in sales tax and now it's getting a huge payback," said PBS Executive Director Richard Amper.

SCWA CEO Steve Jones said, "These wells constitute the bulk of our new drinking water facilities for the next 50 years and beyond." He added that the new wells will be developed slowly — about five wells in the next decade.

Amper concluded, "The beauty is that Long Island is protecting its drinking water at the source, rather than trying to clean it at the well. Pine Barrens preservation is turning out as promised as one of the greatest environmental protection programs ever."

### "Buzz" Schwenk Dies at 86

Credit: Newsday



**NEW-FOUND FRIENDS:** "Buzz" Schwenk and Dick Amper stumped for the Community Preservation Fund in 1995.

An environmental enemy turned friend, Edwin "Buzz" Schwenk has died at the age of 86. He succumbed to cancer at his home in Southampton.

"Buzz" was a former Suffolk County Republican Chairman who ran the Long Island Builders Institute during "The War of the Woods" in the early '90s. He was instrumental in negotiations leading to passage of the Pine Barrens Protection Act after years of tension and litigation. As development closed in on his home town, he left the developers' lobby to campaign for the Community Preservation Fund, which was approved in 1999 and has generated \$600 million and saved more than 6,000 acres of land.

He said, "I won't see Southampton end up the same place as any place. If it's to be my job or my hometown," he said, "my priority has to be Southampton."

### Solar Project Agrees to Pine Barrens Mitigation Plan

A plan by the Long Island Power Authority and BP Solar to construct a 37 megawatt solar array at Brookhaven National Laboratory rankled some environmental feathers by calling for the clearing of 150 acres of Pine Barrens at the site. Intervention by Congressman Tim Bishop, State Senator Ken LaValle and Assemblyman Marc Alessi helped produce an on- and off-site mitigation plan that will save an acre (that would otherwise not have been preserved) for every acre cleared for the project. "This was not a perfect project but everyone worked to minimize the damage," said PBS President Alan Singer.



# The President's Point of View

By Alan Singer

## Indiscriminate Budget Cutting Doesn't Work

In tough economic times, politicians propose across-the-board budget cuts to avoid the tough decisions about the consequences of spending reduction. Calling it "shared pain," our so-called leaders are cutting budgets with a chain saw instead of a scalpel.

Any savvy business person reduces expenses in the areas least likely to hurt his business and his customers. He or she doesn't simply cut a certain percentage from every department or function.

Governor Paterson's 2010-2011 state budget is an example on point. First, he lopped \$79 million from the state's Environmental Protection Fund. No consideration was given to the fact that the entire EPF represents just one-tenth of one percent of the entire state budget, meaning that significant budget reductions are not to be found here. Add to this, the fact that some \$500 million has been raided (the politicians call it "swept") from the EPF over the past eight years, meaning the state's environmental programs have been feeling the pain long before the current economic troubles. So much for fairness.

These budget cuts hurt drinking water protection, conservation activities and parks. Already, state officials are announcing that

parks will be closed right away. Parks offer low cost recreation — especially important in tough economic times. The public is outraged at the prospect.

Worse still, Governor Paterson's budget eliminates all funding for open space purchases for the first time since the EPF was created in 1993. Ironically, the EPF was created that year to provide funding for the

**"Our so-called leaders are cutting budgets with a chain saw instead of a scalpel."**

purchase of privately-owned property in the Core Preservation Area of our Pine Barrens in connection with passage of the Pine Barrens Protection Act that same year. There can be no taking of private property without just compensation under our Constitution. So, how are owners of land in the Pine Barrens that cannot be developed to be compensated? Or, is Governor

Paterson willing to abandon the Pine Barrens Act forever because of our current economic shortfall?

This is still another example — a rather dramatic one — of a failure to be selective and strategic in budget cutting. If we must delay construction of a new school for a year or two, there may be 24 students in a classroom instead of 22. But if land that must be preserved is lost to development, we can't go back when times are better and repair the damage to tourism, farming, fishing or the quality of our drinking water here on Long Island. So, indiscriminate budget cutting is courting disaster.

Only the State Legislature can fix this problem and it is more dysfunctional than ever. Besides, the last time I looked, the Assembly and Senate were populated by politicians who are as likely as the governor to slash thoughtlessly.

Long Islanders must make clear to Governor Paterson and the State Legislature that the consequences to this region of unthinking reduction or even elimination of environmental funding would be catastrophic — a disaster from which Long Island might never recover. We need Albany's leadership now!

## Society's 32nd Birthday Bash

Credit: Kathy Kmonicek



**HONORED:** New York Power Authority President and CEO, Richard Kessel, receives award from PBS Director Richard Amper and Jennifer Clement, daughter of naturalist Dennis Puleston, for whom the award is named.



**DISTINGUISHED GUESTS:** Michael Deering of the Long Island Power Authority, Harry Davitian of Entek Power Services, Inc. and Brookhaven National Laboratory Director, Dr. Samuel Aronson.



**HAVING A BALL:** Matthew Meng of East Norwich and Anthony Coates from Riverhead, board members of the Long Island Environmental Voters Forum, with long-time supporter Walter Hegarty.



**ENERGY EXPERTS:** Bert Cunningham, SVP of Corporate Communications of the New York Power Authority is joined by David Manning, Director of M.J. Bradley and Associates, at Oheka Castle on October 22nd.



**PINE BARRENS LEADERS:** Sherri Casey and PBS Board Member Tom Casey flank PBS President Alan Singer and his wife Jeannie at the Society's 32nd Anniversary Awards Gala.



**LONG ISLAND LEADERS:** Former United States Senator Al D'Amato talks with David Feinblatt, President of WLNY-TV/55. The television station is a major supporter of the Society.



**TOP HONORS:** Go to New York Governor David A. Paterson as Society Executive Director Richard Amper and PBS TV Show Co-host Kathleen Nasta watch and listen to his acceptance speech.



**INTERVIEWED:** Amper and Nasta interview Governor Paterson for the Pine Barrens Society Television Program. He was honored for state energy initiatives to promote energy conservation and green jobs.



**IN GOOD COMPANY:** Amper and Nasta chat up New York Power Authority President and CEO Richard Kessel about new energy conservation programs on Long Island and around the state.