



Science and Stewardship Division Update July 20, 2022

Prescribed Fire Program:

- **Administration:**
 - Quarterly vouchers continue to be processed to receive reimbursement of expenses incurred and ensure access to the balance of funds to be used for prescribed fire planning and implementation.
 - Implementation of the prescribed fire program took center stage this spring and early summer.
- **Equipment Storage and Purchasing:**
 - It is an exciting milestone that much of the equipment to support the prescribed fire program has been purchased, inventoried, cached and put to immediate use this spring allowing for an almost completely self-sustained and portable prescribed fire operation. The Commission is outfitted with two storage facilities, a cache trailer, a water trailer, two UTV Type 7 Fire Engines, PPE, water delivery system (fold a tank, hoses, pumps), emergency response equipment, and fuel containment.
 - Storage is temporarily provided through two rental units in Ridge.
 - Meeting with Wildland Warehouse and NYSDEC has advanced to finalize the specifications for at Type 6 Fire Engine, which will ensure standardization of fire engines across the State and meet the needs of the prescribed fire program.
 - Storage building needs are being specified and explored for the SCWA Spinney Road GAC Building as a location to store the Type 6 Fire Engine.
- **Education and Outreach:**
 - Pre-operation outreach notifications were sent to homeowners in Rocky Point and Sarnoff Pine Barrens State Forest to inform residents of the prescribed fire operations being conducted in the woodlands within these natural areas. To further communicate with the public on operations. The Commission also issues these operational posts to our social media accounts when an operation is tentatively anticipated. The final Go-No Go determination is made the day of by the Burn Boss reflective of the prescription, current conditions, staffing and other considerations.
 - The interagency prescribed fire program was provided recognition in the News 12 coverage of the [Brookhaven National Lab Prescribed Fire](#) as well as the Forest Rangers Week in Review for the burn that was conducted in [David Sarnoff Pine Barrens State Forest](#).

Brookhaven National Laboratory hold controlled burn in pine barrens to prevent future wildfires

Jul 06, 2022, 8:11pm • Updated 5d ago

By: News 12 Staff



The Brookhaven National Laboratory held a controlled burn in the pine barrens Wednesday.

A total of 23 acres of land was burned in order to protect neighboring areas from wildfires.

- **Prescribed Fire Operations:**
 - Spring and early summer burn season has been extremely successful equipped and staffed by Commission staff including seasonal prescribed fire crew members; staff from NYSDEC including Forest Ranger staffed modules from off the island; US Fish and Wildlife, Brookhaven National Lab as well as NYSDEC volunteers. The bolstered staffing and new equipment, especially the Type 7 Engines, have been integral to conducting a more prescribed fires as well as expanding from grassland to forest treatments. In addition, there have been increased training opportunities, increased experience gained and expanded professional development across prescribed fire staffing.
 - The Commission successfully conducted prescribed burns totaling 9 acres within Demo Forest I; 4 acres within Sarnoff West of Sarnoff Pine Barrens State Forest and 23 acres in Brookhaven National Lab, which brought the total woodland acres treated to over 55 and over 350 acres of treated lands across the Central Pine Barrens. This is the greatest number of acres treated with prescribed fire in any one year with the Central Pine Barrens which is notable for benefits to ecological restoration, southern pine beetle resiliency, wildfire risk reduction and improved public safety.



Community WISE Program:

- **Planning:**
 - Ecological Field Specialist, Sabrina Cohn continues to assist in the coordination of this US Forest Service funded program which Judy Jakobsen initiated in November 2016. The program's goal is the promotion of wildfire ignition safety and mitigation measures that can help reduce the risk of wildfire associated



losses for homes and businesses within the Ridge-Calverton-Manorville Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

- *Home Assessments and Outreach:*

- Four final home assessments have been conducted in the last two months, bringing the total of homes that have been evaluated for wildfire prevention to 11. The reports have been finalized and delivered to the homeowners to allow for their review and implementation of the findings to help improve the resiliency of these homes and properties in the face of wildfire. Mitigation funding through the USFS grant is no longer available as the grant expired on July 2nd.
- One mitigation project was completed in June by the Hamilton household at 10 Apex Lane in Ridge. Tree work including trimming branches which were overhanging the roof was implemented with a reimbursement for the work totaling \$1086.25.
- Although the USFS grant has ended on July 2nd, Ms. Cohn will continue to offer home assessments upon request to homeowners within the CWPP.



Southern Pine Beetle (SPB):

- **Surveying and Suppression:** Statewide SPB Incident Command System continues to be coordinated by NYSDEC's Forest Health Unit. Surveying has commenced with high activity documented in Southaven County Park and Brookhaven National Lab and an uptick in activity in Rocky Point Pine Barrens State Forest. Drone flights conducted by the Division helped focus ground truthing and suppression within Southaven and Rocky Point Pine Barrens State Forest. Commission staff will continue to actively support ground truthing and suppression activities through November.
- The Pitch Pine Regeneration Study being conducted through funding from the US Forest Service Special Technical Development Program Grant, has commenced. Commission has been focused on logistics including helping to secure housing, providing data, determining suitable sites in anticipation of the start of field data collection on July 5th. This study is key to determining the current status of pitch pine regeneration in the Pine Barrens, and how management may influence the abundance of this species. Both findings are key to current population trends as well as advancement of management to counter the impacts of southern pine beetle in pitch pine mortality.

Invasive Species Management:

- **USFS/NYSDEC Early Detection Rapid Response Non-Native Bark and Ambrosia Beetle Monitoring Program (NBBT):** The third year of NBBT monitoring came to a close at the end of June. Trap catch from three traps during six sampling periods (from April – June) in Calverton have been sent to NYSDEC for identification. Once identification is finalized, a report will be issued by the US Forest Service to determine if there are any species of concern that need to be addressed through further monitoring and future management. This is early defense method to determine if threatening species may have been inadvertently introduced through trade and transport from other countries.

- Spotted Lanternfly, caper spurge, Japanese stiltgrass as well as other invasive species continue to be on the forefront of monitoring and management during the field season.
- The division participated in New York's Invasive Species Awareness Week June 6th-12th through daily social media posts, in collaboration with LIISMA and the North American Invasive Species Management Association.
- In collaboration with the US Department of Agricultural and Markets LIISMA and Town of Southampton, the Division has installed two spotted lanternfly traps on Ailanthus trees in areas of high risk of infestation within Westhampton and Hampton Bays Transfer Stations in an effort to detect these insects early and contain their spread.
- Stewardship staff began removing invasive plant species at the Rocky Point State Pine Barrens along the southern part of Currans Road where there has been ongoing monitoring and restoration of a threatened population of Sundial Lupine (*Lupinus perennis*). Seed collection of these native plants has also been conducted to help support population expansion.



Stewardship Training:

- Ecological field specialists Ms. Cohn and Ms. Acampora participated in a three-day small mammal trapping training in collaboration with the NY Natural Heritage Program, Seatuck and NYSDEC from June 28th to 30th. This training will allow for the Commission to participate in this effort to document small mammals within the Central Pine Barrens as part of this study in the coming years. In addition, the staff is researching game cameras to support passive monitoring of mammals in key areas of the Central Pine Barrens.



Encroachment Restoration:

- Division staff continues to provide restoration recommendations and provide technical assistance to the NYS Attorney General's office regarding a violation in Eastport.
- A draft Request for Proposal (RFP) is being reviewed to solicit, vet and secure contractors for performing restoration work at existing and future encroachment and violation sites.

Education and Outreach Division

July 2022 Update

Submitted by Melissa Griffiths Parrott, Education and Outreach Coordinator

Events:

Preparing for our annual Pine Barrens Discovery Day

- A Saturday in September is being considered.
- Event type is being discussed due to covid. Wertheim is open, but outdoor activities are encouraged

Partnerships:

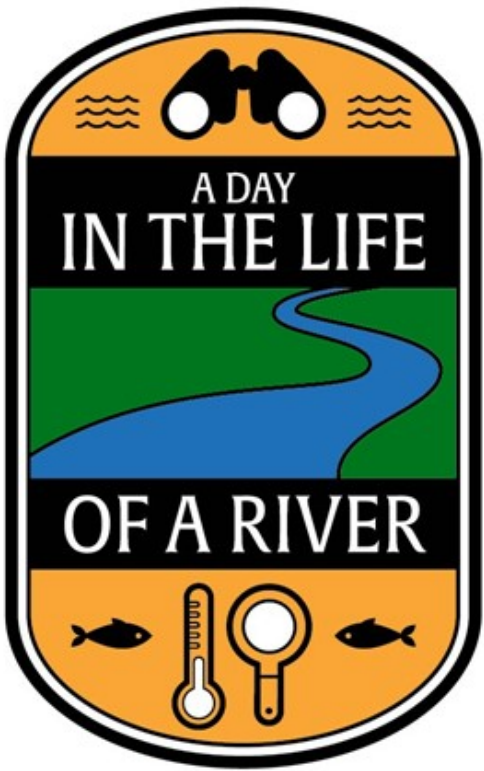
2022 Summer Camp @ Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge

- Our six-week camp is halfway complete- booked to capacity
- NYS DEC visits weekly with live animals and environmentally themed activities.
- CCE comes in weekly for an insect talk/activities.
- Successful Monarch Butterfly rearing and release program.
- Each day different theme: *Pine Barrens Day, Refuge Day, Footprint Day, Animal/Plant Day* and *Carmans River Day*.
- Please see 4-minute video of our week 1 - <https://youtu.be/9e1rmt-zP24>

A Day in the Life program

Preparing for our fall events in cooperation with BNL and NYSDEC.

- Flyer included: September – November events every Friday.
- Our Nassau programming is expanding and ESF is partnering with us to host an A Day in the Life in Syracuse this fall.
- August teacher training being organized, location will be BNL or Wertheim Wildlife Refuge.



A Day in the Life

2022 DATES

Carmans River~ September 23

Greens Creek~ September 23

Gardiner County Park~ September 23

Massapequa Preserve~ September 30

Fire Island~ September 30

Nissequogue River~ October 7

Carlls River~ October 14

Forge River~ October 14

Peconic Estuary~ October 21

Connetquot River~ October 28

Mill River~ November 4

Grades 2-12— A Fun, Experiential science research program!

Using the Environment Integrated Context for Learning- At each location, teams of students use seine nets and lab equipment to investigate aquatic life, biodiversity, water chemistry and quality, tides and weather and other parameters to fit into your STEM curriculum.

Citizen Science- Results for all locations and schools are posted on our "A Day in the Life" Website to be used by the students, land use decision makers, civic groups, and the general public.

Creating Environmental Stewards- Students are our future decision makers; our goal is to give them the inspiration and knowledge to make informed decisions for environmental health.

Brookhaven National Lab

Please contact:

Dr. Aleida Perez, BNL
perez@bnl.gov

Melissa Parrott, CPBC
mparrott@pb.state.ny.us

Ron Gelardi, NYSDEC
ron.gelardi@dec.ny.gov





2022 October New York Wildfire and Incident Management Academy

The fall 2022 Academy will be holding the following classes October 17th – 28th :

- S-130/190 5 day – Firefighting Training/Intro. To Wildland Fire Behavior
- S-130/190 Field days only – Firefighting Training/Intro. To Wildland Fire Behavior
- S-131 – Firefighter Type 1
- S-211 – Portable Pumps & Water Usage
- S-200 – Initial Attack Incident Commander
- S-212 – Wildfire Chainsaws with Storm Debris Removal
- S-215 – Fire Operations in the Wildland/Urban Interface
- S-219 – Firing Operations
- S-230 – Crew Boss
- S-231 – Engine Boss
- S-236 – Heavy Equipment Boss
- S-359 – Medical Unit Leader
- FI-210 – Wildland Fire Origin & Cause Determination
- UTV – Off-highway Vehicle Basic Driver Course

The fall Academy will be held at Stony Brook Southampton University. The University has once again offered NYWIMA the facility at no charge. A total of 14 classes will be held. Registration opened on July 1st. The schedule of classes and online registration link can be found on the Academy website at www.nywima.com.



Compliance and Enforcement Division Highlights January - June 2022 Prepared by Chief CAED Officer Tim Huss

- Twenty-eight complaint investigations documented to date (Clearing, dumping, and criminal mischief)
- Drone program in operation with mapping of prescribed burn areas.
- Compliance and Enforcement staff continue to utilize new GIS based data collection program to track locations, status of, and types of violations
- Enforcement staff monitoring easements and important development projects in Brookhaven and Southampton to assure compliance with Commission requirements
- Coordinating active clearing investigations with Towns of Brookhaven and Southampton
- Meetings held with LEC, County Parks, and other enforcement partners

Yvette Aguiar
Member

Steven Bellone
Member

Edward P. Romaine
Member




Jay H. Schneiderman
Member



624 Old Riverhead Road
Westhampton Beach, NY
11978

Phone (631) 288-1079
Fax (631) 288-1367
www.pb.state.ny.us

Central Pine Barrens Joint Planning and Policy Commission
 Land Use Division Bi-Monthly Update for the Meeting of Wednesday, July 20, 2022

Action Municipality	Central Pine Barrens Location		
	Town of Brookhaven	Town of Riverhead	Town of Southampton
Applications and Requests for Determination of Jurisdiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 59 Ryerson Ave Subdivision CGA Hardship waiver application, two lot substandard subdivision on 0.8 acres. Adjourn hearing and extend. Tommasino CGA Hardship Waiver Application. Hearing 7/20/22. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finks Country Farm CGA Hardship Waiver Application. Hearing 7/20/22. 	
SEQRA Coordination, referrals, land use inquiries and activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Town Referral: Expressway Drive North CGA DRS and Hardship Waiver Application, formerly Silver Corporate Park, 3-lot industrial subdivision for 549,942 sf on 71 acres. NYSDEC Referral: Peconic River Sportsman's Club aquatic herbicide application The Meadows at Yaphank easement review. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ZBA referral: 7 Eleven gas station and convenience store, Hampton Bays.
Regional Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peconic Estuary Partnership - participation in technical committees. USGS-Commission Water Resources Monitoring Program, 2018 through 2022. 		
Division Activity and Participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research, review and analyze new Core and CGA hardship waiver applications, SEQRA Coordination, interagency referrals, information requests and inquiries. Prepare material and responses for Commission review of development project activities and land use related items. Types of projects include commercial/industrial site plans, commercial and residential subdivisions, mixed-use projects, Developments of Regional Significance, Assertions of Jurisdiction, code amendments, zone changes and other actions. Site inspections pre- and post-construction, consent order compliance and monitoring of land use related activities and restoration on project sites, incidents and violations. Requests for Determination of Jurisdiction. Research and prepare materials for the Commission. FOIL Requests. Research and assist with FOIL requests and litigation on development projects. Technical support to the Compliance and Enforcement Division on land use matters including property information research on unauthorized development, clearing activities, encroachments on credit program conservation easements and other incidents. Supervise Credit Program staff. Collaborate and coordinate with other Commission divisions. SEQRA for the Draft Supplemental GEIS for the Comprehensive Land Use Plan Amendments. 		



Pine Barrens Credit Program Report for July 20, 2022:

Activities in the Credit Program (since January 1, 2022) included review of applications for Letters of Interpretation, Conservation Easements, Credit Program and FOIL requests management. Some specific work items include:

- Letters of Interpretation: 14 Letters of Interpretations were issued and six parcels were inspected in the Towns of Brookhaven and Southampton. Staff is following up on past LOIs for interest in the Program.
- Conservation Easements: Review and Monitoring
 - two easements were recently recorded
 - seven easements are currently in progress
 - research and review of proposed activities on three easement properties for consistency with easement terms including reserved rights and covenants.
- Pine Barrens Credits
 - Redeemed: 38.19 Credits have been redeemed, 15.65 in the Town of Brookhaven, 6.33 in the Town of Riverhead and 16.21 in the Town of Southampton.
 - Conveyed: 25.94 Credits have been conveyed, 14.48 in the Town of Brookhaven, 6.45 in the Town of Riverhead and 5.01 in the Town of Southampton.
 - The average price is \$91,865 per credit.
- Order on Consent: The Ridge Church Order on Consent was executed on January 5, 2022. The three sheds and the stone were removed from the property, native pine barrens seed mix was planted and a split rail fence was installed to protect the site from future disturbance.
- Maps: The maps of DRS', CRAs and Assertions of Jurisdiction parcels, Core and CGA hardships, CGA overcleared and Industrial properties have been created.

Easement Protected Lands and Pine Barrens Credits As of July 11, 2022								
	Brookhaven	2022	Riverhead	2022	Southampton	2022	Total	2022
Parcels	513	1	37	-	454	1	1004	2
Acreage	819.57	5.02	516.78	-	850.05	0.96	2186.4	5.98
Average parcel size	1.60	5.02	13.97	-	1.87	0.96	2.18	2.99
Credits generated	540.5	2.01	172.39	-	331.82	0.20	1044.71	2.21
Credits redeemed	416.5	15.65	137.49	6.33	178.66	16.21	732.65	38.19
Credits not redeemed	124	-13.64	34.9	-	153.16	-16.01	312.06	-35.98
Credits sold	589.87	14.48	231.35	6.45	279.59	5.01	1100.81	25.94
Total value of PBC transactions through this date	\$32,540,169	\$1,456,750	\$8,737,047	\$506,300	\$18,950,242	\$419,940	\$60,227,458	\$2,382,990
Average Credits value		\$100,604		\$78,496		\$83,820		\$91,865
Credits owned by the Clearinghouse	0.54		-		-		0.54	
# of Inspected CE Parcels	-	24	-	6	-	-	-	30
# of Installed CE Signs	131	6	17	2	87	-	235	8



SUFFOLK COUNTY COMPTROLLER

330 CENTER DRIVE RIVERHEAD, N.Y. 11901-3311

Telephone: (631) 852-1501 FAX (631) 852-1507

JOHN M. KENNEDY, JR.
COUNTY COMPTROLLER

July 7th, 2022

**Central Pine Barrens Joint Planning and
Policy Commission
P.O. Box 587
Great River, N.Y. 11739-0587**

**Dear Pine Barrens Credit Clearinghouse
Board of Advisors:**

**Attached please find our financial report on the Pine Barrens Credit Program for the
month of June 2022. Thank you.**

Respectfully submitted,

Christina M. Withers

**Christina M. Withers, CIA, CPFO
Executive Director of Finance & Taxation**

Suffolk County Comptroller's Office The Pine Barrens Credit Program	
Balance as of December 31st, 2021	\$2,551,999.78
Additional Deposits	0.00
Interest (see below for details)	1,265.82
Disbursements	0.00
Balance as of June 30th, 2022	\$2,553,265.60

**Interest Earnings & Disbursements
For the Months of January - December 2021**

Interest Earnings

Premier MMA - Public Fund

January	216.75
February	195.79
March	216.79
April	202.82
May	223.82
June	209.85
July	0.00
August	0.00
September	0.00
October	0.00
November	0.00
December	0.00
	<u>\$1,265.82</u>

<u>Interest Period</u>	<u>APR</u>
01/01/22- 01/31/22	0.1000%
02/01/22- 02/28/22	0.1000%
03/01/22- 03/31/22	0.1000%
04/01/22- 04/30/22	0.1000%
05/01/22- 05/31/22	0.1000%
06/01/22- 06/30/22	0.1000%
07/01/22- 07/31/22	0.0000%
08/01/22- 08/31/22	0.0000%
09/01/22- 09/30/22	0.0000%
10/01/22- 10/31/22	0.0000%
11/01/22- 11/30/22	0.0000%
12/01/22- 12/31/22	0.0000%

Disbursements

None	<u>\$ -</u>
	<u>\$ -</u>