



Compliance and Enforcement Division Report April-June 2026

Prepared by CAED Enforcement Officer John Callagy

- As of June 7th, we have eighty-four (84) cases for 2026. Twenty-seven (27) of them are currently open and are being investigated by our law enforcement partners.
- We have been working closely with the Biological, Environmental, Animal Safety Team (BEAST) unit through Suffolk County's DA Office, reporting various environmental crimes discovered in the Pine Barrens.
- Two arrests have been made for two separate dumping cases this year. Another four arrests have been made for four separate dumping cases from last year.
- Two larger abandoned items found this period consisted of the cab of a semi-truck and a slide-in camper, both found abandoned on the side of the road in Manorville and reported to the BEAST unit.
- Four empty chemical drums were found to be dumped along a hunting trail off Toppings Path in Calverton. Though the chemicals were not present at the scene, warning labels on the drums stated the chemicals to be harmful to the environment, as well as skin exposure and inhalation. DEC was immediately notified and is currently investigating.
- A larger number of dumps have been discovered on Ashton Road in Middle Island this year, so we have proactively installed two new surveillance cameras to monitor the area moving forward.

Ryan P. McGarry
Chairman

Jerome Halpin
Member

Maria Z. Moore
Member

Daniel J. Panico
Member

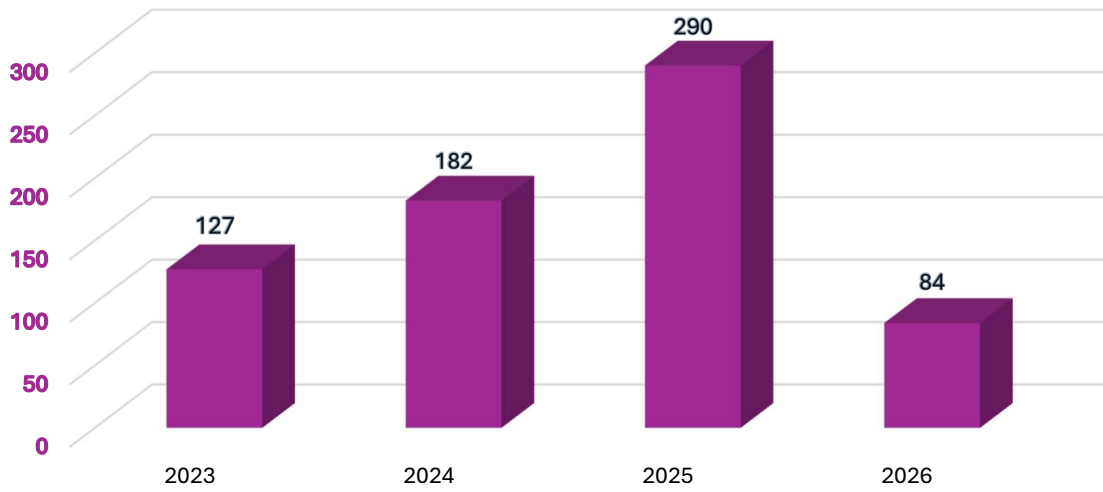
Edward P. Romaine
Member

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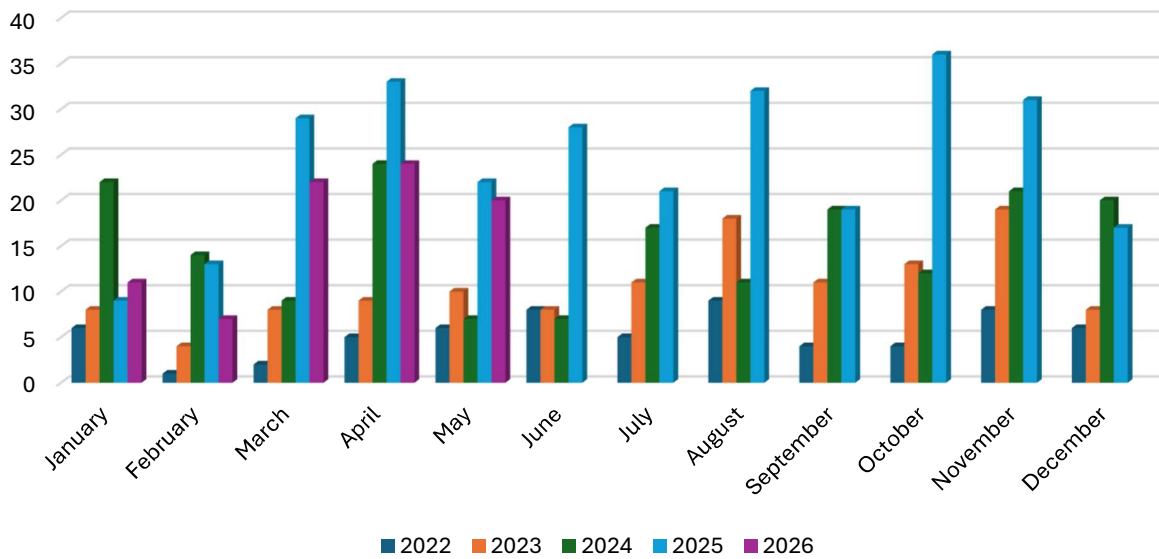
Phone (631) 288-1079
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Incident Statistics - Reporting Period 2023 - 2026				
Year	2023	2024	2025	2026
Intake				
Sent by Agency to Commission	17	9	4	1
Discovered by Commission Staff	104	163	280	82
Called in by Individual to Commission	6	10	6	1
Total Incidents Reported	127	182	290	84
Location of Incident				
Brookhaven	69	102	187	60
Southampton	50	75	93	21
Riverhead	8	5	10	3
Occurring on Public Land	79	158	268	60
Occurring on Private Land	23	22	22	24
Occurring on Public & Private Land	25	0	1	
Core	78	140	213	67
Compatible Growth Area (CGA)	39	30	62	17
Core & CGA	1	0	1	
Outside CPBA	9	10	14	
Nature of Incident*				
Clearing/Encroachment	20	21	32	7
Structures	2	1	0	
Dumping	103	153	254	77
Mining	0	1	0	
Hunting	1	0	0	
ATV	0	0	0	
Other	1	2	4	
Referrals*				
Sent to Town	6	4	22	5
Sent to County	36	31	32	15
Sent to State	33	17	18	5
Commission	8	1	0	59
Sent to AG	0	0	0	
Other	37	16	14	
Status				
Founded	125	179	288	84
Unfounded	2	1	2	
Open	52	51	77	27
Closed	75	131	213	57
Inspections				
Conservation Easement Inspections	0	0	6	
Development Project Inspections	0	0	5	3

Complaints by Year
as of June 2026



Complaints Month/Year



**Demolished semi truck cab on North Street in
Manorville**



Slide-in camper on Mill Road in Manorville



**Surveillance camera installed on Ashton Road in
Middle Island**



**Misc. home items on Red Creek Road in
Hampton Bays**



Sheetrock on Wading River Hollow Road in Middle Island



Glass bottles and bonfire remnants on Birch Creek in Flanders



Car doors on Red Creek Road in Hampton Bays



Mattress on Pleasure Drive in Flanders



Educational Outreach and Communications Division Update

June 2026

Submitted by Tim Motz, Educational Outreach and Communications Coordinator

Barrens to Bay Summer Camp

- **Camp, which begins Monday, June 29, is completely full, with 120 students total over six sessions.**
- **We held our annual Counselors Roundtable on Saturday, June 6 at which we confirmed all schedules, reviewed important camp protocols, handed out the newly designed (by counselors, incidentally) staff tee shirts, reviewed new activities planned for this summer, collected paperwork, held our annual Counselors Cup competition and took questions.**

“A Day in the Life” Program

- **The schedule for the 2026 “A Day in the Life” program has been set and distributed to all participating teachers, along with an invite to an in-person teacher training planned for late August. (As a note: we created a series of detailed videos demonstrating every aspect of the ADITL workbook last year, but we still encourage teachers—particularly those new to the program—to attend an in-person training.)**
- **Brookhaven National Laboratory, one of our partners in the program along with New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, has named Bernadette Uzzi and Rachel Jones to replace Sharon Pepenella in representing BNL in helping to run the program (Sharon has moved on to other responsibilities at BNL).**

Cooperators Meeting Videos

- **As of this writing, we are finalizing a video on the amazing animals of the Central Pine Barrens. The video will run approximately 19 minutes and will be shown at the commission’s Cooperators Meeting on June 12 and subsequently posted on YouTube. It is intended for a general audience to hopefully educate the public about the various species of animals present here and encourage them to help protect them.**
- **The division has also prepared for the Cooperators Meeting a brief video focused on the Environmental Officer of the Year awards presented at the meeting each year. The video focuses on the environmental issues we encounter in the Central Pine**

Barrens, what law enforcement has done to address these issues and the officers who've won the awards. It runs approximately four minutes.

Central Pine Barrens Joint Planning and Policy Commission
Land Use Division Bi-Monthly Update for the Meeting of Wednesday, June 17, 2026

Action	Central Pine Barrens Location		
Municipality	Brookhaven Town	Riverhead Town	Southampton Town
Pending Applications, Requests for Determination of Jurisdiction, SEQRA Coordination, inquiries, proposals, items and other activities	- Core Hardship: Suffolk County Correction Officers Association second-story expansion and garage, Ridge. Decision deadline 9/10/26. - CGA Hardship: Oakcrest, Middle Island. Expansion of nursing facility and parking. Decision deadline 10/1/26. - Determination: Construction of 150 foot tall cell tower at Peconic River Sportsman's Club, Calverton, conservation easement, Core.	None	- Referral: CVE Site Plan solar facility, Speonk/Remsenberg, Core and CGA. - Suffolk County Gabreski Airport inquiry to swap five acres in the Master Plan to construct a secure storage area for the Air National Guard, CGA.
Regional Projects	- Meeting: Long Island Rail Road feasibility study to expand service east of Ronkonkoma between Yaphank and Riverhead, potential third track and rail yard in the Central Pine Barrens. - USGS-Commission two-year 2024-2026 water resources study final sampling in June 2026.		
Commission, Boards, Councils and Committees, Coordination and Division Activity	- Review and analysis of land use development project applications for Core Preservation Area and Compatible Growth Area Hardship waivers, SEQRA Coordination, interagency referrals, information requests, property inquiries, requests for determination of jurisdiction and conformance reviews. Development projects include residential and commercial, industrial, mixed uses, zone changes, site plans, subdivisions, Developments of Regional Significance, Assertions of Jurisdiction, Critical Resource Areas and other development activities. - Prepare application materials for monthly Commission meetings. - Continue coordination among Commission boards and councils including: Advisory Committee, Credit Clearinghouse, Law Enforcement Council, Protected Lands Council, Wildfire Task Force and NYWIMA. - Monitor sites for compliance with decisions and conditions of approval. - Perform site inspections and land use surveys for applications. - Provide technical support on FOIL requests, compliance and enforcement violations, consent orders, Credit Program items, communications on land use matters, unauthorized development, clearing activities and protected land encroachments. - Collaborate and coordinate activities with Commission divisions and interagency partners. - Manage budgets for Commission contracts including General and Prescribed Fire.		



Pink Lady's Slipper Orchid



Suffolk County Correction Officers Assoc.



Blueberry flowers

Item 2.e. Pine Barrens Credit Program Report for June 17, 2026:

Activities in the Credit Program for 2026 included review of applications for Letters of Interpretation, Conservation Easements, Credit Program and FOIL requests management. Some specific work items include:

- Letters of Interpretation: Two LOIs were issued and one parcel was inspected. Staff is following up on past LOIs for interest in the Program.
- Conservation Easements: Review and Monitoring
 - Seven easements are currently in progress.
 - 37 easement properties with road access were inspected.



- Pine Barrens Credits
 - Redeemed: 12.7 Credits have been redeemed for commercial and residential projects.
 - Conveyed: 15.7 Credits have been sold in the Town of Brookhaven, Riverhead and Southampton.
 - The average price is \$126,000 per credit.
- Credit Clearinghouse Program Fund Account
 - Balance: \$3,286,312.
 - The Clearinghouse owns 2.29 Credits.

- The Pine Barrens Credit Program is administered by a five-member Credit Clearinghouse Board of Advisors. Currently there are three active members:
 - James T.B. Tripp, Esq., Chairman
 - Mitchell H. Pally, Esq., Member
 - Robert Anrig, Member

The last Credit Clearinghouse Board of Advisors meeting took place on March 1, 2023.

Pine Barrens Credit Program Statistics Table: represents figures for the total and annual summary of 2026.

Easement Protected Lands and Pine Barrens Credits As of June 9, 2026								
	Brookhaven	2026	Riverhead	2026	Southampton	2026	Total	2026
Parcels	535	3	37	-	471	-	1043	3
Acreage	841.04	7.37	516.78	-	889.51	-	2247.33	7.37
Average parcel size	1.57	2.46	13.97	-	1.89	-	2.15	2.46
Credits generated	554.89	4.63	173.39	-	340.26	-	1068.54	4.63
Credits redeemed	435.41	6.64	146.53	1.40	198.55	4.69	780.49	12.73
Credits not redeemed	119.48	-2.01	26.86	-	141.71	-	288.05	-8.1
Credits sold		8.75		1.90		5.06		15.71
Total value of PBC transactions		\$1,270,150		\$187,000		\$521,200		\$1,978,350
Average Credits value		\$145,160		\$98,421		\$103,004		\$125,929
Credits owned by the Clearinghouse	2.29		-		-		2.29	
# of Inspected CE Parcels		23		-		14	-	37
# of Installed CE Signs	142	1	15	-	91	-	248	1



CENTRAL PINE BARRENS COMMISSION

Science And Stewardship Program

Bimonthly Report

June 17, 2026

2026 Spring Prescribed Fire Season – Ends

The 2026 Spring fire season ended on June 1st. Seasonally speaking, despite the altered burn schedule this season (every other week) the operations maintained the general average amount of acres burned as previous seasons. There was a total of 13 burn operations, covering 310.6 acres. Of that total, approximately 260 acres were grasslands and about 50 acres were in woodlands. All but five acres of the woodland habitat was located at Brookhaven National Laboratory.

During the non-burning weeks, the fire crew assisted DEC and BNL staff to help prepare areas prior to the prescribed fire operations. This activity was mostly saw work, but the DEC did begin early use of their Air Curtain Burner, and the fire crew provided safety support during those trials. Additionally, three fire crew assisted with the risk assessment being conducted by the SWCA consultants for the Southampton CWPP.

Also worth noting, our fire crew was directly involved in a lifesaving event that occurred during one of the burns. They found a man who was non-responsive and began the steps to initiate CPR. Their actions helped the man revive and saved his life.

Lastly, conversations have begun with staff at the DEC to begin conversations on Box Turtle mitigation. We should have a plan and strategy in place for the 2027 Spring prescribed fire season.

SUNY ESF Air Curtain Burner Research – Begins

The SUNY ESF interns began their research on June 2, 2026. They will be working in partnership with other interns from the DEC and BNL to conduct vegetative sampling in the Rocky Point Pine Barrens State Forest with additional plots located near Currans Field, as well as the David A. Sarnoff Pine Barrens State Forest.

They have an ambitious schedule planned out for the season covering more than 130 individual plots within the two forests. Surveys will focus on metrics including DBH, canopy and herbaceous cover, seedling and sapling counts, and fuel loading within each plot.

It is hoped that S&S will be able to accompany the interns a few days this season and use our new remote sensing equipment to survey some of the same plots. It should serve as a fantastic opportunity to compare the traditional methods with the modern techniques within the same area, at the same time.



CENTRAL PINE BARRENS COMMISSION

Science And Stewardship Program

Bimonthly Report

June 17, 2026

Southampton Community Wildfire Protection Plan – Progress Update

During the first week in May the SWCA consultants visited the Pine Barrens area for several tasks associated with the Southampton CWPP. First order was conducting the Risk Assessment Survey which tries to qualify several aspects of wildfire behavior and emergency response including such issues as home markings, fuel loads, road width, and ingress/egress points. As mentioned above some of the fire crew assisted in the survey.

On May 5th the SWCA hosted an evening public meeting, at the Flanders Senior Center, to try and solicit local information and concerns from Southampton residents. While the event was a success, the attendance levels were not what we were hoping for. As such, there will be another public information meeting held in October of 2026 (Fire Prevention Month) to try and bolster participation.



Figure 1: Southampton CWPP Core Team Meeting. Experts identifying known risks on a map.

On May 7th, the SWCA hosted an in-person meeting of the Core Team which is comprised of local governmental representatives from agencies, public service, and utility providers in addition to local firefighters. This meeting was well attended and helped to initiate and ground truth many of the recommendations being suggested with the Southampton CWPP.

This meeting also helped to review the existing spatial data being incorporated into the CWPP process.

During this review several issues were identified, and arrangements were made to update or revise the existing GIS data informing the plan. S&S was able to help facilitate acquiring both historic and present-day damage assessments of the Southern Pine Beetle's impacts on the Pine Barrens from the DEC and the USFS.

Lastly, the financial reports and reimbursement payments have been submitted to the USDA/USFS and were approved. There are two SWCA invoices slated for reimbursement that will be requested by the end of June, pending approval by the Commission.



CENTRAL PINE BARRENS COMMISSION

Science And Stewardship Program

Bimonthly Report

June 17, 2026

Remote Sensing

The remote sensing equipment has begun arriving, and the purchasing process should be completed soon. S&S has requested two permits for the early stages of equipment deployment. A permit has been acquired from the DEC for conducting preliminary UAS flights and sensor training. While most of this early work will center around Currans Field in Rocky Point, the permit allows us to move into other areas that have been managed by either prescribed fire or at least received mechanical treatments. The second permit with Suffolk County Parks is still pending but will focus on the bioacoustic recorders and their initial deployment. The recorders will be placed in four areas in the Dwarf Pine Plains and be used to listen for avian and bat species near more open meadows and in proximity to the 2014 wildfire. Lat/Long maps needed to be updated as one of the original placement locations was accidentally on state land. A revised map was submitted to SC Parks on June 9th.

During this time S&S also hosted an online conversation with researchers from Seatuck (Bottini and Turner) to discuss the remote sensing program and begin introducing the techniques and capabilities of our new survey tools.

We are hopeful that we may be able to deploy the recorders in a more traditional fashion by the fall migration and might have the opportunity to begin collecting a long-term data set of interest beginning this year.

Conservation Management Action Plan – Resumes

While the progress has been modest, the drafting of the Conservation Management Action Plan has resumed and should pick up steam over the next few weeks and months. I anticipate complete (or close to complete) draft versions will be available for internal review by the end of August.

Other S&S News



CENTRAL PINE BARRENS COMMISSION

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June 17, 2026

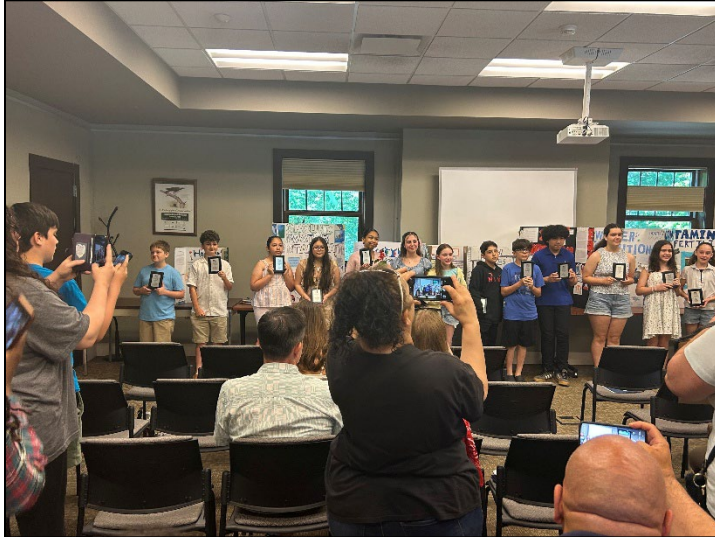


Figure 2: Middle School Kids Go to College awards ceremony held at Wertheim.

On June 6th, the Long Island Pine Barrens Society hosted an awards ceremony for the Middle School Kids Go to College and Inspiring Youth to Protect Their Environment programs. This year the students focused on water quality issues impacting the Pine Barrens and included presentations on fertilizers, pollutants, and even included 1, 4 Dioxane issues. S&S was happy to assist the Society and hosted a guided hike for the kids and their parents around the trails of Wertheim.

a great event, as always, and served not only to recognize our partners in the worlds of governmental oversight, environmental science, and law enforcement but to also just break bread

On June 12th, the annual Cooperator's Meeting was held. It was

together and share a great day. Shout out to the Education and Outreach staff who pull this together.



Figure 3: Wild Lupine (Lupinus perennis) at Affatato on June 8, 2026.

Lastly, on June 8th, several staff were able to visit the Affatato restoration site and document the progress. We met the GEI consultants there while they were performing their vegetative monitoring surveys. Of note, during the walk through a single Lupine plant was found in bloom. Lupine is a key indicator of a healthy system and promotes pollinator diversity. Finding this species in a restored area is a good sign.