

*The*  
New Jersey  
Natural Lands  
Trust



1998 Annual Report

# Statement of Purpose

*The New Jersey Natural Lands Trust was created in 1968 by the Legislature as an independent agency with the mission to preserve land in its natural state for enjoyment by the public and to protect natural diversity through the acquisition of open space. The Trust preserves land primarily by donations of open space through acquisition of title in fee simple or of conservation easements, and manages its properties to conserve endangered species habitat, rare natural features, and significant ecosystems. Access to Trust lands is generally not restricted. The Trust invites passive use by the public for recreational or educational purposes wherever such use will not adversely affect natural communities and biological diversity.*

*The Trust also recognizes that ownership and management alone are not enough to achieve its mission. Public education is an integral function of protecting natural diversity. The Trust distributes printed information and sponsors interpretive programs and seminars designed to convey a conservation ethic for the protection of open space and its natural values. \**

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## In 1998...

...the Natural Lands Trust completed nineteen individual real-estate closings, bringing approximately 848 additional acres under Trust stewardship. The largest and smallest of our 1998 acquisitions were both located in Burlington County; their sizes ranged from Bear Swamp, where two land purchases by the Audubon

Wildlife Society totaled approximately 340 acres, to a small less-than-an-acre addition to our Moorestown Preserve.

Ten of the nineteen closings represented additions to existing Trust properties. Furthermore, in cooperation with The Trust for Public Lands, we were able to protect two parcels with over 300 acres of important open

space along the Barnegat Bay.

As we enter 1999, the Trust is responsible for over 11,600 acres throughout the state. With the passage of the Open Space referendum, the years to come represent an important opportunity to identify and protect much more land for present and future generations. \*

## The Best Laid Plans...

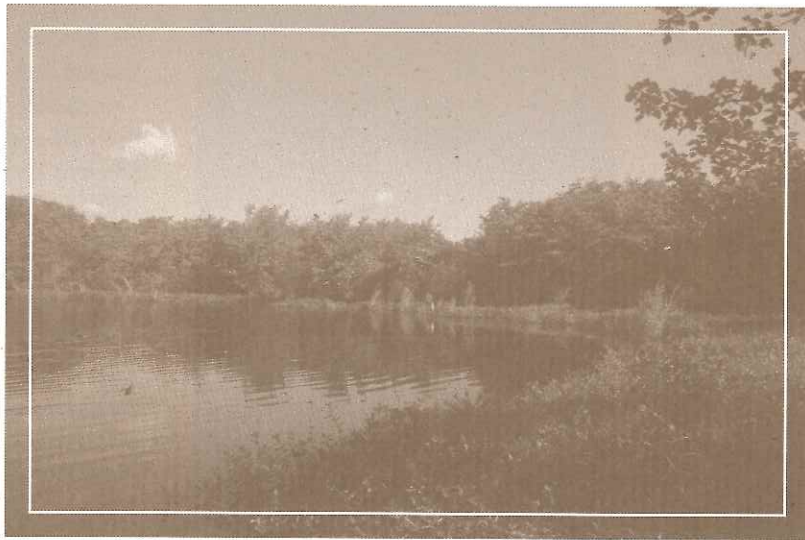
The flexibility instilled in the Trust by the Legislature allows for creativity that greatly benefits open space preservation. Although most of the Trust's acquisitions are due to landowners making donation offers directly to Trust staff, in some cases, a sister conservation organization may have an interest in protecting a property and also the ability to make the transaction happen with a willing seller. Where the Trust comes into this scenario is when another organization either has no capacity to manage the property, or no interest in managing the property, once it is acquired. Thus, the organization must identify a responsible management entity before it can purchase the property. Many of these organizations have come to recognize and appreciate the Trust's stability and track record in land acquisition and management. This cooperative attitude is apparent in cases where the Trust gladly supported well

thought-out conservation initiatives that were not necessarily Board initiated. One example of this was the acquisition of over 317 acres in Dover and Berkeley Townships, Ocean County.

The story of this acquisition begins in December 1995 when The

Klevins of TPL. John had been working tirelessly with the owners of these properties; but, before he could go to contract on the purchase, he needed a steward for management to assure the properties' protection.

Cooperation between the Trust and TPL resulted in the addition of 214 acres to the Trust's Tilton's Creek preserve and the establishment of the Trust's 103.53-acre Claming Creek Preserve. The Tilton's Creek Preserve connects Ocean County's Cattus Island Park to Dover Township's Shelter Cove Park providing an important link in the public open



*Tilton's Creek Preserve*

Trust for Public Lands (TPL), a non-profit conservation organization, published "The Century Plan", a study of 100 conservation sites in the Barnegat Bay Watershed. Two of the Century Plan's sites, Tilton Point and Claming Creek, were brought to the attention of the Trust by John

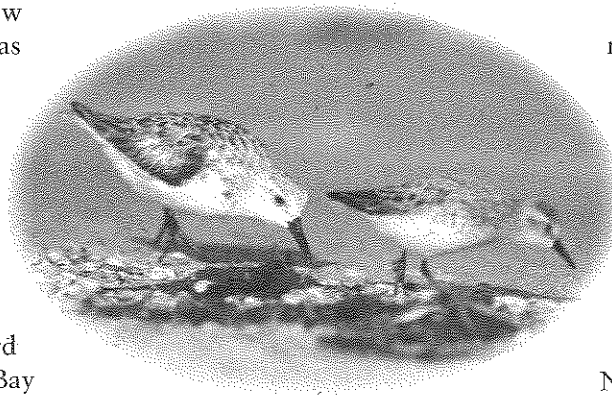
space along the Inland Waterway at Barnegat Bay. The Claming Creek Preserve is located along Bayview Avenue in Berkeley Township, Ocean County. Over half the preserve is salt marsh, joining a rich upland forest to the west and opening out to Barnegat Bay to the east. \*

Photo Martin Rapp

# The Moore's Beach Shorebird Project; an Example of Partnerships

Since the mid-1980's, the New Jersey Natural Lands Trust, as well as a number of non-profit environmental organizations, has been working with the New Jersey Division of Fish, Game, and Wildlife and the Endangered and Non-game Species Program to protect and manage shorebird habitat along the Delaware Bay shore. This habitat is extremely important for shorebirds migrating from their winter homes in South America to their breeding grounds in the Arctic. Migrating shorebirds stop to feed on horseshoe crab eggs and other energy-rich foods along sandy Delaware Bay beaches, such as Moore's Beach.

The acquisition of the Moore's Beach shorebird property from Maurice River Township and the transfer of the property to the New Jersey Division of Fish, Game, and Wildlife is an example of cooperation between the Trust and other governmental organizations benefiting the public, the former property owners, and Delaware Bay shore wildlife.



Prior to acquisition, Moore's Beach, in Maurice River Township, Cumberland County, was a peninsula of small private properties surrounded by the Delaware Bay salt marsh. These lands were connected to the mainland solely by Township-owned Moore's Beach Road, which traverses salt marsh owned by the Division of Fish, Game, and Wildlife. The salt marsh on either side of the road between Moore's Beach and the mainland is inundated twice daily by the Delaware Bay's high tides. During full moon tides and during storms, Moore's Beach Road floods making it nearly impassable and, over time, causing the roadbed to crumble.

When the Township Committee realized that the constant repair of Moore's Beach Road was not practical, they decided to explore the possibility of paying the residents a fair price for their property. Fortunately, the property owners were willing to settle for a fair price and the New Jersey Natural Lands Trust was interested in Moore's Beach as a shorebird preserve and had funds dedicated for that purpose. The Township and the Trust then entered into an agreement whose purpose was first, to agree on the dollar amount for the purchase and, second, to provide assurance to the Township that the Trust would be there with the money to purchase the Township's interest in Moore's Beach.

After the Township purchased the property, the Trust acquired the land from the Township using monies from the Shorebird Fund. This fund was established in 1985 by DEP and the Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G) for shorebird habitat purposes. Lastly, the Trust will fee title transfer the land to the Division of Fish, Game, and Wildlife to manage for shorebirds with the Trust retaining a conservation easement to ensure the continued preservation of this shorebird habitat.

Thus, the partnerships between the Natural Lands Trust through its Shorebird Fund, Maurice River Township, and the DEP Division of Fish, Game, and Wildlife provided additional protected habitat for shorebirds and other wildlife, benefited the general public by preserving land and wildlife, and also benefited the flood-affected property owners by allowing them to receive fair market value for their properties. ☼



Photo New Jersey Division of Fish, Game & Wildlife

*Shorebirds feeding along Delaware Bay Beaches*



# A History of Bear Swamp

Bear Swamp, a 3000-acre wilderness in Medford and Southampton Townships, Burlington County, is truly a magical place! Towering white cedars permeate the air. Gnarled oaks, red maple and sweet gum intertwine to create an interesting atmosphere. During the day, red-shouldered hawks course through the wooded wetlands and barred owls patrol the forest at nightfall; both are threatened species. Bear Swamp is part of the Rancocas Creek Watershed.

On January 9, 1998, the Audubon Wildlife Society (AWS) with the help of the Ingersoll Fund and a matching grant from the State Green Acres, purchased 112 acres in the heart of this unique area. On October 9, 1998, the AWS purchased an additional 228 acres entirely on its own to add to what is known as the Bear Swamp at Red Lion Preserve. Both tracts were turned over to the New Jersey Natural Lands Trust, which already owned a 500-acre tract in the swamp. A total of 840 acres are now saved "for generations to come" in this unique ecosystem.

This area is a neotropical breeding bird mecca. Every spring, hundreds of migrants arrive to raise their young and thousands more stop to feed as they pass through on their northern migration. A total of 168 species have been recorded in, or flying over Bear Swamp; 73 species are known to nest here.

In 1996, four nest boxes were put out for prothonotary warblers on a trial basis. The prothonotary is the only eastern warbler that nests in cavities. Two of the boxes were used and nine young were fledged. In 1997, fourteen boxes were erected. The boxes are monitored on a weekly basis. The bright golden-colored prothonotary warblers arrive on the breeding grounds about April

17th, adding a brilliant splash of color to the drab gloom of the dark wooded bottomlands. Their song, a series of vigorous, ringing, sweet-sweet-sweet notes, is music to our ears. Eight nests were successful; one having a second brood, for a total of 33 young fledged in 1997.

In 1998, the warblers occupied eleven of the fifteen boxes erected. A total of 57 eggs were counted with 44 young fledging successfully. Many times during our rounds checking the boxes, we had the opportunity to observe hooded,



*Audubon Wildlife Society property settlement, October 9, 1998.*

## The Bear Swamp Acquisition

This guest article by Augie Sexauer describes the Bear Swamp acquisition by the Audubon Wildlife Society (AWS) and the donation of the Bear Swamp properties to the Trust. The Audubon Wildlife Society was established in the town of Audubon, New Jersey in 1949 as an organization of people interested in the enjoyment of wildlife and in the promotion of good wildlife conservation practices. Augie Sexauer is a charter member of the organization. As a member of AWS, he held the office of president for two terms, lead field trips for the Society, and monitored a bluebird nesting box trail within the town of Audubon. Today he heads the Ingersoll Committee. This five-member committee is in charge of the Dorothy K. Ingersoll Memorial Fund; a fund that the Society deemed to best use to save wildlife habitat, such as Bear Swamp. ♣

Kentucky, blue-winged, worm-eating, and common yellowthroat warblers. Scarlet tanager, yellow-billed cuckoo, Louisiana waterthrush, and many other birds, too numerous to mention were also seen. Where two small streams flowing through the area meet, there is a quiet little glen. It was here on one of our field trips that our group was privileged to see a barred owl come flying in and perch in full view over our heads. What a gift!

The members of the AWS can rightly feel proud that our organization was responsible for saving this vital habitat. Thanks go to the members of the Ingersoll committee who proposed buying this land to save, and to the officers of our club who voted their approval to go ahead with the purchase.

This tract is vital not only because it is a beautiful natural area, but also because it is located directly in the path of suburban development, spreading ever eastward from the Philadelphia, Camden, and Cherry Hill metropolitan areas. As we are now just beginning to learn more about the golden swamp warbler, this preserve has a great potential as a natural outdoor laboratory where we can further our understanding of the natural world. The Bear Swamp Preserve is open to the public. There are trails throughout the area for everyone to enjoy. Don't pass up an opportunity to visit. ♣



# Relief for Landowners and Open Space Benefits for the Public

The Pinelands Limited Practical Use (LPU) Program has been developed under a partnership between the National Park Service (NPS), the Pinelands Commission (PC), and the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). The LPU program provides Federal and State funding for the acquisition of properties within the Pinelands National Reserve that have been denied full "use" due to strict building, environmental, and land use considerations. To be considered, properties must be under 50 acres in size.

The LPU Program, as part of the NJDEP Green Acres Program, purchases properties that meet PC and NJDEP qualifying factors.

Once a property is acquired by NJDEP through the LPU program, a series of deed restrictions are placed on the property. The LPU Program then searches for a suitable organization to manage and/or accept deeded ownership. This property transfer is called a "take out". NJDEP agencies, such as Parks and Forestry, Fish and Game, or the Natural Lands Trust are the first to be offered the property.

Depending on the property's attributes and based upon set criteria, an agency such as Parks and Forestry may receive the property for management or the Trust may accept deeded ownership of the property. In 1998, the Trust obtained nine parcels from the LPU Program totaling 66.37 acres. One parcel was accepted by the Board of Trustees establishing the Tuckahoe Preserve, a mature, mixed hardwood wetland forest located on the edge of agricultural lands.

Eight of the parcels were added to existing Trust-owned lands, serving as "infills" within the Trust's mosaic of protected lands. These included five separate additions to the Costa Preserve, and additions of single properties to the Mankiller, Bearswamp, and Bearhead Preserves. The Costa LPU additions consist of a variety of habitat types including pitch pine lowlands and pine/oak uplands, serving as wetland buffers for the adjacent Costa holdings. The Mankiller LPU property is a small forested site near Jack Pudding Branch. The Bearswamp LPU is a forested wetland community in the heart of the Bearswamp Preserve. And, the Bearhead addition is a forested tract of pine and oak buffer protecting an adjacent streamside habitat. \*

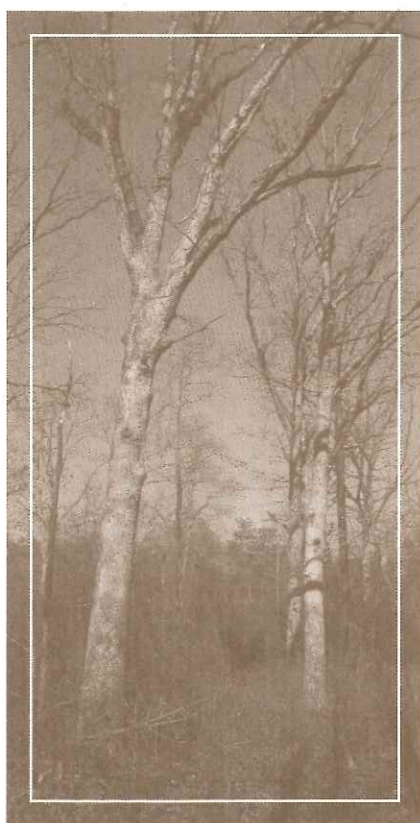


Photo Martin Rapp

Tuckahoe Preserve

## A Memorial to Joe Bird, a Friend of Conservation

The New Jersey Natural Lands Trust Board of Trustees held their June meeting at the Trust's Flemer Preserve in Kingston, along the banks of the D&R Canal. Following the meeting, a memorial ceremony was held in tribute to Joe Bird. Joe Bird had been an untiring "friend of conservation". As an informed citizen, he was involved with the details and legal workings of the Trust. Ecologist Martin Rapp recalls that Joe worked best from "outside the system", not as a member of the governing body of organizations. He reliably attended Trust meetings and made informative public comments. Joe's occupation as a



Joe Bird Memorial, Flemer Preserve

tree climber for the City of Trenton Shade Tree Department carried over to his leisure time as he cared for individual trees

and forests. Joe visited Flemer Preserve many times to report on the condition of landscape trees planted there.

On this sunny June day, the Trust remembered Joe as we gathered with his friends and family members around a flowering dogwood planted in his memory. Beneath this tree, a wooden bench gives respite for walkers and hikers enjoying the D&R Canal path. A small plaque on the bench reads, "In memory of Joseph Bird, a friend of conservation." \*

# Removing What Doesn't Belong

As more people turn to the outdoors for recreation and relaxation, they seek out the beauty of nature. The woodlands and fields managed by the New Jersey Natural Lands Trust have been made more beautiful due to clean-up of unsightly piles of disrespectfully dumped debris. Three more of our Preserves are cleaner and greener this year as we continue the laborious task of removing trash on Trust properties.

At the 143-acre Budd Lake Bog Preserve in Mt. Olive Township, Morris County, the Trust partnered with Mt. Olive's Sanitation Department to empty garbage from a pit that had once been the foundation of a house. The Sanitation Department supplied a truck and driver to help in the clean up. They also contacted the Morris County Sheriffs Labor Assistance Program (SLAP) to supply manual labor needed to haul junk from the woods to the truck. SLAP provides community service work projects as legal sentencing for minor offenders. The Trust's ecologist Martin Rapp worked alongside the crew. He was grateful for so many hands doing

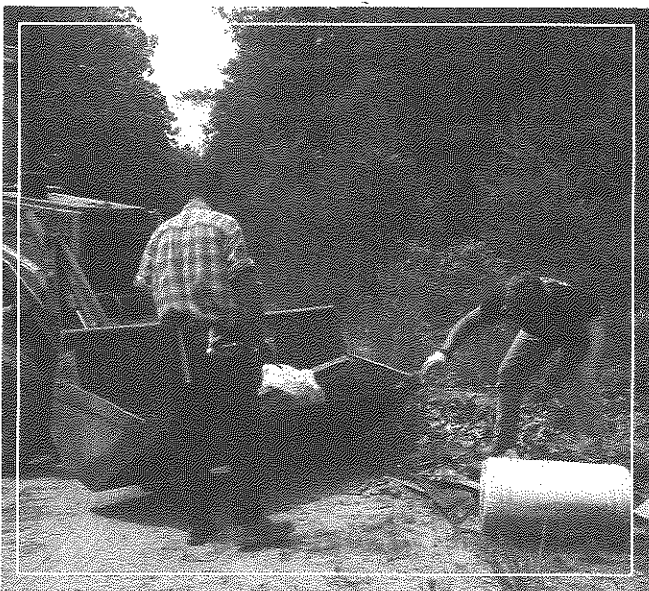
the work. Mt. Olive Township paid the trash tipping fees and all scrap metals were recycled. This clean up completes the two-year Budd Lake Bog trash removal project.

Tires and garbage once littered the site of the Penny Pot Preserve in Winslow Township, Camden County. When the 382-acre property was donated to the Trust through a referral from the Trust for Public Lands (TPL), an arrangement was made with the donor to contribute a ten-thousand-dollar endowment for clean up and management of the preserve. With a portion of this money, a local contractor was hired to remove over 500 tires and a 30 yard dumpster's amount of garbage. The contractor also installed a metal gate to keep out future dumpers and off-road vehicles. The remaining funds will be used for resource surveys and site management.

The new 214-acre Tilton Point addition to the Trust's Tilton's Creek Preserve was actually cleaned up by the donor prior to purchase by TPL. Clean up of the entire property was a condition of the sale. The donor hired a

reputable hauler to remove illegally dumped trash, construction debris, and abandoned cars. Trust staff supervised the work and the local Health Department insured a job well done. Having the landowner clean up a property prior to purchase or donation is the best plan for the Trust because of limited resources.

After Tilton Point was purchased by TPL and donated to the Trust as an addition to the Tilton's Creek Preserve, the community rallied in support of the protected space along Barnegat Bay. The NJ Community Water Watch, supported by Clean Ocean Action, supplied interns who were funded through AmeriCorps. The interns worked with Trust ecologist Martin Rapp to install a gate to prevent future dumping. Melissa DeHaan and Timothy Green from the Community Water Watch took charge of seeking and obtaining material donations from local businesses. Melissa even contacted the local newspaper to ensure that the Tilton's Creek Preserve and the value of a clean environment would make front-page news. ☼



*Penny Pot Preserve clean up*



*Photos Martin Rapp*



# Managing Species Habitat

Besides protecting preserve properties, the New Jersey Natural Lands Trust is dedicated to the wise and effective management of the properties' habitats. Without the necessary money, the ability to manage a property can be limited. For this reason, the Trust sought stewardship funding from WHIP, the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program. The program is a funding source from the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). WHIP can pay 75% of an enrollee's costs for wildlife management. Through WHIP, the Trust was awarded over \$11,761 in 1998 to improve wildlife habitat on Trust preserves in three different counties.

The largest dollar amount went to Game Branch Preserve in Carney's Point and Oldman's Township, Salem County. This 391-acre property was once a perfect mixture of old agricultural fields and mature hardwood forests. Today, due to natural succession, the old fields are reverting to forest. Unfortunately, this natural process will have a significant impact on the wildlife that depends on these grassy fields, such as bobwhite quail. With WHIP funding, the Trust can hire the South Jersey Chapter of Quail Unlimited to manipulate the habitat at Game Branch. With the NRCS (WHIP) and the Quail Unlimited partnership, the Trust is planning heavy brush clearing, rotational mowing, and native switch grass planting. The switch grass will be planted in spring 1999 to provide food and cover for bobwhite quail. Management will continue over the next few years with brush clearing and mowing. Thanks to NRCS WHIP funding, the skills and interest of Quail Unlimited, and the groups' partnership with the Trust, Game Branch Preserve will once again have coveys of quail flushing up

along hedge rows and field edges.

Milford Bluffs in Hunterdon County is another preserve whose habitat will reap the benefits of WHIP funding. WHIP funded a grassland improvement project on 36-acres of old fields at the 202-acre preserve. This project will provide habitat for grassland songbirds, such as the meadowlark, bobolink, and the savannah sparrow. The habitat of these birds has been depleted in many areas throughout the state due to housing development and the decline of small farms. With WHIP funding, the Trust purchased a used tractor and will commence a mowing program to keep brush and briars at bay and the green grasses growing. In addition, a patch of native switch grass will be planted to enhance the grassy habitat. Soon, the fluttering wings and spring songs of grassland birds will be more frequent among the rolling meadows of the Milford Bluffs Preserve.



*Purple loosestrife, a non-native invasive wetland plant.*

The third Trust property that was targeted for WHIP funding, is the Wallkill Preserve in Sussex County. This wetland preserve within the Wallkill River Watershed will be managed, with guidance and assistance from the Endangered and Nongame Species Program, to preserve the habitat of the bog turtle. This tiny turtle is a federally threatened, state endangered, species. The bog turtle has been losing its specialized wet meadow-like habitats throughout its range. The growth of hardwood trees, such as the red maple, degrades the bog turtle's habitat by shading sunny basking areas and by drying up wet areas as water is absorbed by adjacent trees. Biologist Jason Tesauro of the Endangered and Nongame Species Program, who helped the Trust devise a plan to remove selected trees from the bog turtle's habitat, says "A little wise, well-placed management can be very effective in preserving bog turtle populations in New Jersey".

Another important aspect of bog turtle habitat management is the control of purple loosestrife. Purple loosestrife is a non-native and highly invasive wetland plant that has taken over many productive bog turtle sites. Purple loosestrife squeezes out the native plants that are important to bog turtles and other wildlife. To control the invasion of purple loosestrife, there are three types of specially raised beetles. Depending on the type, these beetles attack flowers, roots, or leaves of the purple loosestrife. Under the direction and monitoring of the NJ Department of Agriculture, purple loosestrife beetles were released at the Wallkill Preserve.

Thanks to WHIP, the Trust had the critical dollars to protect the important habitats at Wallkill, Game Branch and Milford Bluff Preserves. \*



## And, the legacy lives on...

Nancy Castleman loved to visit her summer cabin in Blairstown, N.J. She loved tennis as evidenced by the ghost of a tennis court with the worn net and old fence still standing. She also treasured the land she owned, which overlooks the serene, cool Limestone Ridge Marsh. Anyone who knew her could imagine her sitting at the top of the bluff in the stillness of the morning dew, smiling as she watched a rich variety of ducks and geese gliding in for a landing in the marsh below. Little did Nancy realize in 1974, when she donated her 21-acre property subject to a life estate on the cabin, that the Trust was to begin a 24 year odyssey to protect the entire swamp ecosystem and more. This year with the generosity of private

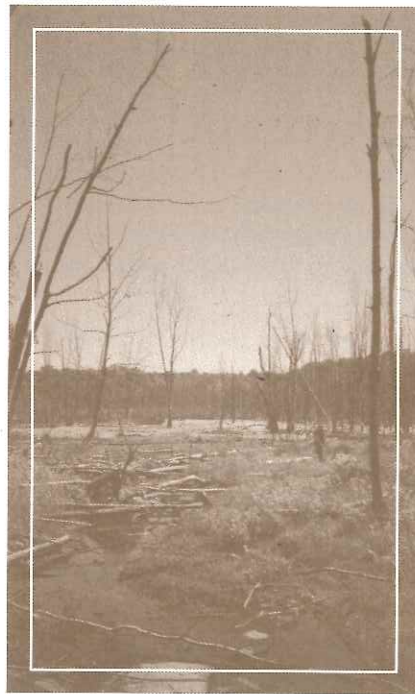


Photo Martin Rapp

*Limestone Ridge Marsh Preserve*

landowners Lawrence W. and Doris B. Sliker, local support from the non-profit Ridge and Valley Conservancy, and monies and technical support from the State of New Jersey Green Acres Program,

the Trust added 36.4 acres to the total 370.6 acres of protected lands included within the Limestone Ridge Marsh Preserve.

The additional Limestone acreage includes a small property on the south side of Belcher Road and a larger property contiguous with the eastern edge of the original preserve. The small property is an upland habitat, home to, among others, a rather large white oak tree. The larger property on the eastern edge of the preserve provides excellent waterfowl habitat due to its standing dead timber arising from the open water of the marsh. The upland fringe at this site consists of young mixed hardwoods and red cedars interspersed with limestone rock outcroppings.

Nancy entrusted us with her summer cabin at this beautiful site. We are grateful to be able to expand upon her efforts to provide protection for the unique ecosystem that makes up the Limestone Ridge Marsh Preserve. Smile, Nancy, smile. ☼

## *An Increase in State Appropriation*

In 1985, the Trust employed a Volunteer/Outreach Coordinator who was responsible for organizing local volunteers to assist Trust staff with routine management of open space. Several years later, funding for the position was eliminated and the organized volunteer program was curtailed. Thereafter, residents living near Trust properties were asked, on a random basis, to assist with management when a specific project was deemed critical to a preserve.

This past year, Assemblyman Leonard Lance, District 23, a member of the Appropriations Committee, introduced a supplemental appropriation for the Trust to re-institute this

highly cost-effective stewardship program. Oftentimes, appropriations are introduced, only to be removed by committee or vetoed by the Governor prior to passage of the State budget. It was through Assemblyman Lance's tenacity and Governor Whitman's commitment to protection and management of open space that the additional appropriation to the Trust remained in the final budget.

Using the supplemental monies, the Trust expects to hire an individual to revitalize the volunteer program and promote local stewardship assistance. Two levels of volunteer stewards will be established, depending on

site requirements. Some preserves require only routine monitoring and reporting, while others demand physical management programs. Initial volunteer contact and coordination will demand a great deal of staff time, but will result in dedicated individuals and groups acting as stewards to maintain Trust open space for all. ☼





# Crossley's Snakes

Until the early 1900's, Crossley was a bustling industrial village where subsoil clays were mined to manufacture items such as terra cotta piping and chimney flue. Today, the village is nearly forgotten, and Crossley lives on as the name for a 1400-acre nature preserve under the management of the Natural Lands Trust.

The Crossley Preserve in Ocean County provides an important habitat for several rare Pine Barrens' reptiles and amphibians and, thus, is of interest to herpetologists, scientists who study these animal groups. Among herpetologists, Crossley is especially noted for its native snake populations that depend upon this vast preserve of open-canopy pitch pine forest and sun-warmed forest openings. Notable snakes found at the Crossley Preserve include the pine snake, a threatened species, and the corn snake, an endangered species.

Because snakes, like other reptiles, cannot regulate their own body temperature as mammals do, they depend on an external heat source to keep them limber and active. To warm themselves during a cool spring morning, they may sun themselves in one of Crossley's many warm, sandy forest openings. Once warmed, they may actively

seek out a meal of a mouse or other small prey. During June and July at Crossley, pine and corn snakes burrow in the sand to lay their eggs. The sun-warmed sand incubates the eggs until late summer when the tiny hatching snakes wriggle up through the sand to begin their lives.

Crossley's habitat is very important for resident snakes during the winter months. In winter, the snakes depend on underground dens to regulate their

The 25 hibernacula are constructed adjacent to the Crossley Preserve along the route of the Pennsylvania Railroad that once passed through the forgotten village of Crossley. This abandoned railroad is now a right-of-way for electric and sewer lines. In the spring of 1998, General Public Utility (GPU) work crews doing brush clearing along this right-of-way accidentally disturbed fencing around a few of the man-made dens. GPU contacted the Trust's

Executive Director and arranged to repair the damaged fence and replace all the remaining fence to protect the hibernacula. The utility company contributed \$8500 to the Trust to hire a local contractor to make hibernacula repairs and improvements. In the summer, well after the time the snakes would emerge from hibernation,

the contractor replaced the old fencing with new wooden snow fencing. The new fencing will barricade the snake's dens from vehicles and will make them clearly identifiable. Thanks to the cooperation between the utility company and the Trust, this right-of-way continues to be managed for the needs of the public utilities as well as the needs of the endangered wildlife resources. \*



*Snake hibernaculum at Crossley Preserve (see enclosed mound in background).*

body temperature while they hibernate. Man-made dens called "hibernacula" have been constructed near Crossley. To construct a hibernaculum, piles of tree stumps and logs are buried and then covered with soil. Narrow openings are left in the structure so the snakes have access to the center of the hibernaculum where the ground temperature is constant.



## *Donors*

Victor J. Nexon

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Lawrence W. and  
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Mark Tarantino, Esquire

Rose Ziegler

Audubon Wildlife Society

General Public Utilities (GPU)

ICC Trust

J & R Landscaping and  
Tree Service

Mays Landing Sportsmen Club

New Jersey Community Water  
Watch, Toms River

The Trust for Public Lands

# The New Jersey Natural Lands Trust

## Board of Trustees

An eleven-member Board of Trustees sets policy for the Trust.

Six members are appointed by the Governor from the recommendations of a nominating caucus of conservation organizations and five members are State officials.

**Michael Catania**, Executive Director of New Jersey Field Office of The Nature Conservancy. Resides in Mendham Borough, Morris County.

**Emile DeVito**, Director of Conservation Biology, New Jersey Conservation Foundation. Resides in South Plainfield Borough, Middlesex County.

**Sally Dudley** (Chairperson), Executive Director, Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions. Resides in Harding Township, Morris County.

**Ruth Ehinger**, Land Use Regulation Program, Department of Environmental Protection. Resides in Hopewell Township, Mercer County.

**Betsy Foster**, member New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs. Resides in Haworth Borough, Bergen County.

**Thomas Gilmore**, President, New Jersey Audubon Society. Resides in Franklin Lakes Borough, Bergen County.

**James Hall** (Vice Chairperson), Assistant Commissioner for Natural and Historic Resources, Department of Environmental Protection; representing the Commissioner. Resides in North Hanover Township, Burlington County.

**Theresa Lettman**, Pinelands Preservation Alliance. Resides in Manchester Township, Ocean County.

**Honorable John A. Lynch**, Senator from District 17 and member of the State House Commission. Resides in the City of New Brunswick, Middlesex County.

**Anthony Mazzella**, Director, Property & Lease Negotiations. Representing State Treasurer. Resides in Hamilton Township, Mercer County.

**Thomas Wells**, Administrator, Green Acres Program, Department of Environmental Protection. Resides in Mendham Borough, Morris County.

**David F. Moore**, Secretary/Treasurer

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Martha Windisch, Volunteer/Outreach Coordinator

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