



## Protecting a Bold Vision - Our Nation's First National Reserve

The **Pinelands** is one of Earth's great natural treasures. It is a compelling tale of natural history and of a bold vision. Due to the unprecedented leadership of former Governor Brendan Byrne and many citizens, scientists and political leaders who helped him pass the Pinelands Protection Act in 1979, the Pinelands has the most innovative conservation and growth management laws in the United States. This regional planning system is a model for how a **prosperous economy can coexist with a world-class ecosystem**.

The **New Jersey Pinelands is home to the most extensive surviving forest on the Eastern Seaboard between Maine and the Florida Everglades**. It is New Jersey's largest open space, by far, with over 800,000 acres of forests and wetlands. So much of the Pinelands has survived because citizens, scientists and politicians worked together to create a conservation-based plan for this region – and to make it stick, despite tremendous pressure to develop the Pinelands' forests, fields and water resources.

The forests of the Pinelands hold the **fresh water supply for millions** of residents and visitors – this is the Kirkwood-Cohansey Aquifer, one of North America's largest, most intact and cleanest aquifers. The region's

## The Brendan T. Byrne Fund for the Pinelands

The Pinelands Preservation Alliance has launched our \$4 million **Brendan T. Byrne Fund for the Pinelands** campaign to better address challenges that could undermine the integrity of the Pinelands. This Fund will ensure that the Alliance has the resources to expand our work and expand active public support for the Pinelands at this critical juncture.

**Contributions to the Fund will enable the Pinelands Preservation Alliance by:**

### Securing the Future

Establishing a board-directed fund to ensure a secure fiscal foundation for the Alliance will require an investment of \$2 million to provide vital operating support to sustain the organization through good times and bad.

### Addressing Emerging Issues

An investment of \$500,000 will enable the Alliance to respond to challenges to protecting the Pinelands that emerge without advance warning and require a rapid and effective response.

### Building the Pinelands Community of Support & Expanding Education Programs

\$1,000,000 will enable the Alliance to reach many more families and new generations of New Jerseyans with the Pinelands story through our exciting new Pinelands Adventures operation and new outreach initiatives. The Alliance will now reach more families, young people, educators and schools to create motivated, successful students and lifelong lovers of the natural world.

### Investing in the Michael Huber Center for Pinelands Policy and Education

By investing \$500,000 to renovate the historic barn and carry out related improvements, the Alliance will attract ever-wider audiences to presentations, workshops, training programs, and education initiatives—making our Bishop Farmstead headquarters the center for all things Pinelands.

aquifers also sustain our coastal estuaries like Barnegat Bay and Great Bay, because their fresh water flows from the aquifers and rivers of the Pinelands.

The Pinelands provides a **safe haven for dozens of rare and endemic species of plants and wildlife**. Species that are extremely rare or extinct everywhere else are thriving in the Pinelands because we are protecting their habitats. The Pinelands is the last refuge for a growing number of rare plant and wildlife species that are losing – or have already lost – their habitats elsewhere to human encroachment.

The Pinelands is big enough to **provide millions of people with the chance to enjoy nature**, find peaceful solitude, canoe, bike, ride horses, camp, or just walk and enjoy the beautiful scenery.

Yet, the most difficult times for the Pinelands lie ahead. New Jersey is the most densely populated state in the nation. As population growth and development continue, the pressure to break down Pinelands planning boundaries and open up new land for development will intensify. Once lost to development, Pinelands forests, waters and fields will be lost forever.

## We Need Your Help

Our goal is to raise \$4 million for the Brendan T. Byrne Fund for the Pinelands. This will require an ambitious and unprecedented effort among those who care about the Pinelands and see the Alliance as the leading representative in the Pinelands preservation cause. Our campaign is being well received and we have **strong bipartisan support**.

**New Jersey's most** eminent statespersons see the Pinelands Preservation Alliance as the essential organization leading the effort to save the Pinelands. We are honored to have former New Jersey Governors Brendan Byrne, Thomas Kean, James Florio, and Christine Whitman actively supporting our campaign.

**GOVERNOR BYRNE** is the "father of the Pinelands," having achieved passage of the Pinelands Protection Act in 1979 with wide bipartisan support.

**GOVERNOR KEAN** built on Governor Byrne's legacy by defending the Pinelands Act from concerted efforts to overturn the program in its early years.

**GOVERNOR FLORIO** introduced and championed the federal Pinelands legislation in 1978, defended the Pinelands as governor and served as Chair of the Pinelands Commission.

**GOVERNOR WHITMAN** championed the expansion of Green Acres funding that helped protect hundreds of thousands of acres in the Pinelands, more than anywhere else in the state.

All four continue to use their stature and influence to advance the Pinelands cause.

**We hope you will join us in this game-changing project for the Alliance and the Pinelands.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:**

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