



# NAVAL AIR ENGINEERING STATION

Lakehurst, New Jersey

## PRESS RELEASE

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### McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst

## Central Jersey Land Conservation Forum

### Scheduled for March 31st

Mar 27, 2009, Lakehurst, NJ – Environmental officials from NAES Lakehurst, in conjunction with the future Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, and representatives from the Pinelands Preservation Alliance, Ocean County Planning Department and other state, county and non-government organizations will be conducting a forum on **Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, at the Ramada Inn on Highway 9 in Lakewood from 9:00am-2:00pm**. The purpose of the forum is to bring together these various organizations to discuss the challenges of compatible development and land conservation surrounding Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst while maintaining a high quality of life in Central New Jersey.

Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst is located within two counties, nine municipalities, two watersheds and two congressional districts. Compatible land use which protects the watersheds

and habitat for threatened and endangered species is one of the goals of the forum and key for most of the organizations involved. The forum will allow representatives to present their ideas on everything from specific parcels of land to the entire central portion of New Jersey.

Media are invited to attend and interact with the various agencies involved.

The tentative agenda for the forum is as follows:

**9:00 Welcome** – Carleton Montgomery, Executive Director  
Pinelands Preservation Alliance

**9:15-10:00 Introductions**

Captain JC Harding, Executive Officer NAES Lakehurst  
Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst

**Dennis Blazak**, Chief Environmental Engineer NAES Lakehurst  
Military's Compatible Development Program

**10:00-11:00 Conservation Priorities**

- **David J. McKeon**, Planning Director, Ocean County  
Ocean County Natural Lands Trust Priorities

- **Kathy Haake**, Project Manager  
Trust for Public Lands Barnegat Bay 2020

**11:00 – 11:30 Natural Lands Management**

- **Emile DeVito, Ph.D.**

New Jersey Conservation Foundation  
Stewardship & Atlantic White Cedar Restoration on the Franklin  
Parker Preserve, Burlington County

**11:30 – 12:15 Lunch break**

**12:15 – 12:45 Conservation Planning**

- **David J. McKeon**, Planning Director, Ocean County  
Joint Land Use Study for McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst  
- **Larry Liggett**, Director of Land Use and Technology

## Pinelands Ecological Integrity Assessment

### **12:45 – 2:00 Group Discussion**

- Final Goals and Objectives
- Concerns, Targeted Actions, Partnering of Groups