

The Pinelands is for Everyone



ACCESS
Nature

Initiatives and Partnerships

- **Access Nature Forum**
- **Collaborations to Evaluate and Improve Trails**
 - Towns: Pemberton and Evesham Townships
 - State: New Jersey Parks and Forests
 - NGOs: New Jersey Conservation Foundation
- **Pinelands Adventures Eco-Trips**
- **AccessNatureNJ.org map**
- **Communications**
 - *Showing* that nature preserves are for everyone
- **Winning Financial Support**
- **Taking It Statewide**



DWCF Connections

SPA 4 - Expand recreational and outreach opportunities in nature-based spaces for all people who live, recreate, and visit the watershed.

- Practical measures to make more trails accessible in more ways
- Shift expectations and address fears among people with disabilities and their families
- Change the culture of conservation and nature recreation “industries” so inclusivity in plans and facilities becomes the norm



Why It's Working

- Real Unmet Need in New Jersey
- Compelling, Universal Cause
 - Simple fairness
 - Disabilities touch everyone and every family, eventually
- Inclusive and Respectful Processes
 - Started with forums, focus groups, conversations
 - People with lived experience taking leadership roles
- Lots of Partnerships
 - Land managers, service providers, healthcare, advocates, recreation industry
- Comprehensive Approach Going Beyond *Opportunities*
 - Making trails and sites (more) accessible, but also
 - Helping people get comfortable and feel safe via guided trips and communications
- Raising and Sharing Funding

