



**FINAL INSTRUCTIONS**  
**Sunday May 5, 2024**

Dear PG Participant,

Thank you for registering for the 3rd Pinelands Gravel Ride. This event is going to be an adventure with some sections deep in the infamous New Jersey Pine Barrens. This document includes information and details to help make your ride this weekend safe and enjoyable. Please read it carefully.

**PRIOR TO THE RIDE:**

WEATHER. It is spring, so prepare for everything from cold to warm, dry to wet. Check the latest forecasts prior to the event (Southampton, NJ 08088), and dress appropriately.

EQUIPMENT SELECTION.

- We recommend use of a Cyclocross or gravel bike
- Tires of at least 32mm wide- 35mm or wider will be better, particularly on the sand roads
- Mountain bike/Cyclocross pedals and shoes
- GPS Unit with the maps downloaded and saved in advance for "off-line" use, since many sections of the course have poor cell reception
- Cell Phone with the [RideWithGPS App](#) installed and the Maps downloaded and saved for off-line use (it never hurts to have a back-up)
- Spares & Tools; bring what you need to perform basic repairs on your specific bike

FILL YOUR BOTTLES. Please fill your bottles at home and save time by being prepared to ride.

LOCATION. The event takes place at

[Pinelands Preservation Alliance \(PPA\)](#)  
17 Pemberton Rd (CR-616)  
Southampton Township, NJ 08088

PARKING. For Details see: <https://www.pinelandsgravel.com/directions-parking/>

Primary Parking is at: [Pinelands Preservation Alliance](#)  
17 Pemberton Rd (CR-616)  
Southampton Township, NJ 08088

Parking at PPA is on a first-come, first served basis. Everyone must follow the directions of the parking crew in order for this to work smoothly. We expect every parking space at PPA to be filled, so we have arranged for overflow parking 3/4 mile away from PPA. The earlier you arrive, the more likely you will have the opportunity to park on-site at PPA. The later you arrive, the later you will start, and the more frustrated/stressed you will be to have to park off-site.

Overflow Parking is at: Southampton Schools  
26 Pleasant Street  
Southampton, NJ 08088

PACKET PICK-UP. Each registrant must pick up their own packet in-person on Sunday morning to get their wrist band and bib numbers; riders can't pick up packages for other riders. Everything is pre-packaged for you, except the pins. Please grab pins from the bins on the tables.

Sunday May 5, 2024 7:45AM – 8:45AM

[Pinelands Preservation Alliance](#)

17 Pemberton Rd (CR-616)

Southampton Township, NJ 08088

Package pickup will take place next to barn on the PPA property. If there is inclement weather, registration will take place inside the barn or banquet tent.

All riders must complete a waiver. If you digitally signed your waiver on BikeReg during the registration process, you don't need to sign a paper waiver. All riders under 18 must sign their waiver as well as have their parent or legal guardian sign their waiver.

RESTROOMS. There will be Restrooms at the following locations:

Start/Finish: inside the Pinelands Preservation Alliance (PPA) barn.

Aid Stations: Each aid station will have restrooms or Porto-potties

On Course are: A pit Toilet at the Batona Camp (across from the Carranza Memorial)

Porto-potties inside the Franklin Parker Preserve (several locations)

Brendan T Byrne Forest Building

Pakim Pond

T-SHIRT & MERCHANDISE. Each participant who registered by March 31st will receive a complimentary event t-shirt in their entry package at registration.

If you pre-ordered merchandise, you can pick it up on Sunday prior to or following your ride.

We will have some additional event t-shirts (along with some other merchandise) for sale, following the ride. We have segregated the pre-orders from the items that will be available for on-site sale.

## **RIDING THE EVENT:**

REMINDER. This is a RIDE and NOT A RACE. The roads are completely open to traffic. The conditions are very challenging. Ride in a manner that obeys traffic rules, is safe for yourself, and is courteous to your fellow riders and other road/trail users.

WRISTBAND. All riders must wear their wristband. Wristbands allow access to aid station and post ride food/drink. Wristbands are in your entry packages.

### RIDER NUMBERS.

- Affix the handlebar number to the front of your handlebars with the included twist ties. Alternatively, you can place it on your saddle/saddlebag or seat post.
- All riders must wear their bib numbers on the back of their outer layer. We suggest placing them on the lower left side of the back (on the pockets if you are wearing it on a jersey).
- Place the dashboard number on your vehicle's dashboard, so that it is clearly visible from the outside. If there are multiple riders in a vehicle, please place all of the numbers on the dashboard, so they are each visible.

START LOCATION. In the driveway of [Pinelands Preservation Alliance](#) 17 Pemberton Rd (CR-616) Southampton Township, NJ 08088

AT-WILL START TIME. There are no massed starts. You may leave any time after you check-in (starting at 7:45 AM) up until 8:50 AM. The roads are open to traffic, and you must obey all the rules of the road. While you may start the ride early, should packet pickup open early, be advised that course services start and finish at the below designated times.

AID STATIONS.

| Aid Station # | Location  | Resources Available   | Mile Marker  |               |             | Open Time | Close Time |
|---------------|---|---|--------------|---------------|-------------|-----------|------------|
|               |   |   | Short Course | Medium Course | Long Course |           |            |
| 1             | Woodland Fire & EMS<br>3991 Route 563<br>Chatsworth, NJ 08019   | Water & Electrolyte Mix<br>Bananas<br>PB&J<br>Hammer Products<br>Cookies<br>Some Special Treats | N/A          | 19.3          | 33.5        | 9:00AM    | 11:45AM    |
| 2             | Whitesbog Village<br><a href="#">Whitesbog Preservation Trust</a><br>120 W Whites Bogs Rd<br>Browns Mills, NJ 08015 | Water & Electrolyte Mix<br>Bananas<br>PB&J<br>Hammer Products<br>Cookies<br>Some Special Treats | 29.0         | 37.7          | 51.7        | 9:30AM    | 1:15PM     |

“CONTROLS”. In addition to the aid stations, we’re planning on having 2 locations on the Long Course and 1 on the Short & Medium Courses where you can top up your bottles and grab some packaged food. These will be unmarked out of the back of the car affairs. Grab and go... You aren’t required to stop. They will also have pumps in case you need to top up your tires.

|           | Location  | Supplies Available                      | Short Mile Marker | Medium Mile Marker | Long Mile Marker | Open Time | Close Time |
|-----------|---|---|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------|------------|
| Control A | Near Carranza Memorial<br>Carranza Rd<br>Tabernacle, NJ 08088   | Jug Water<br>Drink Mix<br>Packaged Food | N/A               | N/A                | 23.8             | 9:15AM    | 11:00AM    |
| Control B | Batona Trail:<br>Ongs Hat Parking Area<br>Turkey Buzzard Bridge Rd<br>(between Magnolia & Shinn)<br>Pemberton, NJ 08068 | Jug Water<br>Drink Mix<br>Packaged Food | 40.8              | 49.5               | 63.5             | 10:15AM   | 2:15PM     |

Potable Water on Course. In case it is hot, there are a few places in addition to the aid stations and controls where you can top up your bottles:

- Batona Camp (across from the Carranza Memorial)- it is a hand pump
- Brendan T Byrne Forest Building
- Pakim Pond
- The SAG Vehicles will have jugs or bottles of water

TRASH. The Pine Barrens have some of the purest water in the United States, and we'll be riding through pristine State Forests and National Preserves. Please help us keep it this way by not littering. Use the trash cans/bags at the aid stations and start/finish. On the course, pocket your gels & food wrappers, dead tubes, etc. and dispose them only in proper receptacles.

MECHANICAL SUPPORT. Please make sure your bike is in working order and that you have your own spare tubes and tools. [Aistriu](#) will be available for some support, but please be prepared to fix your own bikes. SAG drivers may be available to assist, but they are not professional mechanics. SAGs will have pumps, and a limited amount of spare 700c tubes.

SAG SUPPORT. If you are unable to finish the event for some physical or mechanical reason, call or text the event hotline at [267-894-0840](tel:267-894-0840). You will be picked up as soon as feasible and either transported to the nearest aid station, where you can arrange to have someone pick you up, or back to the finish line as required by the demands of the event. Please keep in mind that this is not a door-to-door taxi service, and there are other riders that also need to be supported. Assistance will come as soon as possible.

COURSE MARKING. The course is **NOT MARKED**. However, there will be Green "Tour de Pines" and various "Gran Fondo Colnago" signs at designated confusing spots and at the course splits. Using the provided GPS Files, Ride With GPS App, and Cue Sheets are imperative!

ROUTE MAPS, GPS FILES & CUE SHEETS. Please note this course goes deep into the pine barrens at times, and road signs can be sparse, particularly where unpaved roads connect to each other.

The Official Cue Sheets are posted to the [PG Download Page](#). Please print your own.

Please ensure you are using the latest files. TCX & FIT files with turn warnings are posted to the [PG Download Page](#). GPX & KML Files may be obtained from Ride With GPS (see Links below).

| Route         | Ride With GPS File  |
|---------------|---|
| Short Course  | <a href="https://ridewithgps.com/routes/46335742">https://ridewithgps.com/routes/46335742</a> |
| Medium Course | <a href="https://ridewithgps.com/routes/46422237">https://ridewithgps.com/routes/46422237</a> |
| Long Course   | <a href="https://ridewithgps.com/routes/45968337">https://ridewithgps.com/routes/45968337</a> |

#### FREE GPS NAVIGATION.

With our enhanced Ride With GPS Membership, you can use the their Phone App for **Free** during the event. Download the Ride With GPS App to your Smart Phone (iPhone or Android) from: <https://ridewithgps.com/app> It is also available directly from the [App Store](#) & [Google Play](#)

Your invitation for the event map/navigation is:

[https://ridewithgps.com/auto\\_approve/Event/305590/wmpgb4UI0MTeVKt9UR6umd7AJHSKPI1E](https://ridewithgps.com/auto_approve/Event/305590/wmpgb4UI0MTeVKt9UR6umd7AJHSKPI1E)

Please see the tutorial vide on how to use Ride With GPS App here: <https://ridewithgps.com/help/event-participants/>

COMMUNICATIONS. At times you are going to be far off the beaten path, deep in State Forests and Nature Preserves; cell service can be spotty or completely non-existent in places. This is why you need to download the **GPS files for off-line use** (in other words useable via satellite signal and not relying on cell service for map loading or connection).

This also means that we request your assistance to relay information between the riders and the volunteers, in case someone needs assistance. We are all in this adventure together and appreciate your assistance.

CUT-OFF TIMES & SHORT-CUTS. In order to get you back to the finish on-time the following Cut-Off Times and suggested short cuts have been created.

| Time     | Description           | Location  | Action  |
|----------|-----------------------|---|---|
| 10:15 AM | Long Course Cut-Off   | Mile 14.3: Long/Medium Course Split (Moores Meadow Rd @ Chatsworth Rd/CR-532) | All Riders who arrive at this location after 10:15 AM are advised to make the left turn onto the Medium Course at Chatsworth Rd in order not to finish past the course closure time.  |
| 11:00 AM | Medium Course Cut-Off | Mile 11.0 Short/Medium & Long Course Split (Sooy Place @ S. Park Rd)          | All Riders who arrive at this location after 11:00 AM are advised to stay straight on Sooy Place to continue on the Short Course in order not to finish past the course closure time. |
| 11:45AM  | Short Cut 1           | Aid Station 1: Woodland Fire Co   | All riders who depart Aid Station 1 after 11:45AM are advised to take Short Cut 1   |
| 2:30PM   | Short Cut 2           | Ongs Hat Rd. @ Burrs Mill Rd  | All Riders arriving at this intersection after 2:30PM are advised to follow Shortcut 2  |
| 3:30 PM  | Course Closes         | Pinelands Preservation Alliance   | All Riders still on the course are "On Their Own".  |

Since there are 3 courses, if your day isn't going to plan, you can switch routes where the courses split. If that still isn't doing the trick, there are additional Short Cuts available. Please note, if you go off the official courses, we may not be able to support you in a timely fashion.

| <b>Short-Cut 1</b>   |   |               |             |
|--|---|---------------|-------------|
| <b>By taking Short-Cut 1 you'll save 3.1 miles of riding and avoid 1 sector of sand road</b> |   |               |             |
| Location   | Medium Course   | Long Course   |             |
| Aid Station  | Mile 19.3   | Mile 33.5     |             |
| Description  | From the Aid Station at the Woodland Fire Company, Turn Left onto Main Street, and cross Tabernacle Chatsworth/Lake Rd/CR532 (where the official course goes). You'll pick up the course again 2.5 miles later, when the official courses rejoin Main St (from White Horse Rd), just prior to the right turn onto Sooy Place. |               |             |
| Short-Cut 1 Map  | See: <a href="https://ridewithgps.com/routes/39312705">https://ridewithgps.com/routes/39312705</a>  |               |             |
| <b>Short-Cut 2</b>   |   |               |             |
| <b>By taking Short-Cut 2 you'll save 4.4 miles of riding and 2 sectors of gravel</b>         |   |               |             |
| Location   | Short Course  | Medium Course | Long Course |
| Ongs Hat Rd. @ Burrs Mill Rd   | Mile 45.0   | Mile 53.6     | Mile 67.7   |
| Description  | Stay Straight on Ongs Hat Rd/CR642 (instead of turning left onto Burrs Mills Rd, like the official courses do), and rejoin the course in .8 miles by turning right on Ridge Rd/CR643  |               |             |
| Short-Cut 2 Map  | See: <a href="https://ridewithgps.com/routes/39317956">https://ridewithgps.com/routes/39317956</a>  |               |             |

FINISH LINE CLOSURE/EVENT END TIME. The course officially closes at 3:30PM, and all course services will end at this time. Anyone still on course after 3:30 will be "on their own". Post ride food and beverage services will cease by 4:00PM. In order to finish the long course by 3:30, you will need to start by 9:00 and average 12MPH, including all of your stops. **The course may be flat, but it isn't easy; we suggest you start earlier than 9:00!**

RULES OF THE ROAD. Please remember that you are on open roads during the entire ride. All cyclists must obey all traffic laws; this includes – but is not limited to – traffic lights and stop signs. Violators may be ticketed by local law enforcement. All riders are personally responsible for knowing New Jersey's traffic and bicycle laws: <http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/commuter/bike/regulations.shtm>

**IN CASE OF EMERGENCY.** If you have-or witness—a serious crash or medical emergency, immediately call 911, and then call or text the event hotline [267-894-0840](tel:267-894-0840). Secure the area to the best of your ability, but do not put yourself or others in additional danger while you wait for emergency personnel. If there is a lack of cell service, please try to relay information via other riders and vehicles, so we can get support and responders to the proper location.

**COURSE NOTES:** The course contains a lot of dirt, gravel, and sand roads; this is the adventure you registered for. While all of these are public roads, they are in a wide variety of condition. Expect pot holes on most roads (paved & unpaved). Also expect mud, ruts, and loose gravel/sand on every unpaved road. The sand roads are challenging in and of themselves.

It is important that you ride as far to the right as safely possible, and that you obey the centerline (whether it is painted or implied). If you need to step off your bike, please do so on the right side of the road or shoulder.

Please see the official cue sheet for course notes.

**WATER CROSSING:** We have a new section of course that uses the Mt. Misery Trail which goes through the Atlantic White Cedar Preserve and between the now abandoned “Reeves Bogs”; it is a truly spectacular section. But there is a water crossing, where a stream that connects the bogs & ponds crosses the road. As of last weekend it was ca 4” -5” deep, but the actual depth will vary from day-to-day and hour-to-hour.

Since this trail doubles as a hiking route, there is also a rudimentary wooden walkway over the stream. Regardless if you chose to ride through it or walk over it, use caution, be aware of your fellow participants and other trail users, and be prepared to get wet feet. This is all part of the adventure of riding in the pines.

| Water Crossing Approximate Mile Marker |               |             |
|--|---------------|-------------|
| Short Course                           | Medium Course | Long Course |
| 20.9                                   | 29.7          | 43.7        |

**POT HOLES, SWALES/GULLIES & “PUDDLES”:** There are significant numbers of bad potholes out there, which may be difficult to see in a group. Since this ride takes place on many small roads, there may not be sufficient room for participants riding wider than single file to avoid holes and allow room for motor vehicles to pass safely. Remember, they won’t be able to see that you have changed your line to avoid a hole...

Many of the unpaved roads develop swales or gullies. Since the Pine Barrens has a very high water table, and some roads are below the water level of the adjacent streams, ponds, and bogs, these are prone to fill with water, particularly after rain, concealing their true depth.

**Assume all puddles are covering deep holes- we’ve encountered “puddles” >24” deep on some of the sand roads! Ride around them and not through them!**

## **POST RIDE:**

**SIGN-IN.** When you finish your ride, check back in; this is one way we try to keep track of who is still out on course.

**POST-RIDE FESTIVITIES.** After your ride, be our guest for beer provided by [Pinelands Brewing Company](#) and burritos prepared by [La Frontera](#). You need your wristband to get food & drinks. Lunch is for registered riders and volunteers only, along with those that have Companion Passes. Festivities start at 11:30 and will finish no later than 4:00. Only pre-registered vegetarians (Green wristband) may get a vegetarian meal.

There will be banquet seating, and there is plenty of hangout space on their property. If you want to hang outside, beer can be consumed outside, as long as you remain near the barn or banquet tent.

GET SOCIAL. Please post your thoughts, photos, videos, etc. about the event on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram. Please tag us and where appropriate use the following hashtags:  
#PinelandsGravel #KermesseSport #PinelandsPreservationAlliance

THE BOTTOM LINE. Have Fun. This is what this event is all about.

We appreciate your participation in Pinelands Gravel; thanks for making this event a success. We wish you a safe and fun ride!

Best Regards,  
Kermesse Sport