

The Wetlands Institute

Celebrating 50 Years of Excellence in
Research, Conservation and
Education

Dr. Lenore P. Tedesco

Executive Director

The Wetlands Institute

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Our Mission:



To promote appreciation, understanding and stewardship of wetlands and coastal ecosystems through programs in research, conservation and education





The Wetlands Institute

- 501c3 with 16 member Board of Trustees
- 14 Full-time, 3 part-time, 40 seasonal staff
- More than 17,000 visitors and 12,500 school children annually
- More than 1,300 members



The Wetlands Institute

- Founded in 1969 by H.H. Mills, Executive Director of World Wildlife Fund with Purchase of 5,000 Acres of Wetlands
- Made a Stand for Wetland Protection at a Time of Rapid Wetland Loss to Development, Filling and Dredging
- Recognized the Value of Wetlands for Fisheries, Coastal Resilience and Coastal Economies

“The recent storm clearly demonstrated the importance of these marshlands. With hundreds of billions of gallons of ocean water pounding our coast and surging through our inlets to be received by these vast natural reservoirs, the pressure was relieved along the waterfront and multi-million dollar damage averted.

Cape May County Herald
12/4/1968





Joe Jacobs at Cedar Island early 1970's

Remarkable History of Research and Conservation

November 21, 1968

Wildlife Fund Of Washington Offers \$100,000 For Avalon Marshland

Tomorrow (Saturday) the Borough of Avalon will offer 953 acres of marshland known as Block 84 on the Borough Tax Map for sale, under tight restrictions guaranteeing the property

remain in its natural state. The sale is a result of negotiations between the borough of Avalon and the World Wildlife Fund of Washington, D.C. Herbert Mills, Executive Director, represented

the World Wildlife Fund, who has offered the minimum price of \$100,000 to purchase the tract for the purpose of conservation. The restrictions on the sale include:

1. A conservation easement must be granted to the State of New Jersey within 30 days.
2. No dredging, depositing of spoils, garbage, trash or other waste material be allowed.
3. No structure of any type will be permitted.
4. Easement rights for regional water or sewer lines will be permitted, but no sewer plants will be allowed.
5. If any of the above restrictions are violated, the title to the land will revert back to the Borough.

An advertisement of the sale was published in last week's issue of this paper and also appears in this issue. It includes a map of the area covered.

Copies of the notice are also available from the Borough Clerk.

Mayor Edgar V. H. Bell stated "with Cedar Island now owned by the Green Acres Division of the New Jersey Department of Conservation, and Block 84 dedicated to open spaces, more than
(Turn To Page 4, This Section)

Audubon Society
Newsletter, 1969

Preserving Critical Lands Near Avalon

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, SUNDAY MORNING, JANUARY 26, 1969

Stretch of N. J. Marshes Acquired for Wildlife

The World Wildlife Fund has acquired 5,000 acres of salt water marshes in South Jersey. The newly-acquired land, acclaimed by naturalists for their value to bird and fish populations.

The area, long sought by estate developers, lies on beaches on the Atlantic and extends some 12 miles from Avalon to Wildwood. Headquartered in Washington, the wildlife fund is a national organization, by Prince Philip of the Netherlands. It was founded eight years ago to help preserve or buy up areas in danger of being lost in their own countries.

Herbert H. Mills, executive director of the fund, said it is also seeking another 5,000 acres of wetlands "are in Jersey, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Wilmington and Baltimore. The miles of water courses running through these marshes will provide healthful recreation for fishermen and boatmen... and will help create threatened with draining, and housing schemes," and that pollution has caused a decline in the productivity of the marshes.

NATURE UNIT GETS JERSEY MARSHES

5,000 Acres Along Atlantic Will Be Preserved

5,000 MORE SOUGHT

Herbert H. Mills, executive director of the fund, said it is also seeking another 5,000 acres



Inquirer Staff Map Sites of wildlife preserves

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 1969



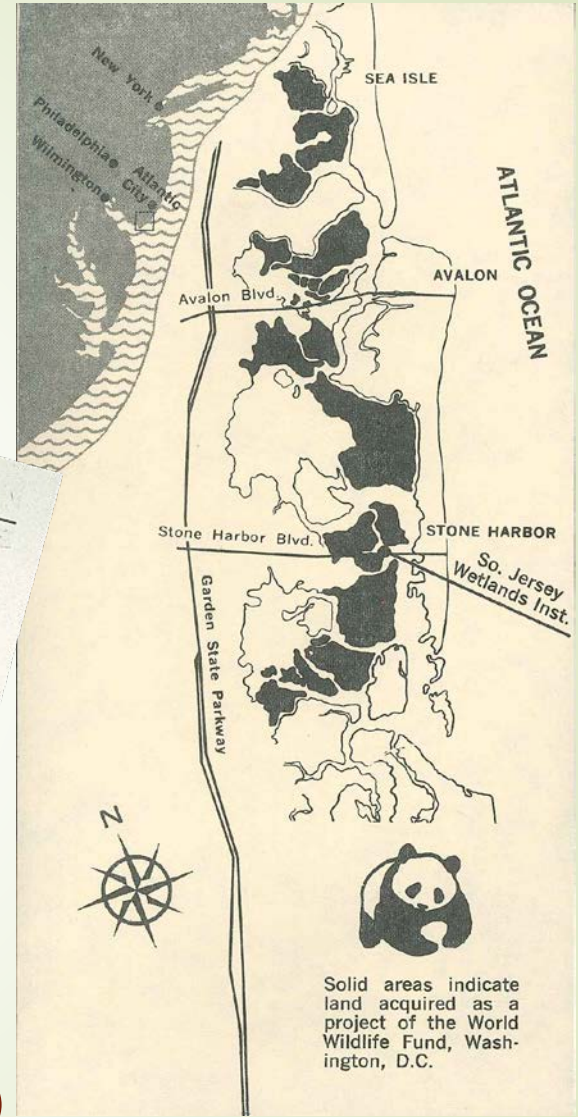
Chicago Tribune

THE WORLD'S GREATEST NEWSPAPER
D. 805,924 SUN. 1,131,752

APR 22 1969 *By Philip*

PLAN WILDLIFE REFUGE IN EAST OF 5,000 ACRES

Project Supported by Philip, Bernhard



Solid areas indicate land acquired as a project of the World Wildlife Fund, Washington, D.C.

Preserving these Marshes

CAPE MAY
COUNTY

Section 1

Herald

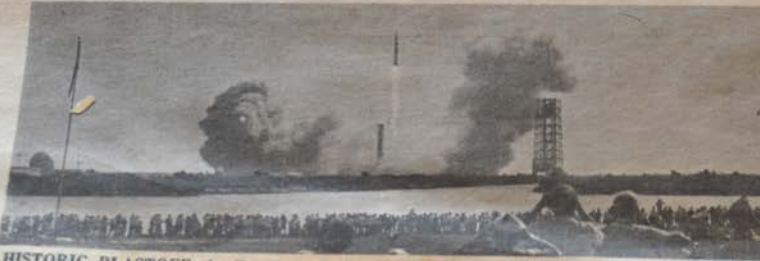
"CAPE MAY COUNTY'S PICTURE NEWSPAPER"

VOL. 2, NO. 50

COVERING THE WEEK OF JULY 23 THROUGH JULY 29

JULY 23, 1969

Lindbergh, Godfrey And Roe Hail Local Conservation Efforts; State Halts Open Space-Wetlands Development



HISTORIC BLASTOFF—Apollo 11, with three astronauts aboard, blasts off from the John F. Kennedy Space Center in Florida to begin its historic moon landing and return to Earth. More photographs, taken and copyrighted by Andrea Lippi of Cape May Point on Page 13.

Gen. Charles A. Lindbergh, Arthur Godfrey and other officials of the World Wildlife Fund, visited Stone Harbor and Avalon last Thursday to inspect existing conservation areas and urge increased efforts to preserve the remaining open spaces of South Jersey for wildlife and man to enjoy forever.

Also attending, Commissioner Robert A. Roe of the state Department of Conservation and Economic Development announced a six

months moratorium on actual development and even plans to develop state-owned open spaces.

Commissioner Roe made the announcement during ceremonies before a crowd of some 200 at the Stone Harbor Bird Sanctuary. He said that during the halt on development, more ecological studies will be made to insure that development of shore wetlands and other areas will not jeopardize the remaining natural environment of the area involved.

July 1969 Tour Avalon Purchase, Avalon Dunes,
Stone Harbor Bird Sanctuary

Building a Conservation Ethic





Commissioner Roe, Herbert Mills, General Charles Lindbergh, Heronry
Director Harry Letsche, Middle TSHP Mayor Leroy May Jr., CM Freeholder
Leon Schuck, Arthur Godfrey, John Mladgden AHLOA, SH Mayor William
Lange Jr., Dr. Roger Tory Peterson

July 1969 Tour Av alon Purchase, Avalon
Dunes, Stone Harbor Bird Sanctuary

Building a Conservation Ethic



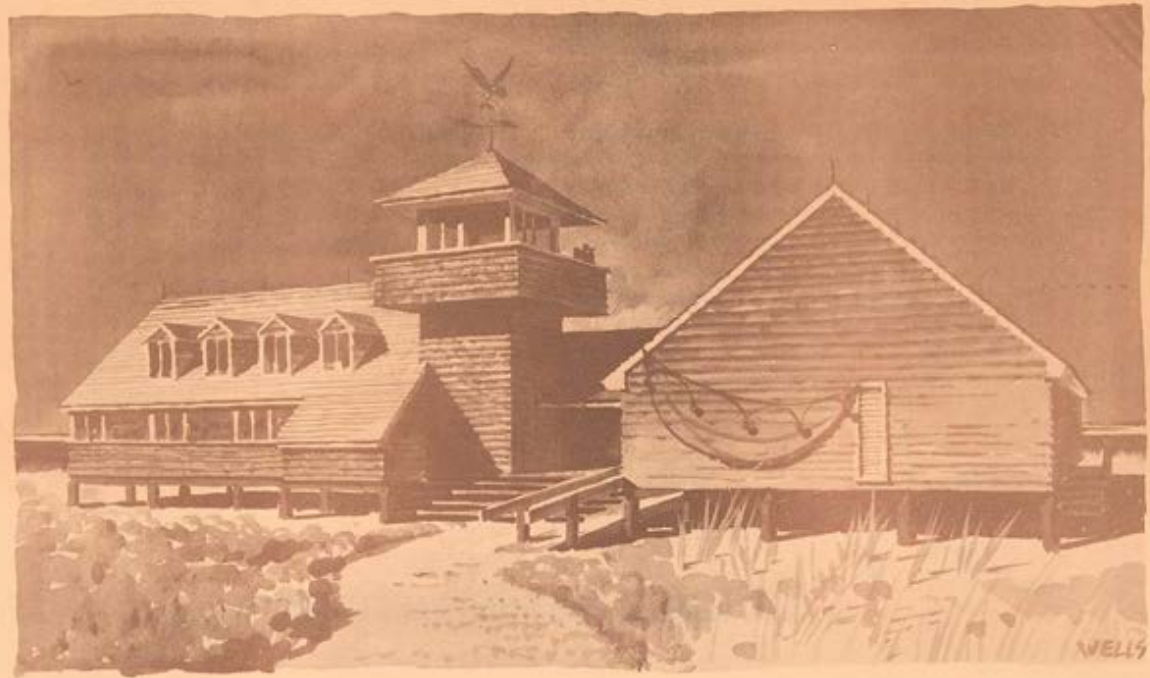
Wetlands Institute To Be Built Near Stone Harbor

**New Center
Will Aid
Research
Universities
To Join
In Program**

STONE HARBOR—Work has started preparing the site for establishment of the South Jersey Wetlands Institute on the south side of Stone Harbor boulevard with a target date for completion before next summer.

The project is being sponsored by the World Wildlife Fund and a number of leading universities to carry out research in the fields of oceanography and estuarine studies.

When World Wildlife Fund made its substantial purchases of wetlands in Southern New Jersey two years ago it agreed with the New Jersey Department of Conservation and Economic Development that it would sponsor an edu-



SOUTH JERSEY WETLANDS INSTITUTE

Mills, Wells and Lehigh Professor and First Director Speak at SHPOA Meeting 9/11/1971

We are All Beneficiaries of the Vision



September 1972

Dedicating the Institute

Save-the-Date

JUNE 22-23, 2019

50TH ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND
FESTIVAL AND REUNION



LECTURES

NATURE WALKS

ARTS & CRAFTS

LIVE ANIMAL PRESENTATIONS, SEINING & CRABBING ACTIVITIES
& MORE!

LIVE MUSIC

FOOD TRUCKS

HISTORY DISPLAYS

FREE ADMISSION • WETLANDSINSTITUTE.ORG/50



Seven Mile Island Living Laboratory

A Proving Ground Using Natural and
Nature-Based Features to Provide
Ecological Uplift and Enhanced
Resilience for Ecosystems and
Coastal Communities



Middle Township

Townsend's Inlet

Seven Mile Island Living Lab

PP

CDF

Avalon

PP

ME

PP

PP

ENH

Wetlands Institute

Stone Harbor

ENH

CDF

Hereford Inlet



- ▶ Confinement Disposal Facility (CDF)
- ▶ Nesting Habitat (ENH)
- ▶ Marsh Enhancement (ME)
- ▶ Prior Placement Sites (PP)

- ▶ Test Bed for Project Testing Beneficial Reuse of Dredged Material Projects
- ▶ More than \$9m Investment in Projects
- ▶ Providing Answers for Back Bay and Intracoastal Waterway Dredging
- ▶ Enhancing Resilience for Our Community

A Part of This Community for 50 Years Be a Part of Ours



➤ Wetlandsinstitute.org

