

CAN YOU DECIPHER THIS LIDAR MAP? (ground radar) It's about old mills. Saw mills, grist mills and fulling mills were some of the indispensable financial engines that drove the colonial and early American economy in what we now know as Atlantic County. Almost every pond you find in our area was once the home of a mill of some sort from the very early 1700's up to at least the late 1800's. One of the area's largest concentrations of these mills was in the Nacote Creek Watershed in Galloway and Port Republic. Nacote Creek is comprised of three beautiful feeder streams that have their sources in the oddest of places: one stream goes through Smithville, one goes through the Stockton Campus and creates Lake Fred and one meanders through the vegetable farms west of Stockton. We will track all three of these pristine waterways with maps, old and new, topographical and LIDAR (see attached photo), many of which will show the remnants of the some of the nine old mill pond dams themselves. We'll also see photos showing the scenery along the stream beds from their sources to where they finally reach the Mullica River. You'll also learn how these mills operated, who owned them and what they later became. Some of these ponds see very few visitors today because most people simply don't know they exist. We want to introduce them to you. This Power Point presentation was originally developed for the NJ DEP's Pinelands Short Course held at Stockton University last March. The big difference this time around is that there is absolutely no charge for joining us to learn about this fascinating piece of our local history. The presenter is the Atlantic County Historical Society's Librarian, Norm Goos. Norm is also the Official Atlantic County Historian. The date is Monday evening, September 9th. The time is 6:30 PM. And a Q&A time will follow the actual presentation so bring your questions. The location is the historical society's auditorium (now handicapped and elevator accessible) at 907 Shore Road in Somers Point. Parking is free behind our building. Just turn west on Somers Ave off Shore Road and then make a left turn into our lot. A parking lot guide will be awaiting you. Light refreshments will also be provided gratis after the talk. We look forward to seeing you all on Sept. 9th.

