

The Village Of Pinehurst is embarking on a major enhancement of a landmark ecosystem. The department of public services says the large traffic circle at the interchange of Route 2, State Highway 211 and U-S 15-501 will be the beneficiary of a serious facelift. The enhancement, according to a village spokesperson, will involve removing undesired species like scrub oaks and pyracantha shrubs, leaving behind dogwood, pines, hollies, azaleas, and rhododendron. Clearing out undesired species, according to the spokesperson, will enhance the longleaf pine ecosystem to the benefit of the endangered Red Cockaded Woodpecker. It will also improve the habitat of native bird species. The planned enhancements are expected to take three months, beginning at the end of February. The State Department of Transportation is cooperating in the project.