# **John Heinz**

## National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum

#### Represented by the following Members of **Congress:**

Senator Arlen Specter (R) Senator Rick Santorum (R) Rep. Robert A. Brady (D-1st) Rep. Curt Weldon (R-7th)

#### Contact

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#### **Purpose**

John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum was congressionally established to protect and restore Tinicum Marsh, and to provide environmental education and wildlifeoriented recreation.

#### **Public Use Notes**

- Environmental education center and programs
- Canoe launch facility
- Active friends group

#### **Management Activities**

- Protecting freshwater tidal marsh and restoring wetlands to benefit migratory birds
- Managing a freshwater impoundment to enhance habitat for shorebirds and waterfowl
- Protecting and enhancing habitat for threatened and endangered species such as coastal plain leopard frog, red-bellied turtle, bald eagle, piping plover and peregrine falcon



Fall scene at John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge

### **Highlights**

More than 300 species of birds have been observed on the refuge. Eighty-five of the species have historically nested at Tinicum Marsh.

The Cusano Environmental Education Center opened in January 2001. Built through a partnership with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and private donations, the center focuses on urban issues, local ecology and wetlands. The exhibits, library, classrooms and meeting areas are open to the public.

The refuge's environmental education program reaches 6,000 students annually in the form of field trips, workshops and presentations.

The Service is working with the Environmental Protection Agency to assess contamination and potential remediation of the lower Darby Creek Area Superfund site. The site includes the refuge and two nearby sites.

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