



Celebrating 10 Years!

Land & Water Conservation Summit

Working together to protect our communities



Photo courtesy of DocWoodPhoto.com

Kenyon Mill, West Kingston, Rhode Island

Saturday March 9, 2013

7:45 AM - 4:30 PM

URI Memorial Union, Kingston Campus

**The Rhode Island Foundation
congratulates
The Rhode Island Land
and Water Partnership
on your tenth annual summit.
We are proud to support
your important work.**

**THE
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Rhode Island Land Trust Council

Rhode Island Sea Grant

The Rhode Island Foundation

Displays and Vendors

- **Bank of America**
- **Bill Harley**
- **Chestnut Restoration**
- **Coastal Institute**
- **EcoRI News**
- **Explore RI Land & Water Trails**
- **F L Putnam Investment Management**
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- **Narragansett Bay Estuary Program**
- **Narragansett Bay Research Reserve**
- **Narrow River Preservation Association**
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& Heritage Commission with support from
local, state, and federal preservation partners



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RI Land & Water Partnership

This is our Tenth Year!

www.landandwaterpartnership.org

Grassroots conservation organizations play a central role in protecting Rhode Island's waterways, open spaces, farms and historic vistas. Rhode Island is fortunate to have over 45 land trusts, a dozen watershed organizations and numerous conservation commissions that rely on the expertise and passion of hundreds of volunteer conservation leaders. Since 2004, the RI Land & Water Partnership has worked to build the capacity and foster connections between these dedicated grass roots organizations. The RI Land & Water Partnership is led by the RI Land Trust Council and the Narragansett Bay Estuary Program with assistance from the RI Association of Conservation Commissions and representatives from other leading conservation organizations.

The RI Land & Water Partnership recognizes that each local organization is unique, comprised of local advocates who understand the issues in their community and foster local support for their conservation work. Yet, grassroots conservation organizations also have much in common—each organization faces similar land and water conservation issues and has similar governance, public relations and other administrative activities. The Partnership sponsors programs that foster learning and collaboration among conservation leaders throughout the state and region. Through the years, the Partnership has demonstrated that local conservationists can learn and work together to strengthen land and water protection throughout the state.

Each year, the RI Land & Water Partnership hosts the **Land & Water Conservation Summit** in March complemented with a suite of **workshops** throughout the year on both technical conservation issues and organizational development. The Summit and workshops help to build the skills and foster connections that local conservation leaders need to be more effective.

The Partnership's **web site**, www.landandwaterpartnership.org, stores a wealth of information from past summits and workshops. The website is also home to an **on-line library of resource materials** created in collaboration with the RI Conservation Stewardship Collaborative. This is a web-based collection of "how to" information to support land and water conservation stewardship. The library includes land stewardship tools including information on baseline documentation, easement monitoring, management of invasive species, and habitat restoration strategies; watershed stewardship tools including information on Blueways (water trails) and water quality monitoring; and tools for organizational support.

Please check it out and send your feedback to the Partnership's leaders:
Rupert Friday (rfriday@rilandtrusts.org) and Meg Kerr (megkerr@cox.net).





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The Land & Water Conservation Summit

10 years and counting....

The annual **Land & Water Conservation Summit** is the Land & Water Partnership's flagship event. The Summit has been held every year since 2004 and is possible because dozens of conservation leaders and experts in organizational development (fundraising, board development, public relations) are willing to spend their Saturday sharing their expertise with their colleagues and friends. The Summit is held in March and is widely acknowledged as Rhode Island's go-to conference for workshops and networking with other grassroots conservation leaders.

Where we started: Rhode Island's land trusts have come together at an annual conference since 1999. In 2004, the RI Land Trust Council invited watershed organizations and conservation commissions to join the conference and created the RI Land & Water Summit. The first Land & Water Summit was held at the North Kingstown High School. Partner organizations were encouraged to bring displays, which were set up in the school's atrium. Lunch was served in the school cafeteria. The energy and enthusiasm for this joint conference was terrific.

In 2005, the conference moved to the URI Memorial Union where it has remained. The Summit has grown into the state's premier conservation event, attracting over 300 conservation leaders from Rhode Island and neighboring New England states for a day of learning and networking.

Summit Keynote Speakers – Each year we recruit a keynote speaker for the Summit who can provide summit participants with timely information and inspiration for continuing our work together.

Our roster of keynote speakers and their topics:

2004 Gus Seelig: “Keys to the 15 year Success of the VT Housing & Conservation Program”

2005 Peter Forbes: “The Soul of the Land - Nurturing Our Emotional Connections to Our Communities, Landscapes and Watersheds and Telling Stories that Celebrate These Relationships”

2006 Jeff Milder: “Using Development to Support Conservation - How to Leverage the Real Estate Market to Help Fund Conservation Projects”

2007 Richard Greenwood: “Powerful Currents - A Historical Perspective on Rivers and the Making of Rhode Island”

2008 Gina McCarthy: “No Child Left Inside”

2009 Tom Wessells: “Reading the Forested Landscape - A Natural History of New England”

2010 Tom Horton: “Saving the Chesapeake Bay's Land & Water - Lessons Learned after 25 years”

2011 Steve Sloan: “Connecting People to Place and Your Conservation Mission”

2012 Mayor Lisa Wong: “Urban Conservation as a Redevelopment Strategy”

2013 Steve Archibald: “Not a storyteller? Perhaps it's time to reconsider!”



Sea Grant

Rhode Island

“Science Serving Rhode Island’s Coasts”

Is delighted to serve the Rhode Island Land & Water Partnership

Tenth Annual Land and Water Conservation Summit

Rhode Island Sea Grant supports the improved understanding and management of coastal and marine ecosystems through research, outreach, education, and legal programs.

Located at the University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island Sea Grant is part of the National Sea Grant College Program.

Find out more at seagrant.gso.uri.edu

Land & Water Conservation Awards

Peter Merritt Award for Land Conservation

Awarded by RI Land Trust Council

The Peter Merritt Award for Land Conservation is given to recognize a volunteer who demonstrates outstanding dedication to land conservation in their community.

The Award honors the late Peter Merritt (1943 - 2000), a founding and dedicated Board member and 2nd president of the Aquidneck Land Trust. Peter worked ceaselessly to establish a vision for land conservation on Aquidneck Island and to marshal the Island's citizens, municipalities and financial resources toward implementing that vision. He was an eloquent, articulate spokesperson for the need—and the immediacy of the need—for sustainable land conservation on the Island. Peter advocated for open space preservation tirelessly. Wherever he was, his enthusiasm and persuasive arguments were a catalyst for action that changed our landscape forever. Peter is described as one part visionary, one part organizer, and one part trench negotiator. Yet, Peter was always the first to give credit and praise to others for the land trust's accomplishments that he so often led.

We celebrate Peter's spirit and enthusiasm with this Award in his honor. This award recognizes dedicated "in the trenches" individuals who are making an outstanding contribution to land contribution in their Rhode Island communities.

Past recipients are: Heather Steers (Sakonnet Preservation Association, 2012), Bob Marshall (Prudence Conservancy, 2011), Julie Sharpe (Narrow River Land Trust and other land trusts, 2010), Linda Steere (Narrow River Land Trust, 2009), Karen Saucier (Cumberland Land Trust, 2008), Larry Anderson (Sakonnet Preservation Association, 2007), Charlotte Sornborger (Barrington Land Conservation Trust, 2006), Harvey Perry (The Westerly Land Trust, 2005), Bob Kimarx (Barrington Land Conservation Trust, 2004), Kate Smith (West Bay Land Trust, 2003) and Bob Hawksley (Glocester Land Trust, 2002).

Blueways Stewardship Award

Awarded by the Rhode Island Blueways Alliance

The mission of the Rhode Island Blueways Alliance is to develop a water trail network linking Rhode Island's rivers, lakes and ponds to Narragansett Bay and to use the trail to promote safety, conservation, recreation and economic development. The Blueways Stewardship Award was created in 2010 to recognize an individual who exemplifies dedication to the stewardship and conservation of Rhode Island's rivers, lakes and coastal waters. The Blueways Stewardship Award is given to an individual who has the respect of their peers and who has notable accomplishments in watershed management in any of the following areas:

- water quality monitoring and protection,
- development of trails on water,
- promoting land use that protects waterways,
- working to make connections between watershed conservation and their community.

Past recipients are: Paul Earnshaw (Buckeye Brook Coalition, 2012), Eugenia Marks (Audubon Society of RI, 2011), Frank Matta (Blackstone River Watershed Council/Friends of the Blackstone, 2010).

It doesn't end here... Keep learning after the conference!

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- A digital library with articles, collections and *Saving Land* magazine.
- Forums where our conservation experts answer your questions daily and you can contribute your ideas.

www.lta.org/publications

Expand your library with the Alliance's *Standards and Practices Curriculum* – available in book or downloadable formats.

www.lta.org/rally

Rally 2013: The National Land Conservation Conference
Sept. 17–19, New Orleans, Louisiana

A unique opportunity where 2,000 conservation leaders gather to teach, learn and inspire each other.

* The Learning Center is a service offered to Alliance member land trusts, partners and individual members at the \$250 level and above.



RHODE ISLAND LAND TRUST COUNCIL



Background: The Rhode Island Land Trust Council—established in 1999—is a coalition of the state’s land trusts—community based organizations formed to protect land that preserves the open spaces, natural areas, working farms, forests, watersheds, drinking water supplies, and scenic and historic landscapes that define the character of our state. Collectively, **land trusts are preserving our heritage—the special places in our communities—as a legacy for future generations.**

Rhode Island’s land trusts are grass roots organizations that reflect the uniqueness and priorities of our communities. Only 7 Rhode Island land trusts have staff—the others are volunteer organizations. Dozens of people across the state volunteer 100s of hours to protect and manage our communities’ most valued open space lands.

The RI Land Trust Council is governed by a Board elected at the annual Business Meeting held during the Land & Water Conservation Summit. Board members represent the geographic and organizational diversity of land trusts around the state.

Mission: Foster a sustainable land conservation movement in Rhode Island by supporting the missions and operations of land trusts and providing a forum for their effective cooperation.

Strategy: The Council strives to:

- promote state policies and initiatives that support land trusts and land conservation;
- foster collaboration and the exchange of ideas, information and technical expertise; and
- increase land trusts’ capacity to preserve land and steward the land that they are protecting.

Support: The Council’s work is made possible by many of hours of volunteer time and expertise contributed by Council board members and land trust leaders from across the state. The Council’s work is funded by generous contributions from land trusts (our members), foundations, individuals and other organizations.

This support makes our work possible!

- Audubon Society of Rhode Island
- Conservation Stewardship Collaborative Endowment @ The RI Foundation
- Hazard Family Foundation
- Land Trusts (Dues contributing members listed on page 20)
- Prince Charitable Trusts
- Prospect Hill Foundation
- The Rhode Island Foundation
- Rhode Island Land Trust Council Board Members
- Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management – Trail Grant
- Sharpe Family Foundation/ Julie & Henry Sharpe III
- van Beuren Charitable Foundation
- Woodcock Charitable Foundation

Thank You to these foundations and organizations for supporting the Council this year!

For additional information on how you can support the RI Land Trust Council’s efforts:

Contact: Rupert Friday 401-932-4667 or by email at: rfriday@RILandtrusts.org

Visit our Website: WWW.RILandTrusts.org

The Coastal Institute at The University of Rhode Island



A neutral setting where knowledge is advanced, issues discussed, information synthesized, and solutions developed for the sustainable use and management of coastal ecosystems.

Catalyzing ~ Leveraging ~ Supporting

Working in partnership with agencies, NGOs, elected officials, researchers, and the public to promote healthy wetlands, rivers, estuaries and oceans. We are proud to be a sponsor of the 9th Annual Land & Water Conservation Summit.



NARRAGANSETT BAY ESTUARY PROGRAM



Who We Are: The mission of the Narragansett Bay Estuary Program to protect and restore Narragansett Bay’s ecosystem by developing action-oriented partnerships, providing technical assistance to stakeholders, and providing sound science to inform management and policy decisions. NBEP is one of 28 National Estuary Programs established by the Clean Water Act, with oversight by EPA. The program is managed collaboratively by a 14-member Management Committee comprised of watershed stakeholders from both Rhode Island and Massachusetts, including federal and state agencies as well as non-governmental partners. NBEP’s geographic focus is the Narragansett Bay Region, which includes the Bay itself as well as its 2000-square-mile watershed in Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts.

Current Priorities: NBEP focuses its work in areas where its funding and expertise can leverage significant results for the Bay ecosystem. Current program initiatives include:

Estuarine Science for Management: NBEP developed and continues to lead the most comprehensive boat-based program for monitoring dissolved oxygen in Narragansett Bay, closely coordinated with other federal, state and university-based monitoring and research programs, such as the Bay Window and NOAA’s coastal hypoxia modeling efforts. We’re engaged in an innovative program to monitor macroalgae (seaweed) in order to better assess the effectiveness of state and federal investments in wastewater treatment. With federal, state and non-governmental partners, we’re developing ecological indicators for Narragansett Bay, and played a key role in organizing and managing recent “rapid assessment surveys” of invasive species in the Bay.

Ecosystem Restoration: Since our first attempts to plant eelgrass in the Bay in 1995, NBEP has been a regional leader in habitat restoration. With the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, R.I. Dept. of Environmental Management and other partners, we developed the largest wetland restoration project ever completed on Narragansett Bay—the 40-acre Town Pond project in Portsmouth, R.I. NBEP led the removal of the obsolete Pawtuxet Falls Dam in Warwick and Cranston, R.I., which will help restore Narragansett Bay’s commercial and recreational fisheries, while reducing damaging property flooding along the lower Pawtuxet River. We’ve been a leading advocate for urban environmental restoration, and are now working with the City of Providence to restore water quality in the ponds of Roger Williams Park. In Somerset, Mass., we recently completed a salt marsh restoration in partnership with Mass. Division of Ecological Restoration.

Community-Based Stewardship: NBEP co-hosts the R.I. Land and Water Summit, the state’s leading forum for grassroots environmental action, and developed several statewide projects to provide watershed councils and other small environmental organizations with administrative tools and support. NBEP provides volunteer and financial management support to grassroots organizations. Through participation in the R.I. Blueways Alliance, we are developing a water trail network that links recreational users and conservationists throughout the Narragansett Bay Region. NBEP is a member of the Coalition for Water Security working for sustainable water use and of the Coalition for Transportation Choices which promotes safe and sustainable transportation practices.

Information for Ecosystem-Based Management: NBEP organized a collaborative effort to develop “Our Shared Future,” an interstate plan for the Narragansett Bay ecosystem which integrates stakeholder goals with agency priorities. “Our Shared Future” builds on “Currents of Change,” the most comprehensive report to date on status and trends of the Bay ecosystem, which NBEP completed in 2009. NBEP publishes the electronic Narragansett Bay Journal, reaching thousands of readers with this leading publication devoted to the Bay ecosystem.

To learn more about the NBEP, visit www.nbep.org or call 401.874.6233



The **Narragansett Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (NBNERR) Coastal Training Program (CTP)** serves coastal decision-makers within the Narragansett Bay watershed. Trainings provide science-based information and skills needed to address critical, local resource management issues. Municipal staff and volunteers, designers and developers, landscape architects, engineers, attorneys, and non-profit organizations such as watershed councils and land trusts all benefit from the trainings.

Coastal Training Programs focus on issues such as:

- *Conservation Development*
- *Conservation Easements & Open Space Mngt*
- *Conservation Design/Greenspace Mapping*
- *Low Impact Design*
- *Riparian buffer restoration*
- *Groundwater supply*
- *Invasive Species (www.rimeis.org)*

The Coastal Training Program enhances coordination, collaboration and communication among other trainers and educators in the Narragansett Bay watershed.



Programs are delivered as seminars, hands-on skill training, participatory workshops and lectures. **Participants share experiences and network in a multidisciplinary setting.**

Partnerships are key to the success of the CTP in implementing quality trainings and products. **Grow Smart RI** recently helped create an online community calendar. Land use and water-resources related workshops, conferences, and other events around RI and in nearby MA and CT are listed here:  www.communityconnectionri.org

For more information contact:

Jennifer West, CTP Coordinator
 PO Box 151, Prudence Island, RI 02872

www.nbwctp.org

Email: jennifer@nbnerr.org

NBRR Phone: (401)-683-6780, ext. 6;

DEM Phone: (401) 222-4700, ext. 7413



**Audubon Society
 of Rhode Island**

Rhode Island Association Of Conservation Commissions



The Rhode Island Association of Conservation Commissions (RIACC) is a non-profit, grassroots organization devoted to fostering cooperation and coordination of municipal conservation commissions on a regional and statewide basis. Realizing that conservation commissions often work in earnest but in isolation from each other, RIACC was developed to fill an important niche in Rhode Island's conservation community by creating an avenue whereby the state's municipal conservation leaders can come together to address common concerns, develop best management practices, and speak with one voice to collectively address the environmental issues which impact every community.

Since its inception, RIACC has been representing these commissions while working with kindred organizations and public agencies to address a host of environmental issues that directly affect our local communities and clearly reflect our global situation. The association functions as a catalyst to state and local lawmakers enacting stronger conservation legislation (e.g., the 2004 Environmental Advocacy Act GLRI Chapter 45-51). RIACC works to educate, empower, and network Rhode Island's conservation commissions in their mission to advise and act locally in building sustainable communities through developing environmentally sound land, water, and resource policies, and encouraging eco-inspired innovation in technology and development generally.

For further information, mail: RIACC, P.O. Box 9221, Providence, RI, 02940; or contact Dan Novak at 401- 397-4586 or at dnovak@etal.uri.edu.



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Join the the RI Blueways Alliance,
RI Land Trust Council, for a paddle
or guided walk.

Paddle 2013
June - July

A series of paddle trips organized
by watershed group.
www.exploreRI.org



Land Trust Days
August - Spetember

A calendar of trail walks and other
activities organized by land trusts.
www.rilandtrusts.org



Keynote Speaker

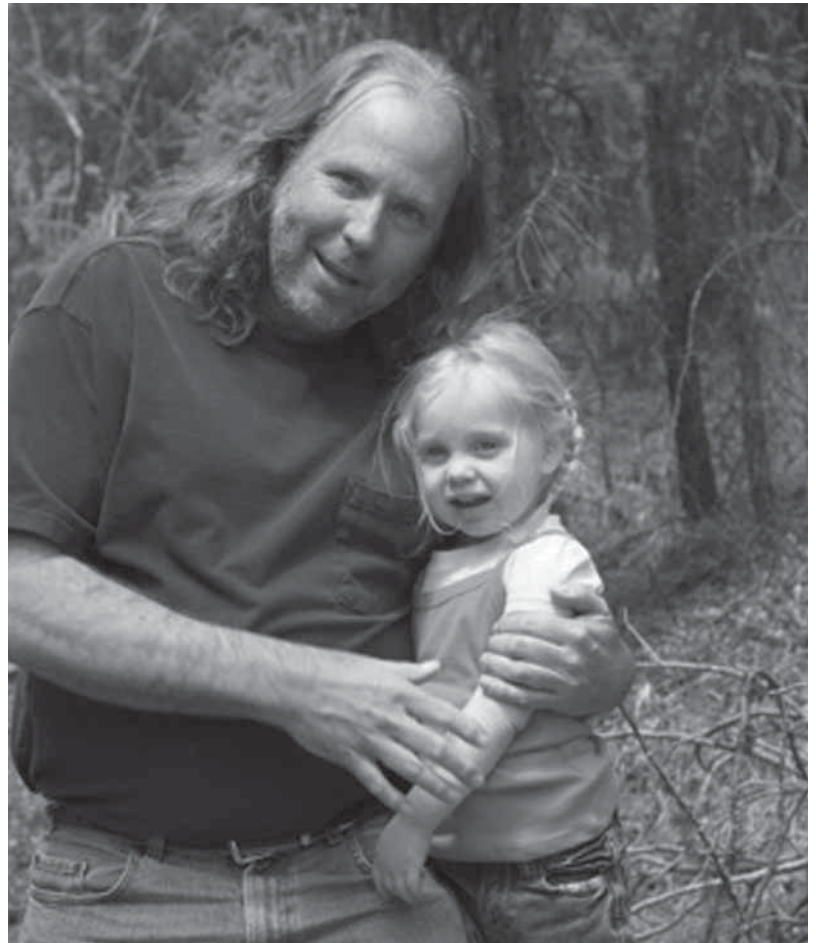
Not a Storyteller?

Perhaps it's time to Reconsider!

Steve Archibald *Education & Outreach Specialist*
Interagency Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center

The ancient practice of storytelling is a fantastic way to engage your community with land and water conservation and your organization. Steve Archibald, Education and Outreach Specialist from the Interagency Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center, will explore the benefits and purposes of using the ancient method of storytelling, in our modern world, to improve public awareness of land and water conservation, your organization (land trusts, watershed organization, conservation commission) and the work that you do. Steve will practice what he preaches sharing examples, experiences, and ideas that will inspire you and motivate you to discover ways to share your land and water conservation stories.

Steve Archibald has been a classroom teacher, place-based outdoor educator, and workshop facilitator for over twenty-five years. He has taught a wide range of grades in a variety of locations. While on the faculty of Teton Science School in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, Steve wrote the Journeys place-based education guide. Steve currently works as Education and Outreach Specialist for the Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center where he facilitates teacher workshops based on their Wilderness Investigations Toolkit and facilitating other education and outreach efforts. Past clients of Steve's educational consulting business have included the University of Montana, Utah State University, Apple, 21st Century Fox, and work in support of authors like Jean Craighead George, T.A Barron, and Ken Thomasma.



Program

7:45 – 8:30 Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 9:30 Welcome — Ballroom

Emcee: Judith Swift, URI Coastal Institute

Keynote – Steve Archibald – Education & Outreach Specialist

Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center

Not a storyteller? Perhaps it's time to reconsider!

(See page 15 for details)

9:30 – 10:20 Organizations' Meetings/Roundtable — Networking — Visit Exhibits

9:30 – 9:50 Business Meetings:

—RI Land Trust Council Business Meeting — Atrium I

—RI Association of Conservation Commission Statewide Roundtable

(RIACC Roundtable continues to 11:30 in Workshop Session 1-I)

10:20 – 11:30 Session I Workshops

—Your choice from 10 offered – Descriptions on pages 21 & 23

11:30 – 11:45 Break — Networking – Visit Exhibits – See page 1 for listings

11:45 – 12:55 Session II Workshops

—Your choice from 10 offered – Descriptions on pages 25 & 27

12:55 – 2:30 Lunch, Special Guest & Awards

—**Bill Harley: Grammy Award Winning Singer-Songwriter, Author, Monologist**

(See page 19 for details)

— **Peter Merritt Award & Blueways Stewardship Award**

(See page 7 for details)

2:45 – 4:00 Session III Workshops

—Your choice from 10 offered – Descriptions on pages 29 & 31



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Workshops at a Glance

Session 1 (10:20 - 11:30am)		Session 2 (11:45 - 12:55pm)		Session 3 (2:45 - 4:00pm)	
A	Paying for Stormwater Solutions: Understanding Stormwater Utility Districts	Do We Have Enough Water? Estimating Water Availability in R.I. and Using the Info to Guide Community Development	Opportunities in Green Infrastructure		
B	Reflecting on Rhode Island's Water Quality: What We've Found and What's Ahead	Using the Annual Watershed Check-up to Support Water Quality Protection and Improvement	Waterfowl Management: Which Goes First, the Egg or the Goose?		
C	What Lies Ahead: How Climate Change May Impact Your Health	The Future of Rhode Island's Coast: Adapting to Climate Change	Why and How to Advance "Complete Streets" in Your Community		
D	How Your (small) Organization Can Hold Fresh, Creative Events	Better Communication by Design, Plus Getting the Most From Free Marketing Tools	Storytelling 101 for Land Trusts, Watershed Organizations & Conservation Commissions		
E	Back to Basics: A Fundraising Pick-Me-Up for Small Organizations	Involve Your Board Members in Fund Development... and Raise More Money!	Think Social, Act Local: Applying Social Media to Your Community Group		
F	Monitoring and Effective Enforcement of Conservation Easements	Developing Management Plans for Conservation Lands	Stewarding Our Protected Lands: More Tools to Meet More Challenges		
G	Innovative Approaches to Protecting Farmland	Signs & Trail Markers for Protected Lands: R.I. Guidelines on Best Practices & Sources	Creating & Managing Early Succession Habitats for New England Cottontail and Other Wildlife		
H	Vandalism: Planning for Prevention and Managing It When You Must	Managing Risks on Land Trust Trails and Properties	The Case For Conservation Defense Insurance		
I	RIACC Statewide Roundtable (continued)	Affordable Housing: How Does It Fit Into Your Community?	10 Things Your Conservation Commission Can Do!		
J	Enhancing the Edibility of Conserved Landscapes with Native Species	Champion Tree Hunting: Do You Know Where They Are?	Water Protection Falling Through the Cracks: How & Why Town, State & Federal Efforts Fail to Protect Our Rivers		

The Narragansett Bay Watershed is...

Home to 2 million people in 100 cities and towns. It is 1,707 square miles in Rhode Island and Massachusetts. There are 2,800 miles of rivers, 44,000 acres of lakes and 122,880 acres of estuary/bay.

Our daily decisions—from how we get to work, to where we live, to how we vote—affect Narragansett Bay's ecosystem in myriad ways.

The Narragansett Bay Estuary Program works in partnership with state and federal agencies, businesses and local organizations to...



Understand and explain water quality and water use



Promote access and use of natural resources



Restore our natural ecosystems



**NARRAGANSETT BAY
ESTUARY PROGRAM**

To learn more about our program visit www.nbep.org

Going Greener - Help us “green the Summit!”

Everyone is at the Summit to talk about conservation — “talking the talk.” And with your help, the Land & Water Conservation Summit is also “walking the walk”— putting green practices in place for this annual event.

What We’re Doing:

- We are giving a **reusable ceramic mug** to everyone who attends the Summit **instead of providing bottled water and disposable coffee cups**. We have washed each mug so you can use it for water and coffee during the summit and reduce the volume of waste we produce.
- We are partnering with EcoRI who is coordinating the **composting of our waste from lunch**. EcoRI is assisted by our partners at Ronzio’s who have purchased compostable plates and utensils.
- We are partnering with People’s Power & Light to **offset carbon emissions** from the Summit **with renewable energy**. The electricity for this event has been provided by local, clean wind power. People’s Power & Light provides financial support to secure contracts for wind projects. (Contact People’s Power & Light at 401-861-6111 for more information).
- We are reducing the amount of paper used at the Summit by **encouraging on-line registration** and by eliminating the folders previously distributed to each participant.
- This year, we also asked Ronzio’s to purchase local fruit and to use locally grown greens in the salad for lunch.

Special Lunch Performance!

Bill Harley

Grammy Award Winning Singer-Songwriter,
Author and Monologist

“Harley delivers an uninhibited performance with wry sense of humor and a love of life we can all share...” Los Angeles Times

Genuine. Irreverent. Universal. Ridiculous. Original. Bill Harley is a two-time Grammy winning singer-songwriter, author and monologist. He is considered by fans and peers alike to be one of the best storytellers in the country for his celebrations of commonality and humanity through narrative songs and confessional spoken works. A regular commentator on National Public Radio’s (NPR) All Things Considered, Harley’s performances feature his trademark blend of song and story, wit and wisdom. Bill is sure to sing his unofficial state anthem “The Size of the State of Rhode Island.” Bill’s current work includes a musing on wilderness and nature, “Running Away from Wolves” and an ode to Bats in song and story.



The image shows the Aquidneck Land Trust logo, which consists of a stylized 'A' with a mountain peak inside, followed by the words 'Aquidneck Land Trust' in a serif font. To the right of the logo is the tagline 'Together, Saving the Island We Love' in a smaller, italicized serif font. The background is a black and white photograph of a coastal landscape with a grassy foreground, a rocky shoreline, and a body of water in the distance under a clear sky.

Aquidneck Land Trust

Together, Saving the Island We Love

Thank You!

These Land Trusts are Supporting the RI Land Trust Council This Year with a Dues-Contribution (2012-2013 fiscal year)

- Aquidneck Land Trust
- Audubon Society of RI
- Barrington Land Conservation Trust
- Block Island Conservancy
- Block Island Land Trust
- Bristol Land Conservation Trust
- Burrillville Land Trust
- Charlestown Land Trust
- Conanicut Land Trust
- Cumberland Land Trust
- East Greenwich Land Trust
- East Providence Land Conservation Trust
- Foster Land Trust
- Gloucester Land Trust
- Hopkinton Land Trust
- Land Conservancy of North Kingstown
- Little Compton Ag. Conservancy Trust
- Narragansett Land Trust
- Narrow River Land Trust
- Neutaconkanut Hill Conservancy
- North Smithfield Land Trust
- Prudence Conservancy
- Rhode Island Farm Bureau
- Richmond Rural Land Trust
- Sakonnet Preservation Association
- Smithfield Land Trust
- South Kingstown Land Trust
- Southside Community Land Trust
- The Nature Conservancy
- Tiverton Land Trust
- Tiverton Open Space Commission
- Watch Hill Conservancy
- Weekapaug Foundation for Conservation
- West Greenwich Land Trust
- Westerly Land Trust

Workshops Session I (10:20 - 11:30)

1-A. Paying for Stormwater Solutions: Understanding Stormwater Utility Districts

Elizabeth Scott – R.I. Department of Environmental Management (Elizabeth.Scott@dem.ri.gov)

Sheila Dormody – City of Providence (Sdormody@providenceri.com)

Tom O’Loughlin – Town of Middletown (toloughlin@middletownri.com)

Stormwater problems affect us all -- storms flood streets and homes, and sweep pollution into rivers, lakes and coastal waters, impacting the economic vitality and the quality of life in the Ocean State. But fixing stormwater problems is a complicated and expensive process. This session will focus on Stormwater Utility Districts explaining what they are, and how they work and can be used to address stormwater problems. The session will also describe efforts underway by several RI municipalities to explore adoption of a stormwater utility including the Town of Middletown and City of Providence - providing local examples of their potential usefulness.

1-B. Reflecting on Rhode Island’s Water Quality—What We’ve Found & What’s Ahead

Linda Green – URI Watershed Watch (LGreen@uri.edu)

Elizabeth Herron – URI Watershed Watch (emh@uri.edu)

URI Watershed Watch (URIWW) works with local organizations and communities to assess water quality and provide information for more effective management of critical local water resources. With the completion of its 25th monitoring season, URIWW has robust information for over 250 monitoring sites on lakes, ponds, reservoirs, rivers, streams, salt ponds and harbors throughout the state. This provides us with a unique opportunity to reflect upon current conditions, trends and emerging concerns for Rhode Island’s waters. This workshop will start with a brief overview of the URI Watershed Watch program itself, which combines field monitoring by trained volunteers with analyses in our state certified laboratory. The “what” and the “why” of monitoring results will be the main focus of this workshop. We will close with discussion of some emerging concerns, in particular cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) blooms and the proliferation of non-native species.

1-C. What Lies Ahead—How Climate Change May Impact Your Health

Bob Vanderslice – HEALTH (Robert.Vanderslice@health.ri.gov)

Rhode Island is a small coastal state facing seemingly daunting challenges from storms, sea level rise and increasing air and water temperatures. The potential health impacts of climate change such as heat stress, asthma and exposure to mold and the critical health and safety issues during floods and storms are often missing from the public debate. This session will review potential health impacts and describe an on-going project to reduce the health consequences of climate change and variability by developing public health adaptation strategies targeted at key vulnerable populations.

1-D. How Your (small) Organization Can Hold Fresh, Creative Events

Helen Tjader - RI Land Trust Council - Land Trust Days & Barrington Land Cons. Trust

Jane Baumann - RI Land Trust Council - Land Trust Days & S. Kingstown Land Trust

Roy Najecki - Glocester Land Trust (roy@najecki.com)

Now is the prime time to plan summer and fall season of activities for your group - especially everyone planning 2013 Land Trust Days activities. Learn about some of the most successful partnerships, activities and marketing by land trusts in the first Land Trust Days. Learn how to host innovative and unusual events that you can pull off with a few volunteers and a tiny budget. Find new ways to partner with other organizations in your community and spread the word about your upcoming events. And get ready for Land Trust Days 2013!

1- E. Back to Basics: A Fundraising Pick-Me-Up for Small Organizations


Gayle L. Gifford, ACFRE – Cause & Effect, Inc. (gayle@ceffect.com)

Jon Howard – Cause & Effect, Inc. (jon@ceffect.com)

If you are trying to manage fundraising in a small organization, it’s likely you’ve asked yourself these questions: How am I doing? What’s the best use of my time? How can I raise more money with the resources I’ve got? Where do I find new donors? How do I grow our membership? Where can I turn for help? This information-packed workshop will give you practical tools and tips that you can put to work right away.

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Workshops Session I *(continued)*

1-F. Monitoring & Effective Enforcement of Conservation Easements

Sophia DeMaio – Aquidneck Land Trust (SDeMaio@ailt.org)

Clark Collins – South Kingstown Land Trust (clark.collins@sklt.org)

Heather Steers – Sakonnet Preservation Association (heathersteers@gmail.com)

Sound stewardship of conservation easements requires regular monitoring to enforce the easement and safeguard the conservation values it protects. This workshop will discuss: What are the best practices for monitoring an easement and how can a small land trust address violations? What if the violations are by a 3rd party—not the landowner of the property being protected? What are some proactive steps land trusts can take to prevent violations and build a good rapport with property owners where you have an easement?

1-G. Creative Strategies for Protecting Farmland

Jennifer Dubois – The Trustees of Reservations (jdubois@ttor.org)

Farms are a multifaceted resource. They protect open space, feed communities and enhance local economies. Yet, farmland is converted to other uses at an alarming rate. Learn about various farmland protection strategies and creative tools for land trusts to promote agriculture, including beginner farmer access to land and lease agreements on land trust land.

1-H. Vandalism—Planning for Prevention and Managing It When You Must

Lisa Aurecchia – Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council (lisa@woonasquatucket.org)

Amanda Blevins – Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council (ablevins@wrwc.org)

Creating beautiful public amenities always comes with the risk of vandalism. Like most other things, working to prevent vandalism is much easier than dealing with its results. In this interactive workshop, the Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council will give you the benefit of our 10+ years of experience in controlling and countering vandalism while building 52 acres of public amenities in urban Providence. We will also help you figure out how to send the right messages on your projects that prevent or keep vandalism at bay. Surprisingly, little, fun ideas can work better than costly, elaborate ones.

1-I. RI Association of Conservation Commissions Statewide Roundtable & Annual Business Meeting *(continued from Board meeting)*

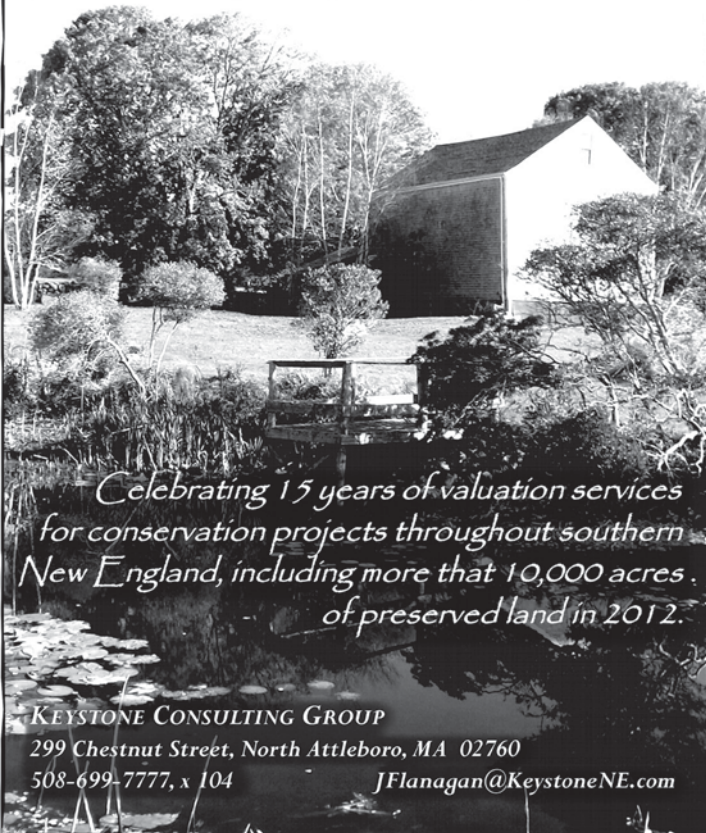
Replicating last year's format, this session will begin with presentations by three conservation commissions highlighting examples of successful local initiatives. Our facilitator for the morning will be Dr. Kathy Swann, educator, former Director of Leadership Rhode Island and head of Concerned Citizens for Big River, who will lead an important discussion of issues basic to commission work such as recruiting new members, achieving adequate budget levels and other concerns identified by commission chairs in a recent RIACC survey. Be sure and bring your own tough local issues to share. Someone from one of our 30 plus Rhode Island CC's may already have the solution and there will certainly be a variety of good recommendations. This roundtable has become an effective way for commissioners to share and learn from each other and provide grassroots direction to each other and to RIACC's statewide role. The Roundtable session will conclude with a brief Annual Business Meeting—year end reports and nomination and election of officers.

1-J. Enhancing the Edibility of Conserved Landscapes with Native Species

Russ Cohen – Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration - Riverways Program (russ.cohen@state.ma.us)

While there is increasing awareness of the value of native plant species for supporting biodiversity and providing food for wildlife, many native species are edible by people too. Edible wild plants offer opportunities for people to connect to nature via their taste buds, thereby building their enthusiasm and support for land conservation. Adding native edible plants to a landscape can boost biodiversity as well as “spice up” (literally as well as figuratively) the experience of visitors (i.e., we can have our acorn cake and eat it too). Learn about four dozen of the tastiest native species the region has to offer, some of which may already be growing on your conserved lands, and, if not, you may want to add them after hearing this talk.

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Workshop Session II (11:45 - 12:55)

2-A. Do We Have Enough Water? Estimating Water Availability in Rhode Island and Using this Information to Guide Community Development

Ken Burke – R.I. Water Resources Board (ken.burke@wrb.ri.gov)

Jonathan Reiner – Town of North Kingstown (JReiner@northkingstown.org)

Municipalities need to understand how much water is available to them for current and future development. The RI Water Resources Board's 2012 Strategic Plan includes initial estimates of available water and identifies potential shortfalls, particularly in southern Rhode Island where communities rely on groundwater supplies. This session will review on-going work to refine these water availability estimates and discuss how the current and future estimates are used to guide planning decisions in one Rhode Island town.

2-B. Using the Annual Watershed Check-up to Support Water Quality Protection and Improvement

Katie DeGoosh – R.I. Department of Environmental Management (katie.degoosh@dem.ri.gov)

Q Kellogg – University of Rhode Island Coastal Institute (q@edc.uri.edu)

Like an annual check-up with the doctor to identify abnormal conditions and prescribe treatments, regular water quality monitoring is important for tracking the health of a watershed, identifying protection and restoration needs. Each year the R.I. DEM Office of Water Resources monitors water quality throughout Rhode Island and Watershed Counts uses environmental indicators that depend on monitoring data to report on watershed conditions. Learn what type of information is collected and reported, and discover how to access the results to find out more about the health of your local watershed. Understand how your organization can use these findings to prioritize, garner support, or initiate conservation, restoration, and outreach efforts to strengthen local environmental conditions.

2-C. The Future of Rhode Island's Coast: Adapting to Climate Change

Janet Freedman – CRMC (j_freedman@crmc.state.ri.us)

Angelo Simeoni – URI (aes@uri.edu)

Kenneth J. Filarski – Architect and Planner (kjflarski@yahoo.com)

Kathie Florsheim – Photographer (kflorshoe@yahoo.com)

Super Storm Sandy hit Rhode Island's south coast hard. But it wasn't even a hurricane! What lies ahead for coastal communities and for Rhode Island's treasured beaches? This session will review the impacts of Sandy and review predictions for what lies ahead. Using Roy Carpenter's Beach as a case study, speakers will review the impacts to the beach and the pro-active steps that managers, planners and local communities can take to prepare and adapt to sea level rise and major coastal storms.

2-D. Better Communication by Design, plus Getting the Most from Free Marketing Tools

Bruce Hooke – B.G.Hooke Consulting (bghooke@att.net)

Lesley Lambert – Narragansett Bay Estuary Program (lesley@nbep.org)

Ever wonder how to make your report, presentation, poster or e-mail blast look more professional and get your message across more clearly? Ever wonder what makes things designed by a graphic design professional look somehow different and stronger? This workshop provides tools for picking fonts and colors, and arranging things on the page to communicate your message effectively. We won't use any software beyond the basic Microsoft Office programs and some websites. We will cover some tips for solving common problems when trying to lay out Microsoft Word documents like how to keep pictures from jumping to a new page. We'll also look at some free email marketing software to reach your members and community.

2-E. Involve Your Board Members in Fund Development... And Raise More Money!

Simone Joyaux, ACFRE – Joyaux Associates (spjoyaux@aol.com)

Yes, you can successfully involve your board members in fund development. Board members can help your organization reach the Holy Grail of fundraising, donor loyalty. This isn't easy – but it's not as hard as you might think. Learn proven strategies and use them for success.

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Date: April 19-21, 2013

**Location: Whispering Pines Conference Center
URI W. Alton Jones Campus, West Greenwich, RI**

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Paul Boisvert at: 401-397-9421 or paulboisvert@verizon.net
or visit our website at www.rircd.org

RI RC&D Area Council Inc. 2283 Hartford Avenue, Johnston, RI 02919, (401) 500-0399

Workshop Session II (continued)

2-F. Developing Management Plans for Conservation Lands

Linda Steere – Applied Bio-Systems, Inc. (wetlands@absinc.necoxmail.com)

Carol Lynn Trocki – Conservation Biologist (cltrocki@verizon.net)

During this workshop we will explore the process of developing Management Plans to implement your organization's goals and vision for stewardship of land that you are protecting. We'll discuss some of the challenging questions and thorny issues that may arise. We will share examples from our work with the Conservation Stewardship Collaborative implementing Baseline Documentation and Management Planning protocols with land trusts around the State. Time will be available for questions and informational resources will be shared.

2-G. Signs & Trail Markers for Protected Lands: Rhode Island Guidelines on Best Practices & Sources

Eric Scherer – Southern RI Conservation District (j.eric.scherer@gmail.com)

Clark Collins – Southern RI Conservation District & South Kingstown Land Trust (clark.collins@sklt.org)

Providing clear and understandable signage is critical for proper and safe public use of protected lands. This workshop will present signage guidelines and recommendations for conservation properties. What are the best practices for putting signs on property boundaries, at trailheads and along trails? Information will be presented on materials, colors, sizes, printing techniques, inks and ink color, standard content and interchangeable content, as well as attention to life-cycle of signs. These guidelines were developed for the RI Conservation Stewardship Collaborative.

2-H. Managing Risks on Land Trust Trails and Properties

Brian T. Ahern – Rhode Interlocal Risk Management Trust (bahern@ritrust.com)

G. Gregory Tooker – Risk Probe, Inc.

Managing Risks Associated with multi-use trails can create numerous challenges. This workshop will discuss inspections and maintenance programs that should be established to reduce risk associated with public trail use. The workshop will include information from Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Trails Guidelines and Best Practices Manual.

2-I. Affordable Housing—How Does It Fit Into Your Community

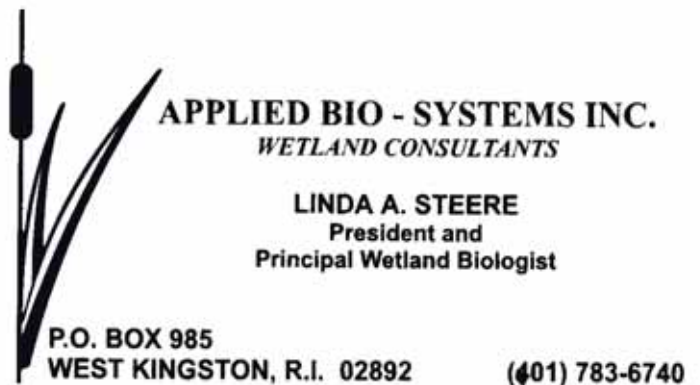
Nellie Gorbea – Housing Works RI (nmgorbea@HousingWorksRI.org)

The passage of the 2012 Affordable Housing bond issue indicates Rhode Islanders' support for providing homes to our State's lower-income citizens. How can communities take advantage of the new funding opportunity to meet their obligations under the Rhode Island Low and Moderate Income Housing Act while building sustainable, well-located, and efficient residences? Join us to hear about complementary partnerships and strategies that can encourage the integration of affordable in your municipality.

2-J. Champion Tree Hunting—Do You Know Where They Are?

John T. Campanini, Jr – RI Tree Council (jtc516@cox.net)

Is there a special tree in your city? In your neighborhood? In your yard? The RI Tree Council needs your help to build the RI Champion Tree Database. They are looking to document trees considered culturally, historically, or biologically notable in our Biggest Little. And if you take long walks in the woods, you could also help track down killer beetles! Volunteer your sharp-eyed observations to monitor potential Emerald Ash Borer and Asian Longhorned Beetle infestations in our groves and thickets. Please join us to hear about the Tree Council's other programs and activities and to check out the 2012 statewide tree survey.



Rhode Island Conservation Stewardship Collaborative

Is proud to be a Sponsor of the 2013 Land and Water Summit!

Working to advance the long-term protection and stewardship of terrestrial, aquatic, coastal, estuarine, and marine areas in Rhode Island that have been conserved by fee, easement, or other means.

Workshops at the Summit go a long ways toward helping Rhode Island's grass roots conservation organizations improve the stewardship of our protected land and waters.

Learn more about the Conservation Stewardship Collaborative by **attending Summit Workshop 3F "Stewarding Our Protected Lands: More Tools to Meet more Challenges"** or visit our website.

CSC funded projects have two other Summit workshops:

- **"Developing Management Plans for Conservation Lands"** (Summit Workshop 2F) and
- **"Signs & Trial Markers for Protected Lands: RI Guidelines on Best Practices and Sources"** (Summit Workshop 2G).

Are you trying to find information about stewardship?

Visit our **online Stewardship Library** on the Land & Water Partnership website: www.landandwaterpartnership.org/library.php

www.ricsc.org



Workshop Session III (2:45 - 4:00)

3-A. Opportunities in Green Infrastructure

Jim Riordan – Fuss & O’Neill (JRiordan@fando.com)

Green Infrastructure techniques can be used to provide water quality improvement, flow management, aesthetic, environmentally sustainable, and budget-conscious improvements to developed and developing landscapes. In general, green infrastructure refers to a comprehensive design and engineering approach that focuses on mimicking predevelopment hydrology as a way to manage water quality and flows associated with urban runoff. We will discuss emerging techniques for identifying sources of pollutants, use of green stormwater technologies, and funding approaches for implementation. We will also present theories behind green infrastructure in context of case studies.

3-B. Waterfowl Management—Which Goes First, the Egg or the Goose?

Jessica Blackledge – Eastern R.I. Conservation District (info@easternriconservation.org)

James Bender – USDA, APHIS, Wildlife Services (James.L.Bender@aphis.usda.gov)

Timothy Cozine – USDA, APHIS, Wildlife Services (Timothy.S.Cozine@aphis.usda.gov)

Water quality in our lakes, ponds and coastal waters is significantly degraded by waterfowl, particularly resident Canada Geese. Managing these unwanted guests is challenging, but does not have to be overly burdensome. The Conservation Districts throughout Rhode Island can help you deal with the problem where it starts-with the eggs, while the USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Wildlife Services program can help remove the source-the adult resident geese. Both groups have worked to manage Canada geese at Roger Williams Park with promising success. This workshop will provide you with the resources to manage waterfowl on your property.

3-C. Why and How to Advance “Complete Streets” in Your Community

John Flaherty - Grow Smart Rhode Island (jflaherty@growsmartri.com)

Eugenia Marks - Audubon Society of Rhode Island (emarks@asri.org)

Complete Streets are streets designed to accommodate all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, the disabled, transit riders, youth, seniors and yes, the motorist too. Attend this session to learn about the elements and benefits of complete streets and why nine Rhode Island municipalities have recently adopted complete streets resolutions. Then learn how to identify upcoming road projects in your community and how you might influence a more “complete streets” design to advance a healthier, safer, and more prosperous community.

3-D. Storytelling 101 for Land Trusts, Watershed Organizations & Conservation Commissions

Steve Archibald – Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center (srarchibald@fs.fed.us)

It’s one thing to want to share your conservation organization’s stories and another to be moved to action. This workshop will help participants explore the stories they would like to tell, discover the method(s) best suited for sharing their stories, and develop an organizational Storytelling Action Plan.

3-E. Think Social, Act Local: Applying Social Media to Your Community Group

Claire Wheeler - New England Grass Roots Environment Fund (claire@grassrootsfund.org)

Bart Westdijk - New England Grass Roots Environment Fund (bart@grassrootsfund.org)

We all know what social media is these days, and we keep hearing that we should be doing it. Social media offers a lot of new ways of working for a local group, but learning how to use social media requires time and a bit of a learning curve. This workshop will familiarize you with different social tools and offer ideas and best practices on how to use them for local community efforts. If you’re new to social media, this workshop is for you. You will learn about using social media strategies designed for and by local, grassroots efforts that span the skills from telling compelling stories and reaching new audiences to friendraising and fundraising.

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Workshop Session III *(continued)*

3-F. Stewarding Our Protected Lands: More Tools to Meet More Challenges

Larry Taft – Audubon Society of R.I. (ltaft@asri.org)

Pete August – University of R.I. (pete@edc.uri.edu)

David Gregg – R.I. Natural History Survey (dgregg@rinhs.org)

This workshop will present the results of important work by the RI Conservation Stewardship Collaborative (CSC) in 2012 that should greatly assist local land trusts in meeting the on-going stewardship challenges. We'll present more examples of effective baseline documentation reports that should accompany every protected property. We will also present our research on effective signage of protected lands, progress on invasive species control efforts, digitized land trust trail mapping, state policy initiatives as well as other projects accomplished in 2012. We'll introduce exciting new CSC stewardship projects for 2013 and seek input for future initiatives.

3-G. Creating & Managing Early Succession Habitats for New England Cottontail & Other Wildlife

Gary Casabona – Natural Resource Conservation Service (Gary.Casabona@ri.usda.gov)

Suzanne Paton – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Suzanne_Paton@fws.gov)

Brian Tefft – R.I. Department of Environmental Management (brian.tefft@dem.ri.gov)

This workshop will focus on best management practices that have been developed for creation of early succession habitat from field or forest designed to benefit New England cottontail, migratory birds, native pollinators, and other species. The speakers will discuss what management can be done, and where, along with sharing examples of how this management looks. The federal and state programs that offer financial and technical support to landowners who are interested in creating and maintaining habitat for wildlife will be explained.

3-H. The Case for Conservation Defense Insurance

Rob Cardeiro – Land Trust Alliance (rcardeiro@lta.org)

Conservation defense insurance insures against the legal costs of defending conservation properties. The Land Trust Alliance created a conservation defense insurance entity, Terrafirma as part of its national strategy to build a formidable defense in ensuring conservation permanence. Terrafirma is the flagship resource to permanently protect conserved lands, and it marks the first time that a conservation group has created a captive insurance service.

3-I. 10 Things Your Conservation Commission Can Do!

Dan Novak – RI Association of Conservation Commissions (dnovak@etal.uri.edu)

This workshop is especially good for new commissioners and for commissioners who have been serving their communities for a number of years. A comprehensive understanding of the Rhode Island State Law (chapter 203 of the Public Laws, 1960) can give your commission the boost it needs to accomplish meaningful projects and to work harmoniously with other municipal boards. Furthermore, commissions that have the proper logistics or tools to carry out state and local mandate(s)—which are expressed through good and legally defensible advisory opinions—empower commissions to accomplish amazing projects. Come share your experiences or learn how to play a part in a meaningful way on your commission. This workshop will provide tangible skills to the attendants and will also provide helpful tips on recruitment and freshmen orientation in order to build and maintain strong local commissions.

3-J. Water Protection falling through the Cracks: How and why town, state, and federal efforts fail to protect our rivers

Dr. Caroly Shumway – Merrimack River Watershed Council (cshumway@merrimack.org)

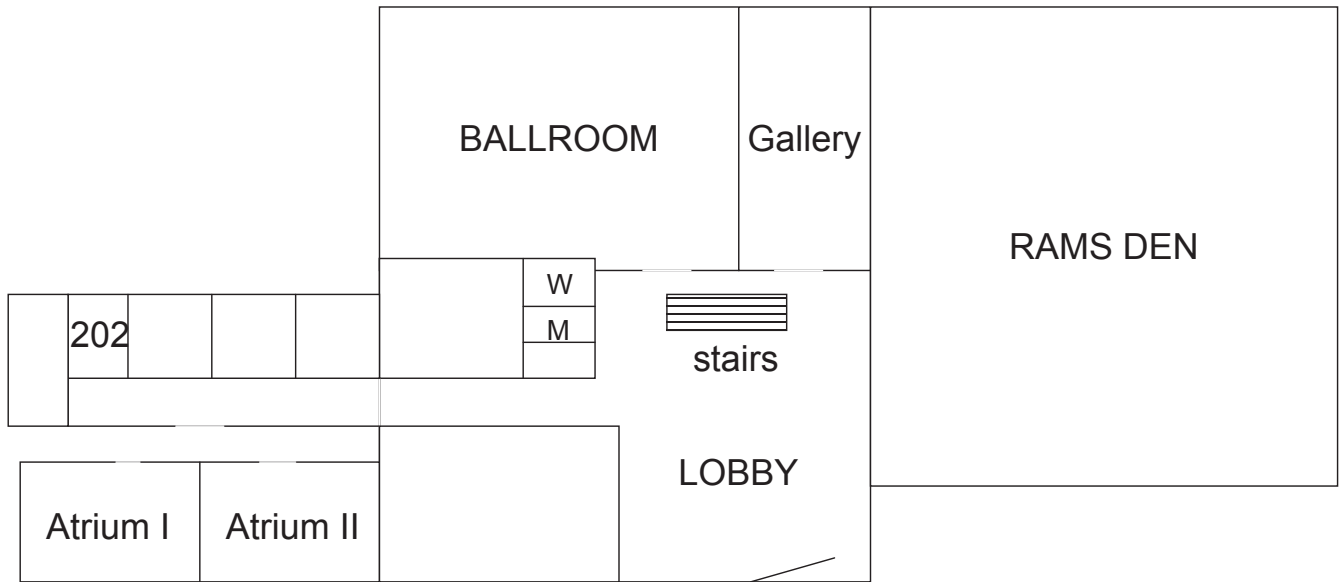
This country made tremendous progress cleaning up our rivers with the advent of the Clean Water Act. Why are we failing now? Dr. Shumway will provide specific examples of how the laws designed to protect our rivers and drinking water fail at the different regulatory levels, and discuss what to do about it.

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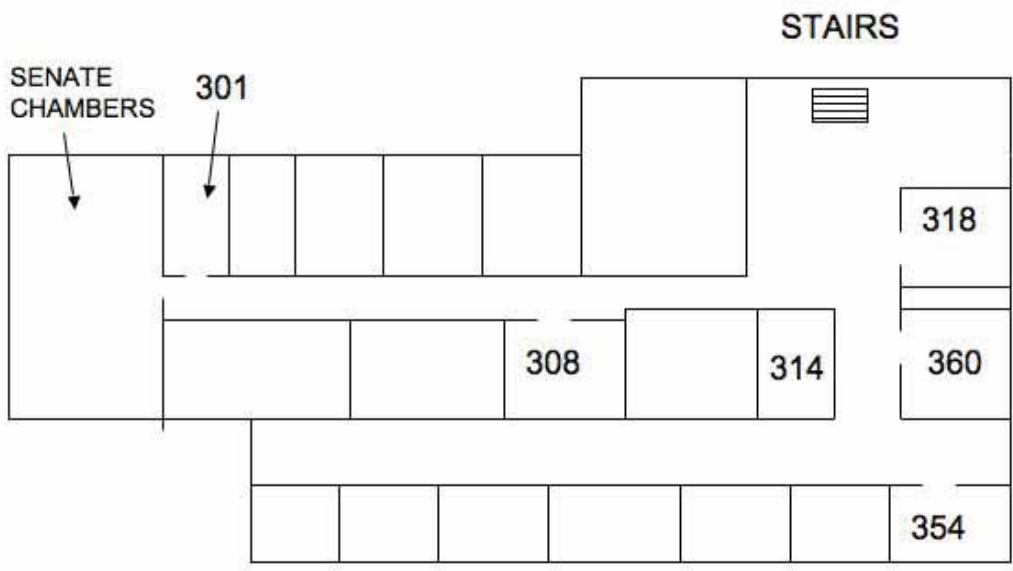
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