

TWELFTH ANNUAL

LAND & WATER CONSERVATION SUMMIT

Working together to protect our communities

Saturday, March 14, 2015 — URI Memorial Union, Kingston Campus

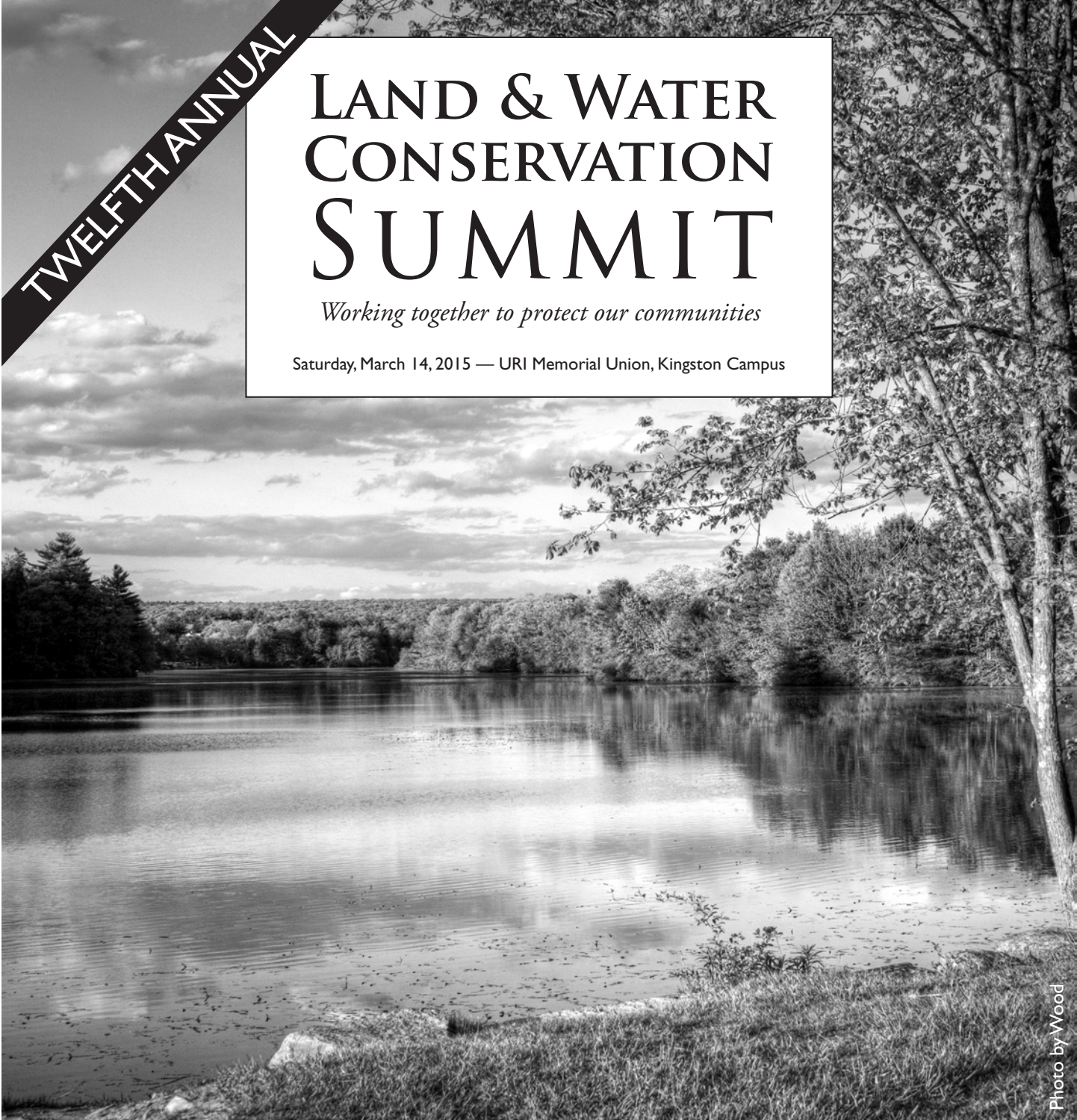


Photo by Wood

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COORDINATION TEAM



Land Trust Alliance
Together, conserving the places you love

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The Coastal Institute at The University of Rhode Island



Catalyzing

~

Leveraging

~

Supporting



CI Senior Fellows: Eco-Machine Living Lab, Blackstone Canal, MA; Napatree Point Coastal Resilience, RI.
Photo Credit: Ayla Fox.

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

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 Annual Land & Water Conservation Summit.

Where the land and water meet.
<http://web.uri.edu/coastalinstitute/>

Thank You to these Sponsors of the 2015 Land & Water Conservation Summit!

Conservationists (\$2,500 and above)

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COORDINATION TEAM

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Newport Restaurant Group

Rhode Island Sea Grant

Rhode Island Wild Plant Society

Save the Bay

Southern Rhode Island Conservation District

The Nature Conservancy

University of Rhode Island – Cooperative Extension Water Quality Program

Thank you for protecting Rhode Island's land and water.

We're proud to support innovative partnerships like the **Conservation Stewardship Collaborative**, projects like the **Shoreline Special Area Management Plan** and the coalitions that are tackling critical issues like **storm water management and public transit issues**.



RHODE ISLAND
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rifoundation.org

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Blackstone Heritage Corridor, Inc.

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Rhode Island Land and Water Partnership

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 Meg Kerr and Rupert Friday in collaboration with many partners from leading conservation organizations.

The RI Land & Water Partnership recognizes that each community based conservation organization is unique, comprised of local advocates who understand the issues in their community and cultivate local support for their conservation work.

The Partnership also recognizes that grassroots conservation organizations have much in common - each organization faces similar land and water conservation issues and has similar governance, public relations and other administrative activities.

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. The Summit's purpose is to help 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 contains 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 us your feedback:
Rupert Friday — rfriday@rilandtrusts.org
Meg Kerr — megkerr@cox.net

www.landandwaterpartnership.org

RHODE ISLAND
LAND AND WATER PARTNERSHIP
Working together to protect our communities

www.ricsc.org

Conservation Stewardship Collaborative

is proud to be a Sponsor of the 2015 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 way toward helping Rhode Island's grassroots conservation organizations improve the stewardship of our protected land and waters.

Learn more about the Conservation Stewardship Collaborative by attending
Summit Workshop 3G:
Stewarding Our Protected Lands: Information and Resources to Help Practitioners
or visit us at www.ricsc.org.

Are you looking for information about stewardship?

Visit our online Stewardship Library on the Land & Water Partnership website:

www.landandwaterpartnership.org/library.php



Providing Ecosystem Science and Information.



The Land & Water Conservation Summit

Twelve years and counting....

The annual *Land & Water Conservation Summit* is the Land & Water Partnership's flagship event. The Summit has been held yearly 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 held 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 set up displays 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 was 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.

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 and 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!*
- 2014 **Alvaro Sanchez Sanchez**—*Building Strong Green Economies Using Land & Water Conservation Strategies*
- 2015 **Peter Forbes**—*Innovation & Evolution in Conservation*



**Keeping Your Farms and Woods Healthy
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**Do you own or manage farmland or
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**Funding is available to eligible
applicants to protect, restore, or enhance
your land!**

**The Natural Resources Conservation Service
(NRCS) provides conservation planning and
financial and technical assistance for:**

- ✓ Farm and/or Forest Management Plans
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- ✓ Pollinator habitat
- ✓ Manure management
- ✓ Farm energy audits
- ✓ Preventing soil erosion
- ✓ Enhancing woodlands
- ✓ Improving pasture land
- ✓ Improving water quality
- ✓ Protecting and enhancing wildlife habitats
- ✓ And more!

Take your first step: To learn more on our
programs, visit the NRCS Web site at:

www.ri.nrcs.usda.gov

**Simply e-mail, call, or visit our office to find out
which programs best fit your conservation
needs.**

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60 Quaker Lane, Suite 46

Warwick, RI 02886

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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—a dedicated “in the trenches” individual—who is making an outstanding contribution to land conservation in their Rhode Island community.

The Award honors the late Peter Merritt (1943–2000), a founding and dedicated Board member and second 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. 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.

Past recipients are: Garry Plunkett (Tiverton Land Trust, 2014), Sophie Lewis (South Kingstown Land Trust, 2013), 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: Judy Colaluca (Save The Lakes, 2014), Caroline Wells (Town of Warren, 2013), Paul Earnshaw (Buckeye Brook Coalition, 2012), Eugenia Marks (Audubon Society of RI, 2011), Frank Matta (Blackstone River Watershed Council/Friends of the Blackstone, 2010).



Your success is our goal.



Loans Partnership Strategy

THE
CONSERVATION FUND

Learn more at:
conservationfund.org

Going Greener

Help us “green” the Summit!

Everyone is at the Land & Water Conservation Summit to talk about conservation — “talking the talk.”

With your help, the Summit is also “walking the walk” — with green practices for this annual event.

What we’re doing:

- We are giving a **reusable travel mug made from recycled plastic** to everyone who attends the Summit **instead of providing bottled water and disposable coffee cups**. We have washed these mugs so you can use yours for water and coffee during the Summit. This reduces 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 are using 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 matched by local, clean wind power.
- 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.
- We asked Ronzio’s to support local farms by purchasing local fruit and using locally grown greens in the salad for lunch.



Thank You!

These Land Trusts are Supporting the RI Land Trust Council This Year with a Dues-Contribution

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
Cumberland Land Trust
East Greenwich Land Trust
Foster Land Trust
Glocester Land Trust
Hopkinton Land Trust
Land Conservancy of North Kingstown
Little Compton Ag. Conservancy Trust
Mount Tom Land Trust
North Smithfield Land Trust

Narrow River Land Trust
Neutaconkanut Hill Conservancy
Prudence Conservancy
RI Farm Bureau Land Trust
Richmond Rural Preservation Land Trust
Sakonnet Preservation Association
Scituate Land Trust
Smithfield Land Trust
South Kingstown Land Trust
Southside Community Land Trust
Tiverton Land Trust
Tiverton Open Space Commission
Watch Hill Conservancy
Weekapaug Foundation for Conservation
West Bay Land Trust
West Greenwich Land Trust
The Westerly Land Trust

2015 Rhode Island Flood Mitigation Annual Conference *"Learning from the Past, Living in the Present, and Preparing for the Future"*



www.riflood.org

Join professionals in floodplain management and hazard mitigation for this annual gathering.

**Save the Date
April 9, 2015**

Amica Conference Center
Lincoln, Rhode Island

****APA and CFM Credits Pending****

SPECIAL OFFER

The first **10** Land and Water Conservation Summit attendees to complete a poll on the RIFMA website will receive a discount on their choice of an upcoming RIFMA event.



WWW.RILANDTRUSTS.ORG

MISSION: The Rhode Island Land Trust Council promotes land conservation in Rhode Island by supporting the missions and operations of land trusts in the state, fostering collaboration and advocating for sound policy.

The Rhode Island Land Trust Council is a coalition of the state’s land trusts — community-based organizations formed to protect the special places and land...the open spaces...that define the character of our state. Collectively, land trusts are preserving the places we love to ensure our heritage is a legacy for future generations.

Rhode Island’s land trusts are grass roots organizations that reflect the uniqueness and priorities of our communities. Only seven Rhode Island land trusts have staff, the others are entirely volunteer organizations. Hundreds of passionate Rhode Islanders who care about the future of our state volunteer thousands of hours protecting and stewarding our communities’ most valued open space lands.

The RI Land Trust Council—

- Advocates for state legislation to support land conservation and land trusts
- Fosters collaboration and the exchange of ideas among land trusts
- Helps land trusts improve their ability to protect land and steward land

Key Initiatives—

Land & Water Conservation Summit and periodic **workshops** (organized with partners) are the best opportunities in Rhode Island to learn the latest information and “how to” best practices for protecting and stewarding land.

Land Trust Days increase the visibility of land trusts and the special places we are protecting. In August and September, join land trusts around the state for guided walks and other activities: www.LandTrustDays.org.

Land Trust Trails on ExploreRI.org - find a trail and take a walk on protected lands - download trail maps (ExploreRI is a partnership with RI Blueways Alliance).

SWAT Stewardship Teams are skilled volunteers helping land trusts to map and to blaze their trails, and to prepare baseline documents for their protected lands. Contact the Council to join a stewardship team or to get help with these stewardship tasks.

Thanks to Our Supporters—

The Council’s work is made possible by generous funding from land trusts (our members), foundations, individuals, our board members, and other organizations. This support makes our work possible! The Council's major supporters in 2014 included:

- | | |
|--|--|
| Land Trusts (Dues-contributing members, page 12) | Prince Charitable Trusts |
| RI Land Trust Council Board Members | RI Dept. of Environmental Management Trial Grant |
| Anonymous contribution | The Rhode Island Foundation |
| Aquidneck Land Trust | Sharpe Family Foundation/Julie & Henry Sharpe, III |
| Conservation Stewardship Collaborative | van Beuren Charitable Foundation |
| Endowment @ The RI Foundation | Ken Woodcock |
| Hazard Family Foundation | Worldways Social Marketing |

Thank You!

**For information on how you can support the RI Land Trust Council’s efforts, contact
Rupert Friday 401-932-4667 rfriday@RILandtrusts.org
Visit our website at: www.rilandtrusts.org**

SAVE THE BAY®

NARRAGANSETT BAY

Proudly supporting
the 2015 Rhode Island
Land & Water Conservation Summit



Protect and improve Narragansett Bay. That's our mission. The Bay has come a long way since 1970, but there's still work to be done. Save The Bay envisions a fully swimmable, fishable and healthy Narragansett Bay, accessible to all and globally recognized as the natural treasure it is.

savebay.org

MORE THAN 40 YEARS OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISM

In the 1970s:

- Helped win passage of the federal Clean Water Act & the Safe Drinking Water Act.

1980s:

- Helped to stop the Cross Bay pipeline project from Providence to Bristol that would have fueled development and threatened natural watersheds.
- Pioneered the use of a professional canvass organization to elect pro-environment candidates and build support for legislative issues.

1990s:

- Successfully lobbied for statewide incinerator ban in RI and a 70% waste reduction goal.
- Won reauthorization of the Safe Drinking Water Act with new provisions protecting source water and increasing consumer access to information about their tap water.

In the 2000s:

- Coordinated water, health and consumer groups to win a federal standard for arsenic allowed in our drinking water.
- Helped pass a RI law mandating recycling of automobile switches, containing mercury and legislation requiring clean air filter on diesel buses, trucks and construction equipment.

Since 2010:

- Helped lead the fight against hydraulic fracking in key states like Pennsylvania, California and Texas.
- Passed Producer Responsibility laws for recycling of paint and mattresses in Rhode Island. Funded a pilot program to recycle fluorescent lighting containing mercury.

Rhode Island Priorities for 2015:

- Developing strategies for sustainability and waste reduction at events and commercial venues
- Safe recycling of mercury-containing CFL bulbs funded through Producer Responsibility
- Building community resilience to climate impacts and promoting green infrastructure for stormwater management and climate resilience in urban communities



 **CLEAN WATER ACTION | CLEAN WATER FUND**

1444 Eye Street NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20005 | Tel. 202.895.0420 | www.cleanwateraction.org
741 Westminster Street, Providence, RI 02903 | Tel. 401.331.6972



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

Coastal Training Programs focus on topics such as:

- *Low Impact Development*
- *Conservation Development*
- *Conservation easements & open space management*
- *climate change adaptation*
- *environmental communication*
- *marine 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 range from informational seminars to participatory workshops to hands-on skills training.

Program participants benefit from networking opportunities and information exchange across disciplines and develop new collaborative relationships around key issues.



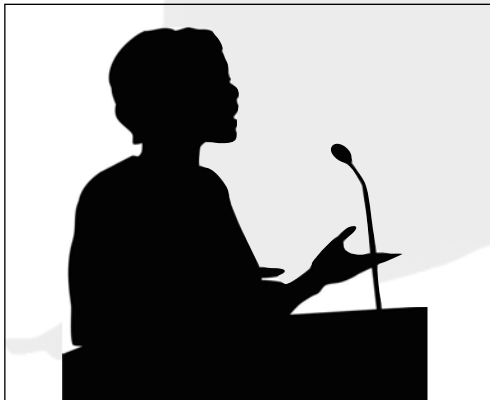
For more information contact:

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

Email: jennifer@nbnerr.org
Phone: (401) 222-4700, ext. 7413



www.nbwctp.org



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 statewide and regional basis.

Realizing that conservation commissions often work in earnest but in isolation, **RIACC** was developed to fill an important niche in Rhode Island's conservation community by creating a means for the state's municipal conservation leaders to join to address common concerns, develop best management practices and collectively address the environmental issues which impact every community.

RIACC functions as a catalyst, actively and on-site, spurring state and local lawmakers to enact stronger conservation legislation or to reject legislation that would weaken current conservation laws.

Since its inception, **RIACC** has been representing municipal commissions while working with kindred organizations and public agencies to address a host of environmental issues that directly affect the state's communities and clearly reflect our global situation.

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.

Our **quarterly regional public forums** bring our collective voice to those who want to make Rhode Island a better place to live. The skills learned advance the importance of Conservation Commissions. If you have an idea for a topic, come and pitch it at one of our monthly meetings.

We need your input and guidance to show how we can make our Conservation Commissions better and more productive. Join us at our monthly board meetings, become an active board member and help make all the commissions stronger. **Check out our website** for board meetings time and location, regional public forums and ways to improve your skills for what you do in your town.

More information & events calendar
www.riacc-online.org

RIACC
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Harvey.t.buford@gmail.com

University of Rhode Island Cooperative Extension Water Quality Program



Our award-winning programs work throughout the state, region, & nation to implement effective solutions for water resource protection.

New England Onsite Wastewater Training Program - A demonstration and field training center for conventional and alternative septic system technologies.

RI Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials (NEMO) - Supporting local decision makers in the management of land use impacts on natural resources.

URI Home*A*Syst - Working with residents to make informed decisions to reduce pollution risks around the home.

URI Watershed Watch - A scientist-led volunteer water quality monitoring program.

We're proud to support the Twelfth Annual Land and Water Conservation Summit

Providing research-based education & training programs



www.uri.edu/ce/wq

Keynote: Innovation and Evolution in Conservation

Peter Forbes



How do we help to make conservation last 100 years, 500 years, 1,000 years? The biggest challenge for conservation today is how to innovate to bring fresh perspectives and new tools that make relationship to place more relevant and rewarding for more people so that our great efforts at conservation last forever.

Peter Forbes discusses how conservationists everywhere are stepping up to more fully meet their communities, playing a richer role in helping neighbors to re-connect to land and waters through how they live, work, eat and play.

Peter: I am a life-long student and advocate for the relationship between people and place. I've worked with many different people in very different geography from remote Nepal to the Rocky Mountains to central Harlem, New York. My life as emergency medical technician, photographer, author, father, farmer, and facilitator combine unusual aspects of the practical and the visionary to produce work that has been helpful to a variety of sectors: conservation, leadership development, sustainability, philanthropy, ethics, and social ventures.

For twenty years, I've been creating curricula and leading learning experiences designed to help people transform their lives and work to better fit their values and to build professional relationships across divides of class, race, profession and ideology. From 2003 – 2011, I co-created a specific curriculum called Whole Thinking, which combined reflective practices, working with difference, story, dialogue, and visioning, and became the highly successful lead program of the organization I co-founded, Center for Whole Communities. We then provided that experience, tuition-free, to more than more than 1,500 citizen and career leaders from 50 states, Mexico and Canada.

This curriculum helped to make Center for Whole Communities a nationally respected leadership development organization that focuses on strengthening the capacities of the worlds of social justice and environmentalism. At a time when social justice and environmental leaders are often separated from one another, I have collaborated to create the places, the opportunities, and the curricula to bridge those divides.

For fifteen years beginning in the mid-1980s, I worked in conservation for the Trust for Public Land. I eventually became New England regional director, then a vice-president, then their first fellow, given the time and space to align mission and action, and then finally the inaugural

recipient of their Land and People Award, all based upon my work in over 100 conservation projects that helped communities connect to place. During that time, it became more clear to me how the health of the land was dependent on the health of the people.

In the 1990s, I was among the first to bring together and create dialogue between rural, lower-income, blue collar logging community and the urban, white collar wilderness advocacy community in the northeast. In 2005, I worked with the Kellogg Foundation to convene farm and restaurant workers and labor rights activists with policy experts and food security advocates. In 2007, I worked with environmental advocates in the Chesapeake Bay to create greater understanding and relationship between policy experts and the crabbing community. In 2009, I conceived of and launched a new program, 2042 Today, that calls upon the conservation community to recognize the emerging population of color in our country and creates space for young conservationists, both whites and people of color, to re-imagine conservation and how best to be in relationship in order to realise that future. In 2010, I was brought to Flint Michigan to develop a unique program using story and personal narrative to help former General Motors assembly line workers to imagine and create a new city.

As farmer and longtime conservationist, I have particular strength and credibility with leaders working on land issues ranging from food systems to conservation to climate change to water. My work is transformative when applied to situations where the most connected and the most affected need to work together or when groups who are separated by power and privilege can be aligned through values and shared story.

2015
RHODE ISLAND
LAND & WATER
CONSERVATION
SUMMIT

Agenda

7:45 – 8:30 Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 9:30 Welcome – Emcee: Judith Swift, *URI Coastal Institute*
Keynote – Innovation & Evolution in Conservation

Peter Forbes – Author, Photographer, Farmer,
Co-Founder Center for Whole Communities

9:30 – 10:20 Organizations' Business Meetings – Networking – Visit Exhibits

9:30 – 9:50 RI Land Trust Council Business Meeting – Atrium I

RI Association of Conservation Commission Business Meeting – Atrium II B, C

10:20 – 11:30 Session I Workshops – your choice from 9 offered

11:30 – 11:45 Break

11:45 – 12:55 Session II Workshops – your choice from 9 offered

12:55 – 2:30 Lunch and Awards

Governor Gina Raimondo — Greetings

Briefing on General Assembly Environmental Issues

Senator Susan Sosnowski, Chair – RI Senate Environment & Agriculture Committee

Representative Art Handy, Chair – RI House Environment & Natural Resources Committee

Peter Merritt Award for Land Conservation

Blueways Stewardship Award

2:45 – 4:00 Session III Workshops – your choice from 9 offered

Workshops at a Glance

	Session 1 10:20 – 11:30 am Descriptions — page 23–25	Session 2 11:45 am – 12:55 pm Descriptions — page 27–31	Session 3 2:45 – 4:00 pm Descriptions — page 31–35
A	Two Easy Steps to Better Board Meetings QUINN - ROOM 104	Re-imagining Conservation as Building Community ROOM 360	Re-imagining Conservation as Building Community ROOM 360
B	Volunteer Fish Monitoring: It's Shockingly Good! ROOM 301	Managing Competing Demands on Water Resources: Balancing Water Supply and Stream Flow ROOM 301	Improving Water Quality Throughout Rhode Island by Phasing Out Cesspools QUINN – ROOM 103
C	Renewable Energy: Decoding the Current Programs and Understanding Future Strategies SENATE CHAMBERS	Resilient RI – Engaging Local Government in Mitigation and Resilience QUINN – ROOM 104	Green Infrastructure: Strategies for De-paving & Greening Our Communities ATRIUM I
D	Adventures on the High(er) Seas: Tools and Case Studies for Coastal Climate Change Resilience ROOM 318	Rhode Island's Salt Marshes – Strategies for Adapting to Climate Change ATRIUM II A	What's the Plan? Managing RI Solid Waste for the Next 25 Years ATRIUM II A
E	And Now Hear This! How You Can Make a Difference in Your Town ATRIUM II B, C	Statewide Setback Standards for Wetlands and Onsite Waste Treatment Systems: Taskforce Report and Legislation ATRIUM I	Creating a Strong Collaboration Between RIDEM and Conservation Commissions: Streamlining the Flow of Information SENATE CHAMBERS
F	The New Way of Doing Business: A Guided Tour of the 2014 Updated Rhode Island Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook ROOM 308	How Secure is Your Town's Open Space Land? Strategies to Make Sure They Are Protected QUINN - ROOM 103	Preserving Cultural and Tribal Identity: Diagnostic Toolkits and Preservation Strategies ATRIUM II B, C
G	Monitoring Your Land Trust's Protected Properties ATRIUM I	Talking to Landowners About Protecting Their Property ROOM 308	Stewarding Our Protected Lands: Information and Resources to Help Practitioners ROOM 308
H	Grazing Protected Lands to Manage Invasives and Grasslands and Support Local Agriculture QUINN - ROOM 103	Forest Gardening and Growing Edibles on Conserved Woodlands ROOM 318	Building and Maintaining Trails in Areas with Wetlands ROOM 318
I	Managing Community Expectations and Perceptions to Protect Your Organization's Reputation ROOM 360	Mastering, Managing and Measuring Social Media: Strategies for Amplifying Grassroots Action ATRIUM II B, C	RI Wildlife Action Plan and You: Land Conservation and Management Decision-making Tools QUINN – ROOM 104

FOOD. ONE OF THE FUNDAMENTAL JOYS.

Newport Restaurant Group and our collection of unique offerings is proud to foster a culture of sustainability. From being a noteworthy local supporter of Rhode Island's farmers and purveyors to championing various open space initiatives like the Aquidneck Island Land Trust, we believe that a thoughtful and responsible approach only enriches a genuine culinary experience.



Workshops – Session I 10:20 – 11:30 *choose from 9*

1-A Two Easy Steps to Better Board Meetings

John Monroe - National Park Service Rivers and Trails Program (john_monroe@nps.gov)

Do you wish your organization had more productive and efficient meetings? In this interactive session, you will learn how to implement the first two steps: a list of "leave with" items to begin the meeting and a pair of questions to conclude. Simple, yet powerful. You'll learn and practice so you can try them at your next board (or any) meeting.

1-B Volunteer Fish Monitoring – It's Shockingly Good!

Alicia Lehrer - Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council (alehrer@wrwc.org)

Denise Poyer - Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association (denisep@wpwa.org)

We protect water quality so fish and wildlife can thrive. But is there a way to get even more familiar with the life in our rivers and streams? Are even our urban, industrialized rivers full of life? How can we find out? Over the past 2 years, the Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council and the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association have developed and tested a fish community monitoring program for volunteers. This session will show you how to get in the water with the backpack electroshocker, collect and identify fish, and share the information with your stakeholders!

1-C Renewable Energy: Decoding the Current Programs and Understanding Future Strategies

Jerry Elmer - Conservation Law Foundation (jelmer@clf.org)

Expanding renewable energy is critical to Rhode Island's climate mitigation strategies. But to many of us, the programs are mysterious and opaque. Distributed generation, net metering, renewable energy fund, PACE, EERMC...what does it all mean? This workshop will decode the secret language of renewable energy and highlight priorities for moving the program forward in 2015.

1-D Adventures on the High(er) Seas: Tools and Case Studies for Coastal Climate Change Resilience

Janet Freedman - Coastal Resources Management Council (jfreedman@crmc.ri.gov)

Wenley Ferguson - Save the Bay (wferguson@savebay.org)

Caitlin Chaffee - Coastal Resources Management Council (cchaffee@crmc.ri.gov)

There are an increasing number of tools available to communities and conservation organizations for identifying present and future hazards due to climate change. This session will give a brief introduction to a few of these tools (shoreline change maps, the sea level rise inundation viewer, and the SLAMM maps) and then highlight projects where the tools were helpful in the project selection and design. The projects in progress or completed by CRMC, Save the Bay and The Nature Conservancy include green or hybrid green/gray infrastructure for coastal adaptation to erosion hazards and sea level rise; thin layer deposition to increase elevation in rapidly changing salt marshes; and creation of a living shoreline in the Narrow River.

1-E And Now Hear This! How You Can Make a Difference in Your Town

David Flanders - South Kingstown Conservation Commission (aborman818@gmail.com)

John Marsland - Blackstone River Watershed Council (canoeman60@yahoo.com)

Kevin Cleary - Burrillville Conservation Commission (kcleary@smithfieldri.com)

We often hear about success stories on TV, radio or as headlines in the newspaper. But most of the time the details of how these success stories came about are never heard. Join leaders from two conservation commissions and a watershed group who will share their secrets, their successes and their failures. Projects ranging from a successful pilot project which involved planting containerized trees set back on private property, trail construction, and invasive species management to a program that adopts land from the RI DOT will be shared. This is your chance to learn from experts on how you can do the same in your organization and in your town.



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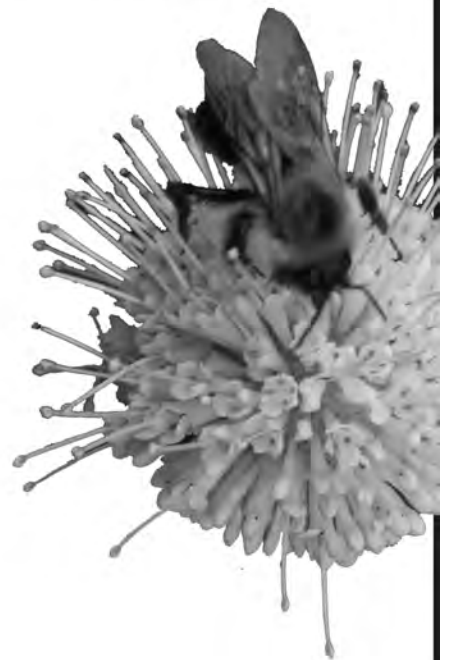
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Workshops – Session I 10:20 – 11:30 *continued*

1-F The New Way of Doing Business: A Guided Tour of the 2014 Updated Rhode Island Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook

J. Eric Scherer - Southern Rhode Island Conservation District (j.eric.scherer@gmail.com)

Brian Lafaille - RI Department of Environmental Management (brian.lafaille@dem.ri.gov)

Think all soils are the same? Not true. You will be introduced to the updated Rhode Island Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook and learn how it can be a useful 'tool' in your efforts to maintain and defend the natural environments you protect. Three years in the making, this Handbook contains 'state of the science' control measures and other tools for use by both practitioners and others who have responsibilities to protect soil and water quality in their towns. Learn how this guidance document was developed, how it fits into today's regulatory processes, and which soil erosion and sediment control measures have been newly added or updated.

1-G Monitoring Your Land Trust's Protected Properties

Carol Lynn Trocki – Consultant (ctrocki@gmail.com)

Once your organization has protected land with a conservation easement or by fee acquisition, annual monitoring is critical to ensure the long term protection of the property and its conservation values. This workshop will discuss best practices for annual monitoring along with basic steps that your organization can take to begin an annual monitoring program now even if you don't yet have all of your baseline information in place. We will discuss the monitoring guidance (handbook) developed for the RI Conservation Stewardship Collaborative, provide templates of monitoring forms, and share a variety of examples of how different land trusts have successfully tackled this important annual effort.

1-H Grazing Protected Lands to Manage Invasives & Grasslands and Support Local Agriculture

Geoff Beresford - Cattle Farmer (contact@beresfordoftiverton.com)

Garry Plunkett - Tiverton Land Trust (gplunkett@cox.net)

Protected pastures, hayfields, other grasslands are one of the most difficult stewardship challenges. These areas are susceptible to invasive plants especially if they are managed by late season mowing to protect ground nesting birds. Done properly, rotational grazing can be an effective tool against invasive species – without using herbicides. It also supports local agriculture, improves soil, and can help to return conservation land to a traditional, cultural use. This workshop will explain the hows, whys and results of rotational grazing as done at Tiverton Land Trust's Pardon Gray Preserve for two years.

1-I Managing Community Expectations & Perceptions to Protect Your Organization's Reputation

Chuck Allott - Aquidneck Land Trust (chuckallott@ailt.org)

Chip Young - CY Communications & ecoRI News (csyenv@gmail.com)

When your organization protects a property, residents in your community have differing perceptions and expectations about how the property is protected and what is permitted. Some community residents may not support land conservation. This workshop will discuss two land conservation projects on Aquidneck Island, community and landowner understandings about the properties that were protected, conflicts that arose about future use of those properties, and the impact these conflicts had on Aquidneck Land Trust's reputation. We'll discuss communication strategies to help establish realistic community expectations about the use of protected properties and to ensure that your organization is prepared to address conflicts when they arise.



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Workshops – Session II 11:45 – 12:55 *choose from 9*

2-A Re-imagining Conservation as Building Community (this workshop is repeated Session 3 A)

Peter Forbes - Keynote Speaker (peter@peterforbes.org)

During this interactive workshop, Peter and participants will answer important questions together: who are conservationists within their communities? How is conservation perceived? Who's in our circle and not, and why? What impacts our relationships now? What are you already doing that stretches your conservation group toward community conservation? What does this work ask of us as leaders? How might your organization's dominant story need to evolve to help you be more relevant and in service to more people?

2-B Managing the Competing Demands on Water Resources: Balancing Water Supply & Stream Flow

Ken Burke - RI Water Resources Board (ken.burke@wrb.ri.gov)

Alisa Richardson - RI Department of Environmental Management (alisa.richardson@dem.ri.gov)

Rhode Island's Department of Environmental Management (DEM) developed a streamflow depletion method (SDM) that promotes the continued existence, diversity and health of the state's native wildlife and plant species. The Rhode Island Water Resources Board used this data and years of water use and availability information to develop water availability estimates that consider municipal and water supply jurisdictions as a foundation for new management strategies. WRB is using water availability estimates to help regulate the proper development, protection, conservation and use of the water resources of the state. This session will describe how DEM created the SDM, and WRB's progress in policy and regulation development for the water resources of the state.

2-C Resilient RI – Engaging Local Government in Mitigation and Resilience

Tricia Jedelee - Conservation Law Foundation (tjedelee@clf.org)

Fred Presley - Town of West Warwick (fpresley@westwarwickri.org)

Teresa Crean - URI Coastal Resources Center (tcrean@crc.uri.edu)

In 2014, the Legislature passed the Resilient RI Act. The Act sets targets for greenhouse gas reduction and codifies the Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council (EC4) that Governor Chafee established by Executive Order. It is exciting to have state agencies working together on climate issues, but the realities of climate change – rising seas, intense rain storms, heat emergencies – affect local communities and require a response from local government. This session will review the Resilient RI Act, discuss what the law has put in place, and will then review climate issues from the local perspective of W. Warwick, Newport and N. Kingstown.

2-D Rhode Island's Salt Marshes – Strategies for Adapting to Climate Change

Wenley Ferguson - Save the Bay (wferguson@savebay.org)

Rhode Island's salt marshes provide the nursery and spawning habitats that support an \$81 million commercial fishery and \$208 million recreational fishery. More than half of the state's salt marsh habitat has been lost, and salt marshes are increasingly degraded by rising seas. Throughout the state, restoration scientists are partnering with local advocates to restore marshes and prepare them for more rapidly rising seas. This session will review the current condition of the state's marshes and then highlight promising strategies for marsh adaptation.



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- Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPP) Review
- Low-Impact Design: Rain Garden & Bio-Retention Basin Design & Installation
- Stream Assessments
- Public Outreach & Training



Contact SRICD the next time your organization needs to gain traction on lagging projects!

Workshops – Session II 11:45 – 12:55 *continued*

2-E Statewide Setback Standards for Wetlands and Onsite Waste Treatment Systems: Taskforce Report and Legislation

Nancy E. Letendre Esq. -Mason & Associates, Inc. (nancyletendreesq@gmail.com)

Lorraine Joubert - URI Cooperative Extension NEMO (ljoubert@uri.edu)

Learn how proposed legislation creating single statewide standards for wetland and onsite waste treatment systems (OWTS) buffers may affect wetlands protection in your community and what you can do to influence decision making. Under the Rhode Island Regulatory Reform Act (RI General Law 42-64.13-10), RIDEM was charged with drafting this legislation by January 31, 2015 to address recommendations of the Legislative Task Force (final report at <http://www.planning.ri.gov/>). We will review key findings of the Task Force and describe the legislative process to date. This is an informal session with ample time to discuss the potential implications of this bill and how you can get involved.

2-F How Secure is Your Town's Open Space Land? Strategies to Make Sure They Are Protected

Kimberly I. McCarthy, Esq. - Monastery Pres. Alliance & Partridge Snow & Hahn LLP (kim@psh.com)

David R. Westcott - Mason & Associates Inc. (dwestcott@mason-associates.com)

Paul A. Roselli - Burrillville Land Trust (proselli@cox.net)

Rhode Island is full of parks, hiking trails, recreation areas, ponds, river access, beaches and scenic vistas. These special places give Rhode Island its very own unique sense of place helping to build our economy and creating healthy environments for us and our children. But are those places protected from private development or from towns or cities who see these places as vacant and free land? Will they be there ten, twenty or thirty years from now? Community planners, land trust leaders, conservation commissions, concerned citizens, property holders all have a stake in making sure these places are protected with easements and protective covenants that will stand the test of time. This workshop will illustrate success stories and stories that weren't so successful and demonstrate how properly documented and recorded easements can be your best defense in preserving those areas that help maintain our state's identity.

2-G Talking to Landowners About Protecting Their Property

Reggie Hall - Conservation Fund (rhall@conservationfund.org)

This workshop will discuss the "how tos" of talking with landowners about protecting their land. Once your land trust has established your conservation priorities, how do you approach landowners that have properties that are important to your land trust's priority conservation goal(s)? How do you set up the first meeting/introduction, if you don't know the landowners? What do you discuss during the first meeting? Who should be there from your land trust? This workshop will discuss strategies along with realistic expectations and timeframes – sometimes it takes years of landowner cultivation before a property is protected.

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Workshops – Session II 11:45 – 12:55 *continued*

2-H Forest Gardening & Growing Edibles on Conserved Woodlands

Christopher Riely (moderator) – Providence Water & RI Land Trust Council (criely@provwater.com)

Chris English - Revive the Roots (chris@revivetheroots.org)

Julius Pasay - Yale School Forests (julius.pasay@yale.edu)

Land trusts and other mission-driven organizations protect woodlands that are not suitable for hay and row crops but provide a good opportunity for growing nuts, fruits, mushrooms, berries, and other crops. Tree and forest floor crops generally require a longer planning horizon for growers. Cultivating a garden that mimics a natural forest can help restore the ecosystem. Farmers, entrepreneurs, and community groups are looking for land where they can grow these crops. Land trusts can be an ideal partner because the land is permanently protected and benefits from a long term stewardship plan. Forest edibles are an opportunity for your land trust to help your community sustain local agriculture and grow fresh produce. This workshop will share how the Smithfield Land Trust's and Yale-Myers Forest (in northeastern Connecticut) land is being used to grow nut trees along with other examples of establishing an edible forest garden, cultivating shiitake mushrooms, and planting understory crops.

2-I Mastering, Managing & Measuring Social Media: Strategies for Amplifying Grassroots Action

Amanda Brayman - Worldways Social Marketing (abrayman@e-worldways.com)

Julianna Lagno - Worldways Social Marketing (jlagno@e-worldways.com)

Grassroots organizations harness the power of individuals to make a collective difference in the world. Amplifying that impact through social media can be intimidating, especially since the digital world is ever-changing. Now, more than ever, digital relevance and communication through social channels are important factors in achieving the tipping point of change. In this focused workshop, we will help you to understand and master the digital future of your work. We will share our Social Impact Pyramid, a systematic approach to planning, managing and getting the most measurable impact out of your digital presence with limited resources.

Workshops – Session III 2:45 – 4:00 *choose from 9*

3-A Re-imagining Conservation as Building Community (this workshop is a repeat of Session 2 A)

Peter Forbes - Keynote Speaker (peter@peterforbes.org)

During this interactive workshop, Peter and participants will answer important questions together: who are conservationists within their communities? How is conservation perceived? Who's in our circle and not, and why? What impacts our relationships now? What are you already doing that stretches your conservation group toward community conservation? What does this work ask of us as leaders? How might your organization's dominant story need to evolve to help you be more relevant and in service to more people?

3-B Improving Water Quality Throughout Rhode Island by Phasing out Cesspools

Brian Moore - RI Department of Environmental Management (brian.moore@dem.ri.gov)

Topher Hamblett - Save the Bay (thamblett@SaveBay.org)

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

Cesspools, buried chambers that receive sewage from homes or businesses, provide no treatment and pollute nearby waterways. In 2007, the Legislature passed the Cesspool Act which mandated that all cesspools located within 200 feet of the inland edge of the coastal shoreline feature bordering a tidal water area, or within 200 feet of public wells, or within 200 feet of drinking water reservoirs be abandoned and the home upgraded with a new onsite wastewater treatment system or connected to available municipal sewer lines. RI DEM estimates that there are approximately 25,000 total cesspools throughout the state. Legislation has been introduced for the past several years to mandate removal of the remaining cesspools when a home is sold. Come learn about this issue and brainstorm ways grassroots organizations can help get legislation passed in 2015.

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Lecturer/

Group Leader:

Ann Salzarulo

Ann is an advisor working locally, in South America, and in Southeast Asian Coastal Communities.

She has designed programs in Adaptation and Resilience with governments and communities in Central America, the Caribbean, Africa, USA, Canada and Europe.

Call Ann at (401) 269-9658 to:

- 1) Sign up for the course
- 2) Schedule a focused consultancy

Workshops – Session III 2:45 – 4:00 *continued*

3-C Green Infrastructure: Strategies for De-paving & Greening Our Communities

Chuck Allott - Aquidneck Land Trust (callott@ailt.org)

Walter Burke - Town of Bristol (wburke@bristolri.us)

Shannon Brawley - RI Nursery and Landscape Association (executivedirector@rinla.org)

Green infrastructure is suddenly the rage, but haven't we been talking about rain gardens for years? What has changed? This session will highlight Rhode Island's poster child for green infrastructure, the transformation of Bristol Beach and the water quality improvements that have resulted. The conversation will then turn to the future of green infrastructure, highlighting the development of the 21st century workforce needed to transform the landscape and exploring the role of land trusts and others in the long term maintenance of our future green spaces.

3-D What's the Plan? Managing RI Solid Waste the Next 25 Years

Lauren Carson - Clean Water Action (lcarson@cleanwater.org)

Donna Kaehler - Town of Cumberland (dkaehler@cumberlandri.org)

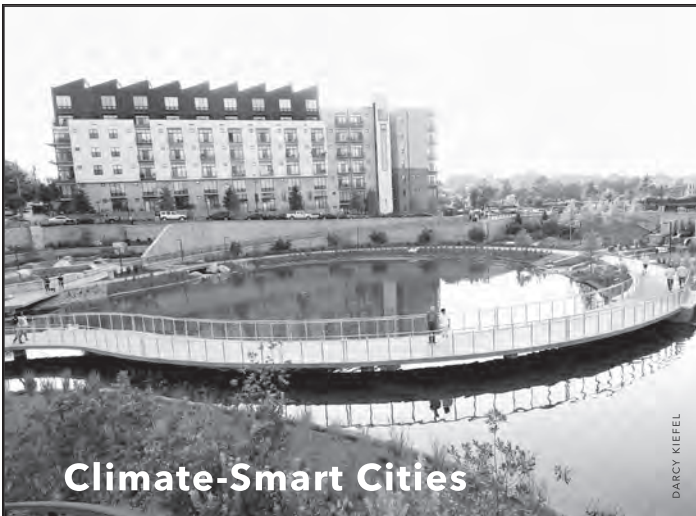
What's in the RI 2014 Solid Waste Management Plan? Where will our waste go in 20 years? How can we increase recycling and composting now? Millions of dollars are spent each year by cities, municipalities, the state and the private sector to manage municipal solid waste. Are we ready for the time when the Central Landfill is full? The current update to the Solid Waste Management Plan of 2007 is charged to insure that the State of Rhode Island has a comprehensive and coordinated plan to provide cost effective and environmental compliant waste management and recycling services for residents, businesses, industry, and municipalities. But what's in the Plan? This workshop will review the 2015 RI Solid Waste management Plan and highlight the successes and opportunities for Rhode Island's producer responsibilities programs. We will focus on new ways that our cities and towns that are working locally on innovative programs to reduce their waste and extend the life of the Central Landfill.

3-E Creating a Strong Collaboration between RIDEM & Conservation Commissions: Streamlining the Flow of Information

Lisa Primiano - RI Department of Environmental Management (lisa.primiano@dem.ri.gov)

Members - RI Association of Conservation Commissions

Collaboration is the key to successful land and water protection strategies. Often the mechanics of collaboration are complex and difficult to maintain so most organizations shy away from active collaborative efforts. Can we streamline the flow of problem solving, improve and maintain effective reporting that the state requires, manage projects efficiently by using shared information between RIDEM and RI Conservations Commissions, while at the same time increasing capacity by using highly skilled resources from both the state and municipal level? Several RI Conservation Commissions have been working with RIDEM Cathy Sparks and Lisa Primiano about strategies for strengthening their working relationship. This workshop provides an opportunity for more Conservation Commission members to expand their roles in working to help preserve, protect and enhance conservation lands and natural resources. Come and find out about ways that your commission might better serve your community.



Climate-Smart Cities

The Trust for Public Land is happy to be launching its Climate-Smart Cities program in Rhode Island. For more information contact Kevin Essington at kevin.essington@tpl.org.



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Workshops – Session III 2:45 – 4:00 *continued*

3-F Preserving Cultural and Tribal Identity: Diagnostic Toolkits and Preservation Strategies

Doug Schwartz - New England Antiquities Research Association (thedougschwartz@gmail.com)

Doug Harris - Narragansett Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Office (dhnithpo@gmail.com)

Land and water preservation organizations sometimes acquire or manage properties where Native American historic and ceremonial features in the form of stonework are most frequently encountered due to cultural imperatives. Two presentations will take place during this workshop. First, Doug Schwartz will discuss recognition and the contexts in which these artifacts are likely to be found and methods of differentiating these structures from agricultural artifacts. Preservation strategies will be examined, on the parcel and municipal levels. Second, Doug Harris will present the emergence of New Tribal Historic Preservation Research Frontiers. Within the last decade, two declarations from Elder Medicine People of the Narragansett Indian Tradition have prompted work on new frontiers of research in Tribal Historic Preservation that is now acknowledged by Army Corps and BOEM. This presentation will discuss the cutting edge implications of these new frontiers in Tribal Historic Preservation research including the evolving diagnostic “toolkits” for identifying and preserving ancient cultural features.

3-G Stewarding Our Protected Lands: Information and Resources to Help Practitioners

Julie Sharpe - Conservation Stewardship Collaborative (juliesharpe@verizon.net)

Peter August - University of Rhode Island (pete@edc.uri.edu)

David Gregg - RI Natural History Survey (dgregg@rinhs.org)

This workshop will present the results of projects by the RI Conservation Stewardship Collaborative (CSC) in 2014 that should assist land conservation organizations of all types in their urgent stewardship responsibilities. Projects to be discussed include invasive species management activities, the work of the Youth Conservation League, state policy initiatives, new resources for producing baseline documentation and management plans for protected properties, and upcoming changes of the Land & Water Resource Library. The session is a great opportunity to discuss the challenges of stewardship with your colleagues and to offer ideas for future CSC initiatives.

3-H Building & Maintaining Trails in Areas with Wetlands

Roy Najecki - Gloucester Land Trust & RI Land Trust Council (roy@najecki.com)

Scott Rabideau - Natural Resources Services (nrsscott@gmail.com)

Are you contemplating a trail that may go through a wetland, or do have property with existing trails through wetlands? What you need to know about what you should do when you are maintaining existing trails and establishing new trails? What to look for when you are designing trail routes so that you can avoid wetlands. What funding, professional, and regulatory resources are available to help you? How to apply for trail grants – step by step. This workshop will also discuss the revised rules of the Fresh Water Wetlands Act, when you need a wetlands engineer, engineering drawings, and permits from DEM.

3-I RI Wildlife Action Plan & You: Land Conservation & Management Decision-making Tools

Amanda Freitas - RI Natural History Survey (amanda.freitas@dem.ri.gov)

The RI Wildlife Action Plan (RI WAP) contains a lot of great information to help land trusts and municipalities protect wildlife and habitats in your community. This workshop will take you through some of the tools that have been developed for the 2015 RI WAP to help you prioritize land acquisition and management goals. Topics will include assessing threats to wildlife and habitats, existing conservation mapping and how to use it, and prioritizing invasive species management. We'll save time for discussion of additional needs your organization might have. We'll also discuss how the WAP Community Liaison can help your organization with important habitat conservation questions and decisions!

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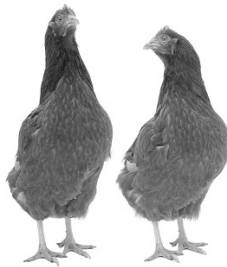
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Notes



Photo by Wood

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interagency coordination, interagency planning, monitoring
& strategic investments*



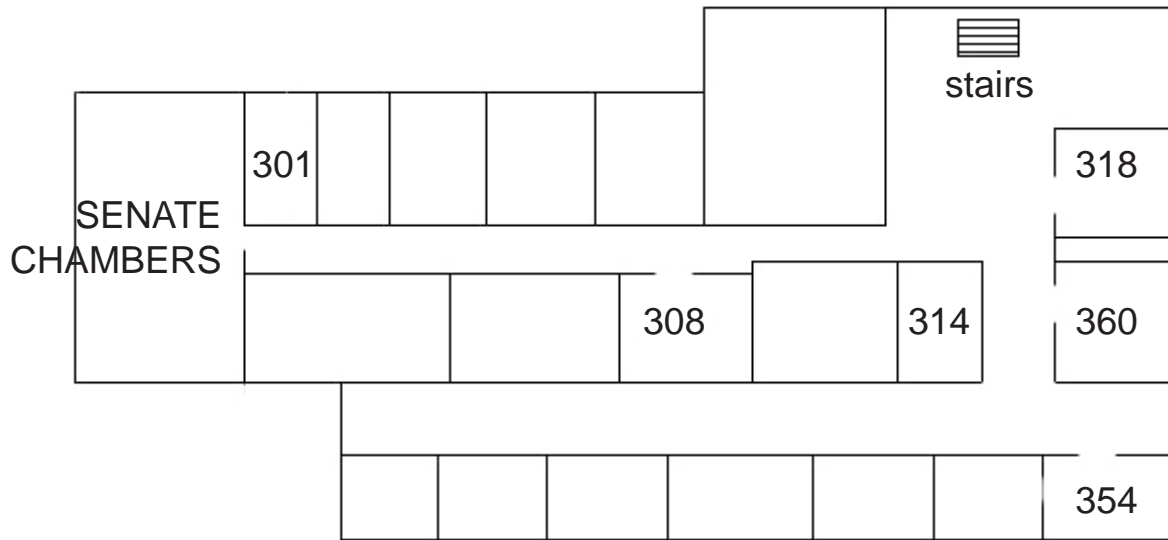
The Coordination Team funds & helps lead critical projects such as:

- The Beach Special Area Management Plan
- The Upper Narragansett Bay Water Quality Stakeholders Process
- The RI Stream Gage Network
- The Upper Narragansett Bay Stormwater Management Initiative
- Stormwater Management District Feasibility Assessments in Middletown, West Warwick, & Bristol

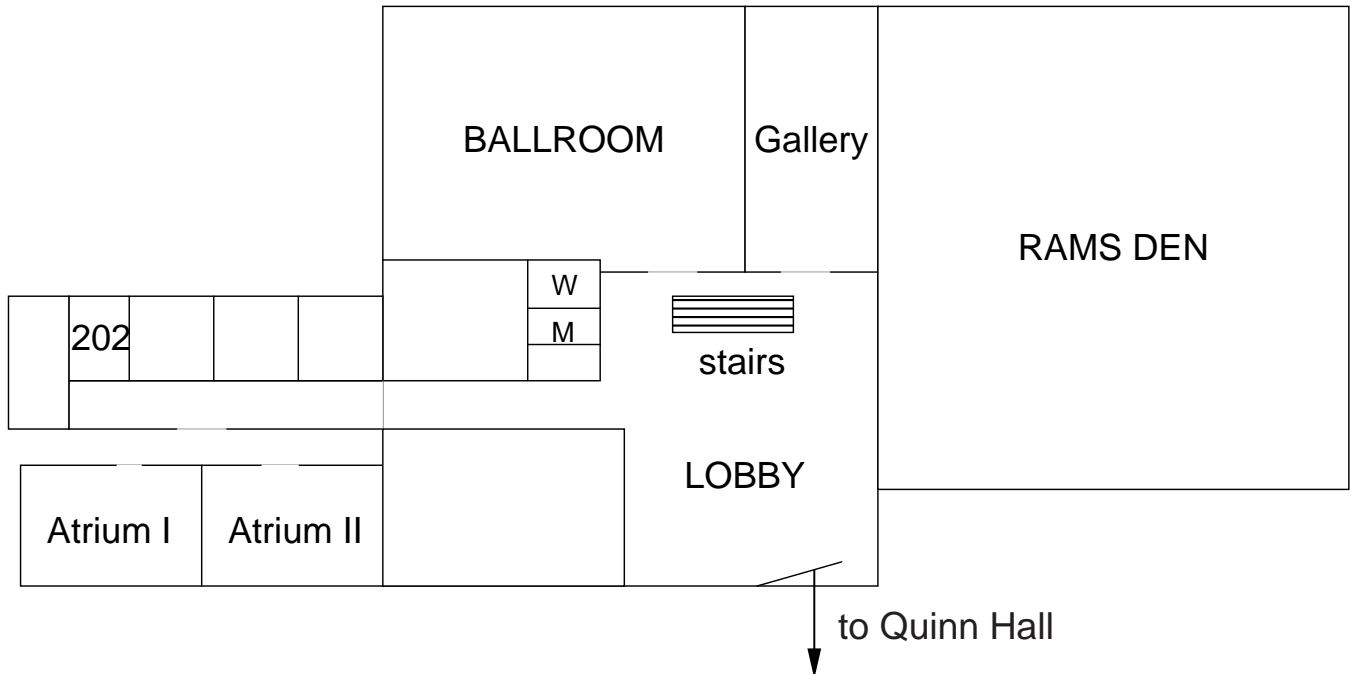
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* The Learning Center is a service offered to Alliance member land trusts, partners and individual members at the \$250 level and above.