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of Rhode Island

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14th ANNUAL

# LAND & WATER CONSERVATION SUMMIT

*Working together to protect our communities*

Saturday, March 11, 2017 —URI Memorial Union, Kingston Campus

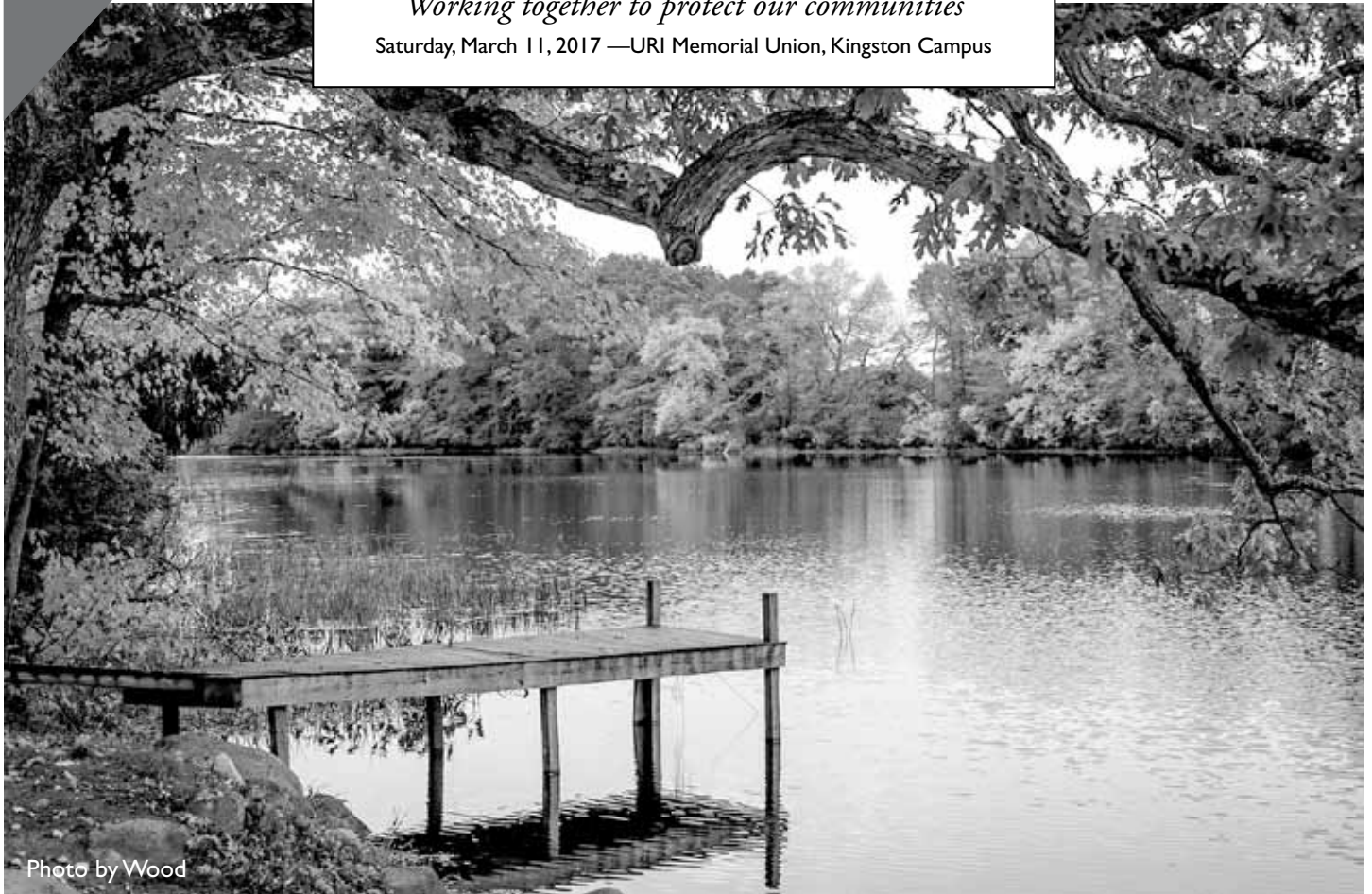
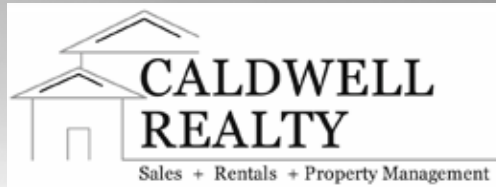


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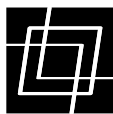
2017  
RHODE ISLAND  
LAND & WATER  
CONSERVATION  
SUMMIT

## Agenda

- 7:45 – 8:30 **Registration and Continental Breakfast**
- 8:30 – 9:40 Welcome — Emcee: Judith Swift, URI Coastal Institute  
**Senator Sheldon Whitehouse — *Efforts to Address Climate Change***  
**Keynote: Dr. Eric Chivian — *Medical Models for Helping Us Understand Global Environmental Threats***  
*Dr. Eric Chivian: Program for Preserving the Natural World; Founder, Center for Health and the Global Environment, Harvard Medical School; and Co-Founder, The International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War — Recipient of the 1985 Nobel Peace Prize*
- 9:40 – 10:20 **Business Meetings — Network — Exhibits**  
9:45 – 10:05 Business Meetings (everyone is invited):  
RI Land Trust Council Business Meeting — Atrium I  
RI Association of Conservation Commission Business Meeting — Atrium II B/C  
Watershed Organizations' Meeting — Senate Chambers
- 10:20 – 11:30 **Session I Workshops** – Your choice from 11 offered
- 11:30 – 11:45 Break
- 11:45 – 12:55 **Session II Workshops** – Your choice from 11 offered
- 12:55 – 2:30 **Lunch and Awards**  
**Conversation with John Gwynne and Marc Levitt**  
*John Gwynne is a Little Compton landscape architect who helped design the Roger Williams and Bronx Zoos and is consulting for the Wildlife Conservation Society of NY to help create national parks in Africa and a field guide to Brazil's birds.*  
**Peter Merritt Conservation Award**  
**Blueways Stewardship Award**  
**Janet Coit – Director, RI Department of Environmental Management**
- 2:45 – 4:00 **Session III Workshops** – Your choice from 11 offered

# 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 **Newport Open Space** plan, and the coalitions that are tackling critical issues like **storm water management**.



RHODE ISLAND  
FOUNDATION

[rifoundation.org](http://rifoundation.org)

# Rhode Island Land and Water Partnership

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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 grassroots 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](http://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](mailto:rfriday@rilandtrusts.org)  
**Meg Kerr** — [mkerr@asri.org](mailto:mkerr@asri.org)

[www.landandwaterpartnership.org](http://www.landandwaterpartnership.org)

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

# THE COASTAL INSTITUTE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND



## COASTAL INSTITUTE CLIMATE RESPONSE DEMONSTRATION SITES



### ***What are CI Climate Response Demonstration Sites?***

Sites selected to represent types of coastal communities where teams of interdisciplinary partners explore best management practices for enhancing ecosystem and community resilience with the goal of providing residents and decision-makers climate adaptation options.

**Join the Session 3 Workshop 3-A to Learn More.**



**Natural Areas:**  
Napatree Point  
Conservation Area



**Urban Areas:**  
Port of Providence



**Mixed-Use Areas:**  
Warren and Palmer Rivers

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*Advancing Knowledge*  
*Developing Solutions*  
*Building Resilience*



Visit us at: <https://ci.uri.edu>

# Land & Water Conservation Summit

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## *Fourteen 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 and latest ideas 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*
- 2016 **Collin O'Mara**—*Conservation in This Century; What America Can Learn from the Ocean State*
- 2017 **Eric Chivian, M.D.**—*Medical Models for Helping Us Understand Global Environmental Threats*

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Rhode Island is leading the way.

  
**BLOCK ISLAND WIND FARM**  
America's First Offshore Wind Farm

  
**DEEPWATERWIND**





More information & events calendar  
[www.riacc-online.org](http://www.riacc-online.org)

RIACC  
PO Box 9221  
Providence, Rhode Island 02940  
(401) 397-4586

**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 like-minded 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 **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.

**Join us for a Brew Social at Brutopia • 505 Atwood Avenue, Cranston, RI on March 15. More information on our web site.**

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 events, and ways to improve your skills for what you do in your town.

*Paul A. Roselli, President  
proseli@cox.net  
Michael Ahnrud, Treasurer*

# 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  
Conanicut Land Trust  
Cumberland Land Trust  
East Greenwich Land Trust  
East Providence Land Conservation Trust  
Foster Land Trust  
Glocester Land Trust  
Hopkinton Land Trust  
Land Conservancy of North Kingstown  
Little Compton Ag. Conservancy Trust  
Mount Tom Land Trust  
Narrow River Land Trust  
Neutaconkanut Hill Conservancy

North Smithfield Land Trust  
Northwest RI Supporters of Open Space  
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  
The Nature Conservancy  
Tiverton Land Trust  
Warren Land Conservation Trust  
Warwick Land Trust  
The Watch Hill Conservancy  
Weekapaug Foundation for Conservation  
West Bay Land Trust  
West Greenwich Land Trust  
The Westerly Land Trust



## Aquidneck Island PLANNING COMMISSION

AIPC is a non-profit organization working in partnership with the communities of Newport, Middletown and Portsmouth to preserve and improve Aquidneck Island's environment, economy and quality of life. In areas as diverse as clean water, clean energy, and transportation alternatives, our goal is an Aquidneck Island that's dynamic, sustainable and connected. Visit us online, and follow us on Twitter & Instagram!

55 John Clarke Rd, Middletown, RI 02842 – (401) 845-9299

[www.aquidneckplanning.org](http://www.aquidneckplanning.org) – @aquidneckisland



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

The Rhode Island Land Trust Council is a coalition of the state’s land trusts — over 45 community-based organizations formed to protect land...the open spaces and the special places... that defines the character of our state. Land trusts are preserving the places we love so that they can be enjoyed by future generations.

Only eleven Rhode Island land trusts have staff, the others are entirely volunteer organizations. Many Rhode Islanders volunteer thousands of hours protecting and stewarding our communities’ most valued open space lands.

**The RI Land Trust Council—**

- Advocates for state legislation and funding 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 and steward land

**Key Initiatives—**

- Advocacy of state bond funding for land conservation and legislation**—to help land trusts defend protected lands.
- Land Trust Days**—to increase the visibility of land trusts and the special places we are protecting.
- Land Trust Trails on ExploreRI.org**—so it is easier for people to find a trail and take a walk on protected lands—(ExploreRI is a partnership with RI Blueways Alliance).
- SWAT Stewardship Teams**—skilled volunteers helping land trusts to map and to blaze their trails. Contact the Council to get help with these stewardship tasks.
- Land Trust Excellence Initiative**—Current projects are helping land trusts prepare baseline documents and organize records for protected lands. Contact the Council if you need help with these tasks. (These projects are in partnership with the Land Trust Alliance.)
- Land & Water Conservation Summit** and periodic **workshops**—the best opportunities to learn the latest information and “how to” best practices for protecting and stewarding land.

**Thanks to Our Supporters:**

The Council’s work is possible because of generous funding from land trusts (our members), foundations, individuals, our board members, and other organizations. Major supporters in 2016 included:

Land Trusts (Dues-contributing members, page 8)  
 RI Land Trust Council Board Members  
 Anonymous contribution  
 Conservation Stewardship Collaborative  
 Endowment @ The RI Foundation  
 Judith & Murray Danforth  
 John Gwynne Jr.  
 Dori Gerhardt & Tony Maione  
 Hazard Family Foundation  
 Land For Good - Agriculture Land Access Project

**Thank You!**

Perennial Planters Garden Club  
 Prince Charitable Trusts  
 RI Dept. of Environmental Management Trail Grant  
 RI Dept. of Environmental Management LASA Grant  
 The Rhode Island Foundation  
 Sharpe Family Foundation  
 Carol Strasburger  
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 Worldways Social Marketing

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



Your success is our goal.



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[conservationfund.org](http://conservationfund.org)



RHODE  
ISLAND **RiEEA**  
Environmental Education Association

*Advancing Environmental Education Through Collaboration*

RIEEA is a collaborative network of individuals and organizations committed to environmental education. Our membership includes:

**teachers • naturalists • environmental organizations • land trusts  
educators from universities, recreation centers, and state, federal, and non-profit agencies**

...all working to protect, enrich and restore the world around us.

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RIEEA has access to a range of resources and has proven ability to build strong partnerships across a variety of sectors necessary to successfully advance environmental literacy in Rhode Island.

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Please visit **[www.rieea.org](http://www.rieea.org)** to learn more about our upcoming events, membership benefits, resource guide, monthly meetings, job postings, and much more.

# 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.

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RESTAURANT GROUP



# Saving Land & Water for Over 100 Years



**Audubon Society of Rhode Island • [www.asri.org](http://www.asri.org)**

The Audubon Society of Rhode Island is an independent not-for-profit environmental organization dedicated to protecting birds, wildlife, and their habitats through environmental education, advocacy, and land conservation. The state's first environmental organization, Audubon now protects nearly 9,500 acres in a network of refuges, pristine properties and wildlife habitats.

# The Land Trust Alliance is proud to support Rhode Island land trusts



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

### [www.lta.org/webinars](http://www.lta.org/webinars)

No matter where you are, take a webinar to access the latest information from conservation experts.

### <http://learningcenter.lta.org>

Online Learning Center\* with

- 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](http://www.lta.org/publications)

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

### [www.alliancerally.org](http://www.alliancerally.org)

**Rally 2017: The National Land Conservation Conference**  
Oct. 26–28, Denver, CO

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.



# Keynote: Dr. Eric Chivian, M.D.

## *Medical Models for Helping Us Understand Global Environmental Threats*



*Eric Chivian M.D.*

Dr. Eric Chivian is Director of The Program on Preserving the Natural World and the Founder and former Director (for over 16 years) of the Center for Health and the Global Environment, and an Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, at Harvard Medical School. The Center is now based at the Harvard School of Public Health. In 1980, he and three colleagues founded the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, recipient of the 1985 Nobel Peace Prize.

During the past 25 years, he has worked to involve physicians in the United States and abroad in efforts to protect the environment, and to increase public understanding of the potential human health consequences of global environmental change.

# The New York Times

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2013

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015

## Climate: A Medical Model

### TO THE EDITOR:

Re "Growing Clamor About Inequities of Climate Crisis" (front page, Nov. 17):

In recent years, after other extreme weather events like Typhoon Haiyan, one of the strongest storms ever recorded, scientists are always asked, "Has climate change caused this?" And the answer is generally some variation of "perhaps, but we can't be certain." The right answer, but the wrong question.

In a medical emergency, no physician ever waits for absolute proof of diagnosis before starting treatment, for to do so is to run the risk that the patient will become seriously, and perhaps irreversibly, ill, and may die. The greater the emergency, the more physicians rely on an accumulated body of evidence, on recognized patterns of disease.

While we depend on scientists to help us understand the causes and effects of climate change, it is a tragic, fundamental mistake to expect them, before we decide to act, to prove that each extreme weather event is a result of our greenhouse gas emissions. We must learn from the practice of medicine to recognize the accumulating signs and symptoms of climate change as it unfolds before our eyes, and to act before it is too late.

ERIC CHIVIAN

Boston, Nov. 19, 2013

*The writer, a physician, is the founder and former director of the Center for Health and the Global Environment at*

## A Global Accord on Climate Change

### TO THE EDITOR:

If a terrorist organization somehow figured out how to raise global temperatures, thereby flooding coastal cities, destroying crops, threatening drinking water supplies, and causing devastating heat waves and storms, we would do whatever it took, and spend every last dollar we had, to stop it.

But when the world's leading scientists tell us that such changes have already started to occur and that we are causing them, and when they warn us that unless we drastically reduce our burning of fossil fuels, we face an unimaginable catastrophe, our response has always been that it is much too difficult, and much too expensive, to do so.

On Saturday in Paris nearly 200 countries demonstrated for the first time that they took the scientists' warnings seriously. Will we now do whatever it takes, and spend whatever amount we must, to prevent the consequences of climate change from becoming catastrophic? Or will we simply be helpless witnesses as the growing terror unfolds, slowly and inexorably, before our eyes?

ERIC CHIVIAN

Boston

*The writer, a physician, is the founder and former director of the Center for Health and the Global Environment at Harvard Medical School.*

Dr Chivian's presentation will discuss why it is so difficult for many people to see global environmental changes, and to grasp the significance of these changes for human life. The answers are many and complex, but involve, in part, the fact that our brains are wired to see what is happening right in front of us right now—we do not do very well with seeing things that are not obvious, that happen incrementally, or that occur over large areas or in other parts of the world.

The failure of humanity to grasp what we are doing to global physical, chemical, and biological systems is the greatest problem in the history of our species on this small planet.

Dr. Chivian will talk about how a medical model can help people understand the implications of our altering the global environment—by translating the abstract, technical science of these changes into the concrete, personal, everyday language of human health that people can relate to and understand.



## Thank you for making our community a better place

Bank of America recognizes the Rhode Island Land & Water Conservation Summit as a vital community resource. People like you are an inspiration to us all.

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# Conversation with John Gwynne and Marc Levitt

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John Gwynne, a life-long Rhode Islander and landscape architect is a resident of Little Compton. His mission has been to inspire people to protect nature and wildlife by creating mainstream field guides, developing naturalistic zoo environments, and working internationally to protect ecosystems with creative park planning. This creates economic opportunities for local people so they benefit from, and hence want to protect wild places.

Originally hired as head of design at Roger Williams Park and Zoo, John then moved to the Wildlife Conservation Society's (WCS) flagship Bronx Zoo in New York. His exhibits are renowned for conservations innovations, with the 6.5 acre Congo Gorilla Forest exhibit at the Bronx zoo being a well-known example. He was part of a WCS team that persuaded leaders of Gabon in Central Africa to create thirteen new national parks. Gabon now benefits from the production of a detailed, ecologically-based "blueprint" for sustainable tourism in its great rainforest parks and turtle beaches

Today based in RI, John is the project director for Birds of Brazil field guides, an accessible authoritative series intended to get Brazilians outdoors and into nature. He also is Chief

Creative Officer for Gabon's National Parks, working to create a model rainforest discovery center adjacent to Gabon's capital to inspire the nation's next generation to love and care about Gabon's great ecosystems.



Marc Levitt is a filmmaker, radio host, writer and storyteller. Mr. Levitt, a Cornell University graduate, is the Director/Producer of two films: *Stories in Stone*, a film about the Narragansett Indian masonry tradition and *Woven in Time; The Narragansett Salt Pond Preserve*, about the recently preserved pre- contact Narragansett village. He is currently at work on a new film, *Triple Decker, A Love Story*. For 18 years, Marc Levitt hosted and produced a national radio show, *Action Speaks, Underappreciated Dates that Changed America*, heard on over 200 radio stations, and has traveled to over 60 countries as a storyteller/educational consultant. He is the author of the Corwin Press book on writing *Putting Everyday Life on the Page*.

Marc's new books about character education: *Changing Curriculum and Its Delivery Through Stories: Character Education for Ages 10-12*; and *A Holistic Approach for School-Based Culture Change: Character Education for Ages 13-15* will be published in June of this year by Rowman/Littlefield.

**Thank You to these Sponsors  
of the 2017 Land & Water Conservation Summit!  
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*Aquidneck Island Planning Commission*  
*Narragansett Bay Research Reserve – Coastal Training Program*  
*National Wildlife Federation*  
*Rhode Island Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects*  
*Rhode Island Sea Grant*  
*The Nature Conservancy*

# Workshops at a Glance

	<b>Session 1</b> <b>10:20 – 11:30 am</b> <b>Descriptions — page 21–25</b>	<b>Session 2</b> <b>11:45 am – 12:55 pm</b> <b>Descriptions — page 25–29</b>	<b>Session 3</b> <b>2:45 – 4:00 pm</b> <b>Descriptions — page 29–33</b>
<b>A</b>	Biodiversity, Climate Change, Human Health: Continuing the Dialogue Atrium I	Helping Municipalities with Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Atrium I	Managing Natural Areas for Resilience to Climate Change: Lessons from the Napatree Point Demonstration Project Atrium I
<b>B</b>	Taking Learning Outdoors Quinn 214	Family Hikes (and Why They're Different from Other Hikes) Room 314	Creating Temporary Outdoor Play Spaces Room 314
<b>C</b>	Salt Marsh Migration: Challenges, Partnerships and Next Steps Room 360	Developing Solar and Wind Energy: Legal Considerations and Best Practices Room 360	Using Aerial Views of Rhode Island: From Satellites to Drones Atrium II B/C
<b>D</b>	Promoting Green Infrastructure Stormwater Solutions Room 318	Financing Stormwater Management and Incentivizing Green Infrastructure Atrium 2A	Using Land Protection Tools to Protect Watersheds Quinn 103
<b>E</b>	New Land Management Tools: Technology At Your <i>Fingertips!</i> Quinn 103	Harmful Algal Blooms in Rhode Island Waters Quinn 214	How to Recognize Invasive Freshwater Aquatic Plants and Prevent Their Spread in Rhode Island Quinn 214
<b>F</b>	Land Protection 101: Forging Agreements for Lasting Relationships Room 308	Giving Yourself An Out: Knowing When To Say "No!" Room 308	Rare Species Management in Rhode Island: Getting the Information You Need Room 360
<b>G</b>	Where is the Money? The 2017 Funders Panel Atrium II B/C	Federal Funding Opportunities for Farmland and Wetland Conservation Quinn 103	Fundraising That Matters – Major Gift Development for the Small Nonprofit Organization Quinn 104
<b>H</b>	Understanding and Improving Pollinator Health: RI Pollinator Working Group Recommendations Quinn 211B	Practices for Enhancing Pollinator Habitat: Tools for a Broad Range of Landowners Quinn 211B	Federal Funding Opportunities and Technical Assistance for the Stewardship of Your Lands Room 354
<b>I</b>	Managing Small Greenspaces in Urban Areas Room 314	Save Effort and Heartache over Invasive Species with Early Detection & Rational Response Room 318	Managing an Effective Volunteer-based Stewardship and Monitoring Program Room 308
<b>J</b>	Five Fresh Ideas for Building the Board You Need Quinn 104	Leading Your Board to Excellence Quinn 104	How to Run a Better Board Meeting Atrium 2A
<b>K</b>	Building Relationships with Elected Officials Atrium 2A	Engaging Youth in Your Conservation Organization Atrium II B/C	Do Less Better: Using Social Media to Engage Constituents Room 318

## Going Greener

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### *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 ceramic coffee mug** made by local artist John Vierbickas 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 and supports a local artist.
- 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 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 University of Rhode Island Catering to **support local farms** by purchasing local fruit and using locally grown greens in the salad for lunch.



John Vierbickas Pottery



[www.facebook.com/JVpottery](http://www.facebook.com/JVpottery)

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

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## 1-A Biodiversity, Climate Change, Human Health: Continuing the Dialogue

*Eric Chivian M.D. Keynote Speaker - Program for the Natural World; Founder and Past Director, Center for Health and the Global Environment, Harvard Medical School*

Join Dr. Chivian for an informal discussion that continues the dialogue from his keynote presentation. Bring your questions. We will cover the intersection of climate change, biodiversity loss, and human health. What are the opportunities for using a medical perspective to help people to relate to, and take actions to address, global environmental change?

## 1-B Taking Learning Outdoors

*Andrea Stein - Roger Williams Park Zoo [astein@rupzoo.org](mailto:astein@rupzoo.org)*

*April Alix - Providence Parks Urban Wildlife Refuge Partnership [april@providenceparks.org](mailto:april@providenceparks.org)*

Learn how your properties and waterways can be used as an extension of a classroom. Outdoor education supports and reinforces multi-disciplinary and hands-on learning opportunities while also helping to promote healthy lifestyles, conservation behaviors, and environmental literacy. Educators can engage students in real-time scientific research, applying map skills, using nature as a stimulus for writing and art, and much more. Participants will gain an understanding of the benefits of outdoor education and leave with a variety of resources to begin to engage educators on their land.

## 1-C Salt Marsh Migration – Challenges, Partnerships and Next Steps

*Wenley Ferguson - Save The Bay [Wferguson@savebay.org](mailto:Wferguson@savebay.org)*

*Caitlin Chaffee - Coastal Resources Management Council [CChaffee@crmc.ri.gov](mailto:CChaffee@crmc.ri.gov)*

For the past couple of decades, sea level rise has outpaced salt marsh accretion rates and throughout Rhode Island, salt marshes are beginning to drown in place. Some marshes can migrate inland as waters rise and the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) and its partners have developed Sea Level Affecting Marshes Model (SLAMM) maps for the coastal wetlands of all 21 Rhode Island coastal communities. This workshop will describe the challenges facing our critical salt marsh ecosystems and projects underway to help marshes adapt and enhance marsh migration corridors. Participants will explore how advocacy and land conservation can help ensure the protection of the state's optimal marsh migration sites.

## 1-D Promoting Green Infrastructure Stormwater Solutions

*John Berard - Clean Water Action [jberard@cleanwater.org](mailto:jberard@cleanwater.org)*

*Amelia Rose - Groundwork Rhode Island [arose@groundworkprovidence.org](mailto:arose@groundworkprovidence.org)*

Green infrastructure is an approach to managing stormwater by infiltrating it into the ground where it is generated using vegetation or porous surfaces or by capturing it for later reuse. Green infrastructure does more than clean polluted runoff, it also increases community resilience to climate change by reducing heat and promoting cooling, providing natural habitat areas and promoting human health. Green infrastructure projects also provide opportunities for good local jobs. This workshop will provide an overview of the work of the Green Infrastructure Coalition, a group of over 30 organizations working together to promote green infrastructure in urban communities while building a skilled local workforce.

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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 resource managers, and non-profit conservation organizations all benefit from the program.

**Coastal Training Programs** range from participatory workshops to hands-on skills training and focus on issues and topics such as:

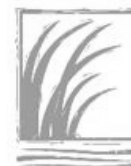
- Habitat protection
- Water quality
- Climate change
- Science communication
- Stakeholder engagement

---

*For more information please contact:*

Jennifer West, CTP Coordinator  
401-222-4700, x 7413 | [jennifer@nbnerr.org](mailto:jennifer@nbnerr.org)

[www.nbwctp.org](http://www.nbwctp.org)



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**1-E New Land Management Tools – Technology At Your Fingertips!**

*Maria Mack - RI State Conservation Committee cfm@cox.net*

*James Turenne - Natural Resource Conservation Service jim.turenne@ri.usda.gov*

*Brian Lafaille, RI Department of Environmental Management Brian.Lafaille@dem.ri.gov*

Critical soil information has always been difficult to obtain. This workshop will introduce the web soil survey – soil information in a searchable Google map format that can be easily accessed via the internet. Participants will learn how to interpret and use soil data when reviewing development proposals or considering strategies for land protection and stewardship. The workshop will also introduce recent updates to the RI Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook.

**1-F Land Protection 101: Forging Agreements for Lasting Relationships**

*Brian Janes - Tiverton Open Space Commission Brian.Janes@raveis.com*

*John Berg - The Nature Conservancy jberg@tnc.org*

Do you have some land protection projects on the horizon? Wonder about the best way to decide what land to protect? Outright or Conservation Easement? How to approach owners? Secure funding? Obtain land gifts? Prepare yourself and the land owner for a process that may extend for years? Establish relationships that extend beyond the deal and into stewardship? Attend this session to learn the ins and outs of this sometime complicated process from these two experienced land conservation partners. They will assist you to strategically plan a successful transaction to fulfill your goals. This will be an interactive discussion so bring your questions and ideas.

**1-G Where is the Money? The 2017 Funders Panel**

*Judith Swift - URI Coastal Institute, Moderator jswift@uri.edu*

*Keith Lang - The Champlain Foundations klang.champlin@verizon.net*

*Jenny Pereira - The Rhode Island Foundation jpereira@rifoundation.org*

*Lisa Primiano - RI Department of Environmental Management lisa.primiano@DEM.RI.GOV*

*Sue Kiernan - RI Department of Environmental Management sue.kiernan@dem.ri.gov*

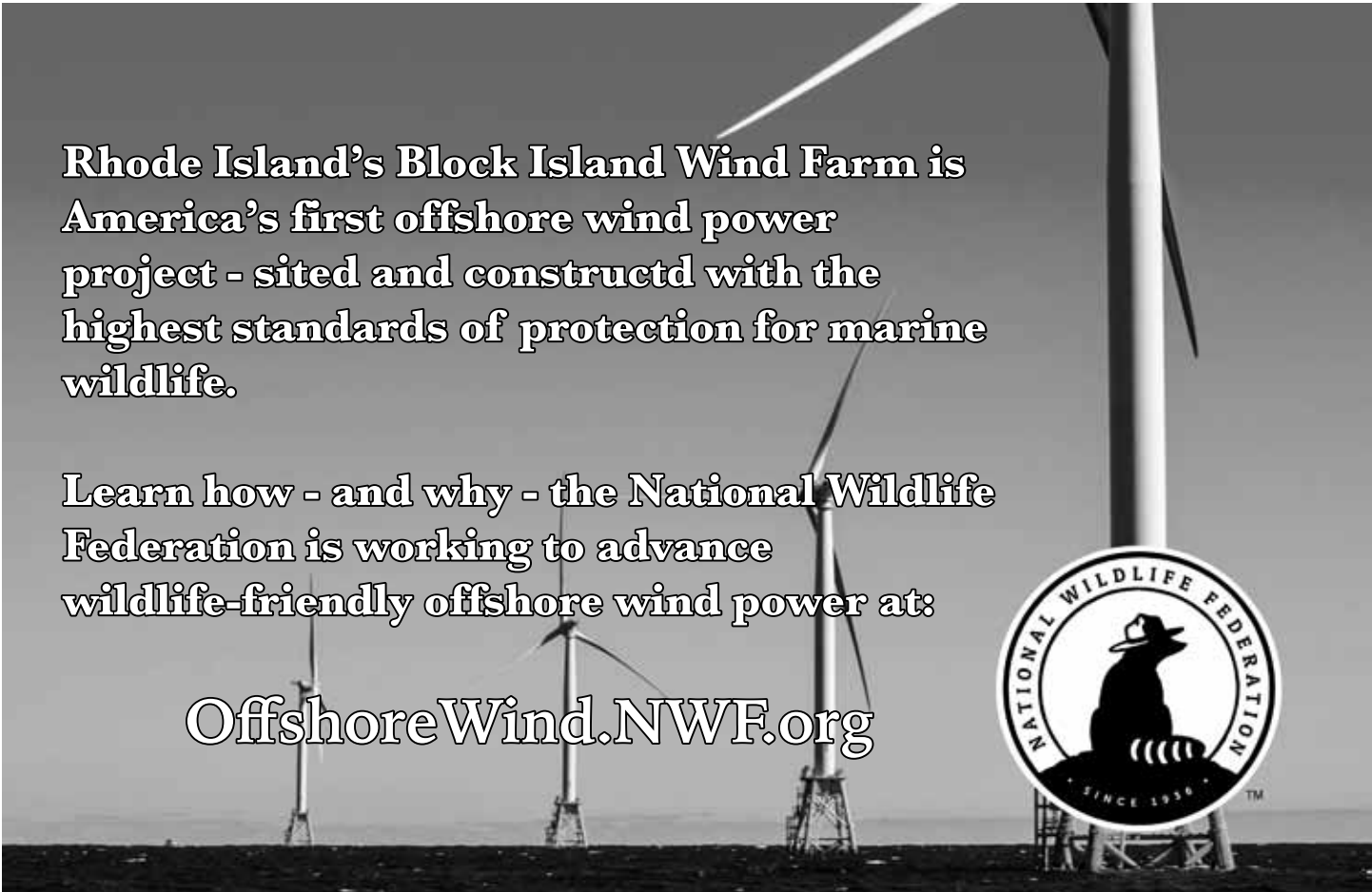
An overview of funding available from The Champlain Foundations, Rhode Island Foundation, RI Trails Grants as well as RI Department of Environment Management (RIDEM) bond funded programs (Local Open Space Grants, Local Recreation Grants, stormwater and flooding).

**1-H Understanding and Improving Pollinator Heath: RI Pollinator Working Group Recommendations**

*Shannon Brawley - Rhode Island Nursery and Landscape Association executivedirector@rinla.org*

*David Gregg - Rhode Island Natural History Survey dgregg@rinhs.org*

In 2016, the RI House of Representatives passed a resolution asking the RI Department of Environmental Management (DEM) to convene a working group to “make findings and recommendations with regard to maintaining, protecting and enhancing pollinator habitat and health in RI”. DEM Director Coit appointed a diverse group including representatives from the Environment Council of RI, RI Farm Bureau, URI Plant Science Department, RI Beekeepers Association, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, RI Natural History Survey, Kaiser Tree Preservation & Lawn Dawg. The group has been working hard since September 2016 and produced a report to the legislature in February. The workshop will review the group’s shared learning, recommendations and next steps.

A black and white photograph of an offshore wind farm. Several wind turbines are visible against a clear sky, with the ocean in the background. The turbines are spaced out across the water.

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RINLA members are professionals who take pride in their work and uphold the highest standards in horticulture, environmental practices, agriculture and landscape businesses.

The logo for RINLA (Rhode Island Nursery & Landscape Association). It features the word "RINLA" in a large, bold, serif font, with "RHODE ISLAND" in a smaller, all-caps serif font below it, and "NURSERY & LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION" in an even smaller, all-caps sans-serif font at the bottom. The logo is set against a white background.

**RINLA**  
RHODE ISLAND  
NURSERY & LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION

A black and white photograph of a well-maintained landscape. In the foreground, there are various plants and flowers. A paved patio area with several lounge chairs is visible. In the background, there is a large, multi-story house with a prominent porch and large windows.

**[www.rinla.org](http://www.rinla.org)**

**1-I Managing Small Greenspaces in Urban Areas**

*Helene Miller - Providence Partnership for Parks helenemiller179@gmail.com*

*David Westcott - North Providence Planning Department dwestcott@mason-associates.com*

Protecting undeveloped lots in urban areas can create important green spaces for a community. Yet the management of these places so that they can be more inviting and usable green spaces can be challenging and cause a lot of controversy with neighbors. How do you get the community to help steward these places? This workshop will discuss strategies for involving the community and building community support for management of small urban green spaces so that the community can use and enjoy them. We'll share some stories and experiences from Providence and North Providence.

**1-J Five Fresh Ideas for Building the Board You Need**

*David Allen - Development for Conservation David@DevelopmentForConservation.com*

“The first criterion used for considering a new board member is often ‘known to someone on the current board.’ I think it should be ‘totally in love with the mission,’ instead.” Thus begins an engaging workshop session where we examine every step of the board experience and explore succession planning and leadership development from the inside out. This workshop will present five fresh ideas for identifying, recruiting, training, and empowering the board you need – both now and into the future.

**1-K Building Relationships with Elected Officials**

*Walter Burke - Bristol Parks, Recreation and Environment; RI Recreation & Parks Association wburke@bristolri.us*

*Representative Ken Marshall - Rhode Island General Assembly rep-marshall@rilegislature.gov*

Your organization's relationship with your town council members, state representatives and senators and even US Senators and Representative can have a huge impact on your ability to get political support, community support, attract funding and implement projects that accomplish your mission. This workshop will share lessons learned about how to cultivate these relationships, avoid the pitfalls, and build the political support your organization needs to be successful.

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

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**2-A Helping Municipalities with Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation**

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

*Tom Ardito - Aquidneck Island Planning Commission tardito@aquidneckplanning.org*

Cities and towns are at the front lines as Rhode Island adapts to rising seas, more intense storms, and increasing temperatures. Municipalities all have limited resources and many competing priorities, yet climate adaptation and mitigation must be addressed. The session will use Rhode Island case studies to describe the best practices for communicating with local officials about climate science, strategies for engaging local decision makers in planning for adaptation and how to move municipalities towards reduced greenhouse gas emissions (climate mitigation).

**2-B Family Hikes (and Why They're Different from Other Hikes)**

*Jeanine Silversmith - RI Families in Nature; RI Environmental Education Association jeaninesilversmith@gmail.com*

The family hike can be a wonderful addition to your programming — but only if children's particular needs and interests are kept in mind. Whether or not your organization has any experience leading family programs, this workshop will help you plan and successfully carry out hikes for all ages. Participants will leave with tips and tricks to keep children motivated and cheerful along the trails.

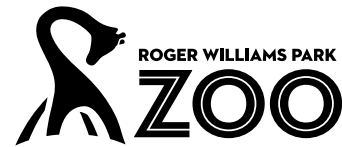
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**2-C Developing Solar & Wind Energy: Legal Considerations & Best Practices**

*Max Greene - Conservation Law Foundation [mgreene@clf.org](mailto:mgreene@clf.org)*

*Sumana Chintapalli - Conservation Law Foundation [schintapalli@clf.org](mailto:schintapalli@clf.org)*

Rhode Island is densely developed, its land is expensive and the state has lost over 80% of its farmland since 1940. Farmers and farmland-owners can offset their costs by installing solar panels or wind turbines on their land. This practice has the added benefit of avoiding the greenhouse gas emissions from reliance on fossil-fuel-derived power. But the state laws governing the economics of on-farm renewables are not necessarily clear to non-lawyers, and unless farmland-owners are thoughtful about how they install these projects, we all run the risk of losing open space and good soil to power generation. This workshop will explain the laws relating to on-farm renewables and some best practices that farmland-owners should employ when considering installing renewable-energy projects on their land.

**2-D Financing Stormwater Management and Incentivizing Green Infrastructure**

*Sheila Dormody - The Nature Conservancy [sheila.dormody@tnc.org](mailto:sheila.dormody@tnc.org)*

*Fred Presley - Town of West Warwick [fpresley@westwarwickri.org](mailto:fpresley@westwarwickri.org)*

The Rhode Island Stormwater Management and Utility District Act of 2002 (SMD Act) authorizes municipalities to create Stormwater Management Districts (SMDs) to finance stormwater remediation. To date, several municipalities are working on developing SMDs but no municipality has completed implementation. This workshop will review SMDs as a tool for financing stormwater management, describe implementation by RI municipalities and showcase how a properly designed SMD incentivizes nature based stormwater solutions, or green infrastructure.

**2-E Harmful Algal Blooms in Rhode Island Waters**

*Cindy Hannus - RI Department of Environmental Management [cindy.hannus@dem.ri.gov](mailto:cindy.hannus@dem.ri.gov)*

*David Borkman - RI Department of Environmental Management [dborkman@uri.edu](mailto:dborkman@uri.edu)*

*Brian Zalewsky - RI Department of Environmental Management [brian.zalewsky@dem.ri.gov](mailto:brian.zalewsky@dem.ri.gov)*

Algae are an important part of our freshwater and saltwater ecosystems but throughout the country, waters are experiencing harmful algal blooms. In 2016, ponds in Portsmouth, Newport, Providence and Warwick experienced harmful algal blooms (HAB). During October 2016, Narragansett Bay was closed to shellfish harvesting due to an unprecedented HAB event. This session will review the science behind the blooms and management strategies for community response.

**2-F Giving Yourself an Out: Knowing When To Say “No!”**

*Reggie Hall - The Conservation Fund [rhall@conservationfund.org](mailto:rhall@conservationfund.org)*

In the exuberance of completing projects, it is easy to say “Yes!” to a project that perhaps the organization should say “No!” to. Maybe you said “Yes!” to a great project, but at some point along the line, negotiations took a turn, and the project wound up being not as strong as it should or could be. How do you avoid these pitfalls? This interactive session will help participants identify sound project selection criteria that help you know when to say yes but more importantly know when to say no. It will discuss key parts of the acquisition process that may have significant implications on the permanence when you are deciding to protect a property.

**2-G Federal Funding Opportunities for Farmland and Wetland Conservation**

*Brunilda Velez - Natural Resource Conservation Service [brunilda.velez@ri.usda.gov](mailto:brunilda.velez@ri.usda.gov)*

*Joe Bachand - Natural Resource Conservation Service [joseph.bachand@ri.usda.gov](mailto:joseph.bachand@ri.usda.gov)*

Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) offers easement programs to eligible landowners to: conserve working agricultural lands, grasslands and forestlands (Agricultural Land Easements - ALE); and protect, enhance and restore wetlands (Wetland Reserve Program - WRP). This workshop will discuss opportunities to partner with NRCS to obtain technical and financial assistance to purchase these easements.



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[nature.org/rhodeisland](http://nature.org/rhodeisland)

**2-H Practices for Enhancing Pollinator Habitats: Tools for a Broad Range of Landowners**

*Scott Ruhren - Audubon Society of Rhode Island sruhren@asri.org*

*Gary Casabona - Natural Resource Conservation Service gary.casabona@ri.usda.gov*

There is worldwide concern about declining pollinators. We all can play a role in protecting and creating successful habitats – at our homes, farms and on land protected for conservation. This workshop will review successful practices for creating pollinator habitats and funding available from the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS).

**2-I Save Effort and Heartache over Invasive Species with Early Detection & Rational Response**

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

After development and climate change, invasive species are cited as the biggest threat to conservation of species and natural communities. But you could quickly become discouraged by a seemingly endless battle against invasive heavy-weights such as bittersweet or barberry. In this session we'll look at other ways to manage invasive species on your property from the search for new colonizers to strategies for prioritizing your limited invasive management resources. We'll talk about new invaders coming to Rhode Island because of climate change. Some plant and insect ID will be included but the emphasis will be on strategies for surveillance, response, and adaptation.

**2-J Leading Your Board to Excellence**

*Gayle Gifford - Cause and Effect gayle@ceffect.com*

Board leaders – whether officers, committee chairs or leaders from the middle – are critical to the quality of the board experience. Come discuss the skills and practices of leadership that will greatly improve your board. We'll explore the characteristics of excellent leaders, how to build a leader-filled board, job right-sizing, partnership with the Executive Director, the latest research and promising practices for improving the impact of your board.

**2-K Engaging Youth in Your Conservation Organization**

*Brendan Haggerty - The Green School bhaggerty@thegreeneschool.org*

*Students - The Green School*

*Maggie Krueger - Southside Community Land Trust maggie@southsideclt.org*

*Alyssa Rooks - Southside Community Land Trust alyssa@southsideclt.org*

The membership and leadership of Rhode Island's conservation organizations, like our peers across the nation, are aging. Conservation organizations struggle to attract and engage younger members. At the same time, most high-school and college students and recent graduates care deeply about protecting our environment. This workshop will discuss how your conservation organization can engage high school and college students as members and active volunteers.

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**Workshops – Session III** 2:45 – 4:00 *choose from 11*

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**3-A Managing Natural Areas for Resilience to Climate Change: Lessons Learned from the Napatree Point Demonstration Project**

*Charles Roman - URI Coastal Institute roman@uri.edu*

*Janice Sassi - Watch Hill Conservancy & Watch Hill Fire District janicem88@outlook.com*

*Peter August - University of Rhode Island pvuaugust@uri.edu*

*Bryan Oakley - Eastern Connecticut State University oakleyb@easternct.edu*

The URI Coastal Institute is collaborating with partners on three demonstration sites to exemplify best management practices for enhancing ecosystem and community resilience to the impacts of climate change. The purpose is to provide state, city, and town governments, planners and policymakers, businesses, homeowners and landowners, and others with a suite of options that could be considered to adapt to storm surge, flooding, sea-level rise, and other climate change factors. One demonstration site, the Napatree Point Conservation Area in Watch Hill has been actively involved in stewardship to promote ecosystem resilience for the past five years. This workshop will review the management challenges at Napatree and the best practices identified for managing a fragile natural area that is heavily used by visitors and is vulnerable to climate change impacts such as sea level rise and storms.



**Carol Lynn Trocki**  
 Conservation Biologist  
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### **3-B Creating Temporary Outdoor Play Spaces**

*Samantha Polon - Roger Williams Park Zoo [spolon@rwpzoo.org](mailto:spolon@rwpzoo.org)*

Explore the importance of creating spaces for free, unstructured outdoor play. Learn about the importance of play for children's development, how to use and create "loose parts" and how to inspire conservation behaviors through a closeness to the natural world.

### **3-C Using Aerial Views of Rhode Island: From Satellites to Drones**

*Greg Bonyng - University of Rhode Island [greg@edc.uri.edu](mailto:greg@edc.uri.edu)*

There's a wide variety of aerial images of Rhode Island readily available online in just a few mouse clicks. During the first half of this workshop, you will be guided on a tour through some of these free online resources, and given an overview of how to create your own custom maps using these images with ArcGIS Online. This will be followed by suggestions for organizations that may be considering the use of drones to collect aerial photographs as part of their routine monitoring plans.

### **3-D Using Land Protection Tools to Protect Watersheds**

*Chuck Allott - Aquidneck Island Land Trust [callott@ailt.org](mailto:callott@ailt.org)*

Land trusts have a suite of tools for protecting and enhancing water quality because the best way to protect water quality is to protect land and limit development in the watershed. The highly developed landscape with significant impervious cover contributes to water quality impairments on Aquidneck Island. The Aquidneck Island Land Trust is exploring how conservation easements and land stewardship programs can improve riparian buffers and reduce stormwater pollution in the Maidford and Bailey's Brook watersheds. This workshop will review lessons learned that can be applied to other watersheds in Rhode Island.

### **3-E How to Recognize Invasive Freshwater Aquatic Plants and Prevent Their Spread in Rhode Island**

*Judy Colaluca - Save The Lakes [judycolaluca@aol.com](mailto:judycolaluca@aol.com)*

*Hope Leeson - RI Natural History Survey [hleeson@rinhs.org](mailto:hleeson@rinhs.org)*

Aquatic invasive plants are a problem in many of Rhode Island's lakes and other freshwater systems. Invasive plants have fewer natural predators and can outcompete native plants. Invasive plant infestations reduce the biodiversity of the river or lake, reduce water quality and native habitat availability for fish and wildlife and can also impede swimming, boating, and fishing activities. Participants will learn how to identify the common aquatic invasive plants and learn about volunteer opportunities with the GREAT Boater Program to promote boat hygiene throughout the state to limit the introduction and spread of invasive plants.

### **3-F Rare Species Management in Rhode Island: Getting the Information You Need**

*David Gregg - Rhode Island Natural History Survey [dgregg@rinhs.org](mailto:dgregg@rinhs.org)*

The identification and management of rare species has been a central conservation strategy in the United States since the 1970's. Rhode Island's rare species or "natural heritage" program was established in law in 1978. The location of rare species, their habitat requirements, and viability of and threats to populations are all valuable for efficient, effective conservation. Information on rare species is a standard part of environmental permitting, land management plans, and open space grant applications. In this workshop, learn what data are available and from whom; what the limits are on data completeness, accuracy, and availability and how can you work around them; and how you can collect and contribute information to help round out and maintain the state's rare species lists and data files.



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### **3-G Fundraising That Matters – Major Gift Development for the Small Nonprofit Organization**

*David Allen - Development for Conservation David@DevelopmentForConservation.com*

Effective, sustainable, built-for-the-long-haul organizations should be continually engaged in annual gift, major gift, and planned gift development activities, yet grant-writing, event management, and membership systems often seem more urgent and time intensive. As a result, major gift fundraising – building and sustaining relationships with individual donors – is too often left undone. This workshop will be a fast-paced, crash course in all things “major gifts.” We’ll look at motivations behind major gift decisions, where major gift development should fit in a well-rounded fundraising program, how to find major gift prospects, how to think creatively about and plan for cultivation activities, and the differing roles of staff and Board. This workshop is for both fund development staff and Board volunteers and is appropriate for all levels of fundraising experience.

### **3-H Federal Funding Opportunities and Technical Assistance for the Stewardship of Your Lands**

*Chris Modisett - Natural Resource Conservation Service chris.modisette@ri.usda.gov*

*Leo Smock Randall - Natural Resource Conservation Service leo.smock.randall@ri.usda.gov*

Learn more about USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service’s (NRCS) wide variety a programs and funding that are available to assist a landowner with the conservation and stewardship of their land. This assistance could include preparing, revising or updating a forest management plan, invasive plant control, wildlife habitat enhancement, forest stand improvement, hayland and pasture management, riparian forest buffer management, and pollinator habitat establishment, among others.

### **3-I Managing an Effective Volunteer-based Stewardship & Monitoring Program**

*Becca Washburn - Land Trust Alliance rwashburn@lta.org*

Monitoring protected land is fun and it is an important land trust responsibility. How can your land trust prepare and manage volunteers for monitoring and stewardship? This highly interactive workshop will offer tips and tricks for recruiting, training, engaging, rewarding, and retaining volunteer monitors. Bring your ideas and best practices to share. Participants will receive access to numerous digital copies of example documents.

### **3-J How to Run a Better Board Meeting**

*Jennifer West - Narragansett Bay Estuarine Research Reserve jennifer@nbnerr.org*

Imagine a world where all board meetings are effective, collaborative, and productive! This session will provide the basics of conducting meetings that enhance problem solving and minimize conflict. You will learn fundamental facilitation skills and tools as well as what motivates disruptive behaviors in meetings and how they may be managed.

### **3-K Do Less Better: Using Social Media to Engage Constituents**

*Cindy Sabato - Save The Bay csabato@savebay.org*

Organizations vying for attention need to embrace social media. But being active on Facebook and Instagram and tweeting regularly take time and can feel like distractions from the important work of your group. This workshop will review how social media can be an integral part of your communications and marketing effort without wearing you out. Cindy will give a primer on how social media networks can enhance your overall communications efforts, and will review best practices, hashtags, boosted posts, metrics and use of social media for customer service, brand awareness, and fundraising in a presentation tailored for small and all-volunteer conservation organizations.

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# Land & Water Conservation Awards

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## 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: Ann Marie Aubrey (Smithfield Land Trust, 2016), Helen Tjader (Barrington Land Conservation Trust and Neutaconkanut Hill Conservancy, 2015), 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: Lisa Aurecchia (Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council, 2016)*

*Denise Poyer (Wood Pawcatuck Watershed Association, 2015)*

*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)*



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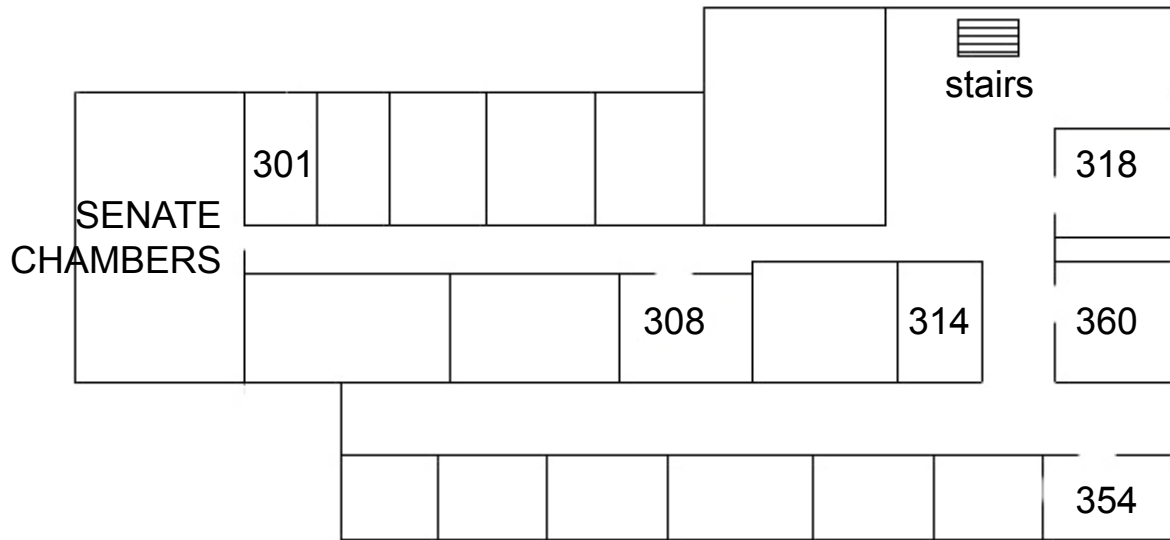
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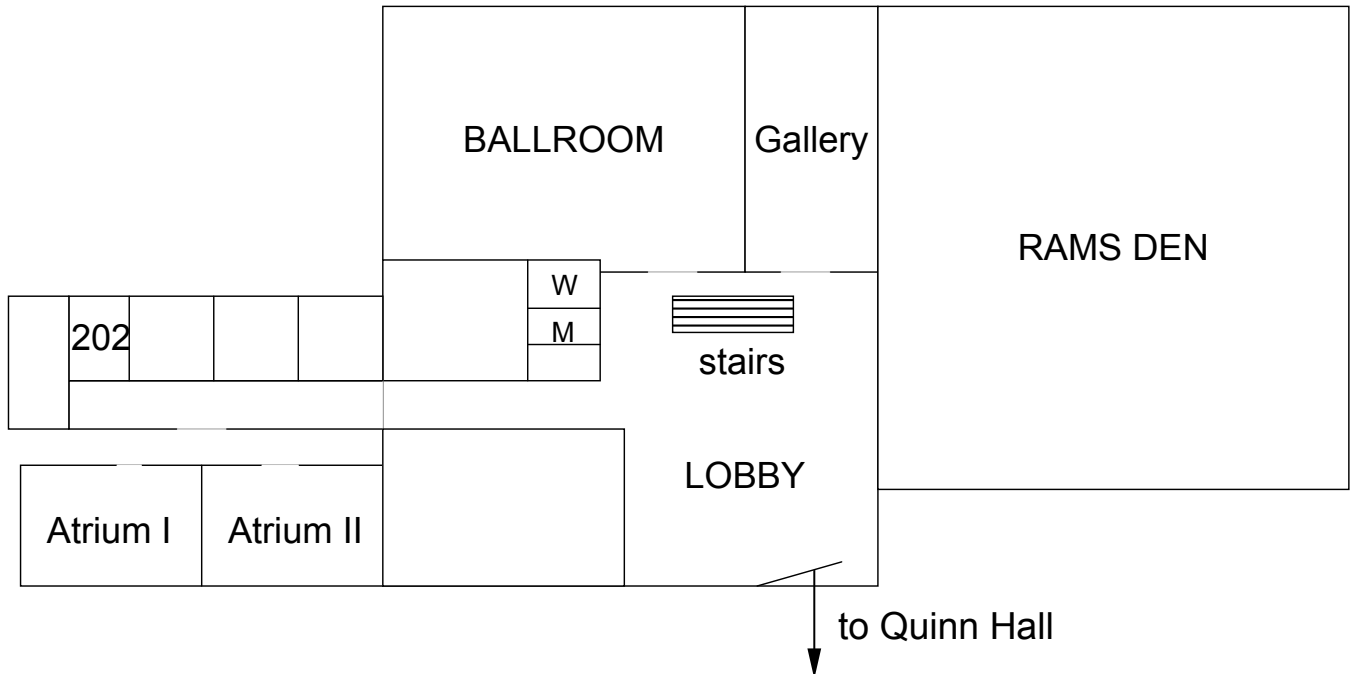
# LAND & WATER CONSERVATION SUMMIT

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templates for baseline docs, management plans,  
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**[landandwaterpartnership.org/library.php](http://landandwaterpartnership.org/library.php)**

#### RI Natural History Survey—

rare species, biodiversity inventory, invasive species

**David Gregg ([dgregg@rinhs.org](mailto:dgregg@rinhs.org))**

#### RI Land Trust Council—

assistance on baseline docs., trail maps & blazing, policy

**Rupert Friday ([rfriday@rilandtrusts.org](mailto:rfriday@rilandtrusts.org))**

#### Youth Conservation League—

trail building, invasive management,  
youth engagement

**Scott Ruhren ([sruhren@asri.org](mailto:sruhren@asri.org))**

#### RI Wildlife Action Plan—

conservation priorities, planning assistance

**Amanda Freitas**

**([amanda.freitas@dem.ri.gov](mailto:amanda.freitas@dem.ri.gov))**



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The Conservation Stewardship Collaborative is:



*Photos: RI Youth Conservation League, Sponsored by RI Conservation Stewardship Collaborative.  
For information on the 2017 YCL, Contact Audubon Society of RI, [sruhren@asri.org](mailto:sruhren@asri.org)*