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SIXTEENTH ANNUAL

LAND & WATER CONSERVATION SUMMIT

Working together to protect our communities

Saturday, March 9, 2019 — URI Memorial Union, Kingston Campus

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CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP COLLABORATIVE



After the Summit
Keep the Teamwork Going
With Stewardship Resources
from "the CSC":

Online Resource Library—

templates for baseline docs, management plans,
monitoring, signage, more

landandwaterpartnership.org/library.php

RI Natural History Survey—

rare species, biodiversity inventory, invasive species

David Gregg (dgregg@rinhs.org)

RI Land Trust Council—

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

Rupert Friday (rfriday@rilandtrusts.org)

Youth Conservation League—

trail building, invasive management,
youth engagement

Scott Ruhren (sruhren@asri.org)

RI Wildlife Action Plan—

conservation priorities, planning assistance

Amanda Freitas
(amanda.freitas@dem.ri.gov)

How can the CSC help you
steward your conservation land?
Get help, send suggestions:

info@ricsc.org or RICSC.org



The Conservation Stewardship Collaborative is:



*Photos: RI Youth Conservation League, Sponsored by RI Conservation Stewardship Collaborative.
For information on the 2019 YCL, Contact Audubon Society of RI, sruhren@asri.org*

2019
RHODE ISLAND
LAND & WATER
CONSERVATION
SUMMIT

Agenda

- 7:45 – 8:30 Registration & Continental Breakfast
- 8:30 – 9:40 Welcome — Emcee: Judith Swift, URI Coastal Institute
• **Keynote: David Vallee**
Hydrologist-in-Charge, NOAA / National Weather Service / NE River Forecast Center
**“Conservation, Meet Development: The Role of Land & Watershed Protection
in Building Resilient Communities”**
- 9:40 – 10:20 **Business Meetings (everyone invited); Network & Visit Exhibits**
9:45 – 10:05 Business Meetings (everyone invited):
 - RI Land Trust Council Business Meeting — Atrium I
 - RI Association of Conservation Commission Business Meeting — Atrium II
 - Watershed Organizations’ Meeting — Senate Chambers
- 10:20 – 11:30 Session I **Workshops** — Your choice from 10 offered
- 11:30 – 11:45 Break
- 11:45 – 12:55 Session II **Workshops** – Your choice from 10 offered
- 12:55 – 2:30 Lunch & Awards
 - Peter Merritt Award for Land Conservation
 - Blueways Stewardship Award

Celebrating years of dedication to land and water conservation:
 - Wood-Pawcatuck Wild and Scenic Rivers Act — Denise Poyer, Study Coordinator

2:45 – 4:00 Session III **Workshops** — Your choice from 10 offered

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of Rhode Island**

Rhode Island Land and Water Partnership

Grassroots organizations play a central role in conserving Rhode Island's waters, open spaces, farms and scenic landscapes. 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 partners from many 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 conservation 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 — mkerr@asri.org

www.landandwaterpartnership.org

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

SOURCES, TRANSPORT, EXPOSURE & EFFECTS OF PFASs (STEEP)



Do you know what is in your well water?

PFASs are man-made chemicals that can work their way through the environment to your private well water, potentially leading to adverse health effects. The URI-led STEEP Superfund Research Program is conducting research on PFASs and state regulators are monitoring their presence as first steps to reduce exposure.

Join the Session 3 Workshop 3-E to learn more

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Building Resilience



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Land & Water Conservation Summit

Sixteen years and counting....

The *Land & Water Conservation Summit* has been held yearly since 2004. The Summit 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, held in March, 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 Conservation Summit*. The first *Land & Water Conservation 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*

2018 **Gus Seelig**—*Building Community Through Conservation: Lessons from 30 Years*

2019 **David Vallee**—*Conservation, Meet Development: The Role of Land & Watershed Protection in Building Resilient Communities*



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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 coffee cup to everyone who attends the Summit instead of providing bottled water and disposable coffee cups. We have washed these cups so you can use yours for water and coffee during the Summit. This reduces the volume of waste we produce.
- We are partnering with Green Energy Consumers Alliance 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. They are also composting food waste.



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
Borders Farm Preservation
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Exeter Rural Land Preservation Trust
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Hopkinton Land Trust
Land Conservancy of North Kingstown
Lincoln Municipal Land Trust
Little Compton Ag. Conservancy Trust

Mt. Tom Land Trust
Narragansett Land Conservancy Trust
Narrow River Land Trust
Neutaconkanut Hill Conservancy
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Prudence Conservancy
RI Farm Bureau Land Trust
Richmond Rural Preservation Land Trust
Sakonnet Preservation Association
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Rhode Island's Block Island Wind Farm is America's first offshore wind power project - sited and constructed with the highest standards of protection for marine wildlife.

Learn how - and why - the National Wildlife Federation is working to advance wildlife-friendly offshore wind power at:

OffshoreWind.NWF.org



We Are in This Together!

*Rhode Island Land Trust Council
is the unified voice for land
conservation and preservation
of open space in Rhode Island.*

Supporting sensible public policy
at the Statehouse

Advocating for open space funding
from all sources

Spreading best practices
among land trusts from sources inside and outside of Rhode Island

Working with you, and for you,
on Conservation matters statewide...

Thank you for supporting the Council's work.



Rupert Friday — 401-932-4667 — rfriday@rilandtrusts.org



MAIN STREET

RESOURCES

**Teacher/Convener and Venture Partner to New
England Leaders Working On Climate Change, Fair
Local Economies and Community Food Systems**



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.

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.

Please visit **www.rieea.org** to learn more about our upcoming events, membership benefits, resource guide, monthly meetings, job postings, and much more.



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Conservation Stewardship Collaborative
Development for Conservation
Green Energy Consumer's Alliance
Grow Smart Rhode Island
Land Trust Alliance
Narrow River Preservation Association
Orsted US Offshore Wind
RI Department of Health
RI Department of Environmental Management — Division of Fish & Wildlife
RI Environmental Education Association
RI Infrastructure Bank / Rhode Island Resiliency Office
RI Land Trust Council
RI Resource Recovery Corporation
RI Sea Grant
The Conservation Fund
Shaping the Future of Your Community Program, Mass Audubon
US Department of Agriculture — Natural Resource Conservation Service
Wildlands and Woodlands

Block Island Wind Farm

The home of American offshore wind



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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: Marilyn Grant (Hopkinton Land Trust, 2018), Sheila Mackintosh (Sakonnet Preservation Association, 2017), 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

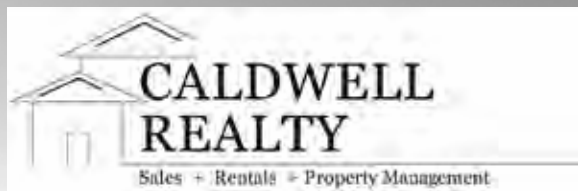
The mission of the Rhode Island Blueways Alliance is to develop a water trail network linking Rhode Island’s rivers, lakes and ponds to Narragansett Bay and to use the trail to promote safety, conservation, recreation and economic development.

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: Ted Callender (Salt Ponds Coalition, 2018), Art Ganz (Salt Ponds Coalition, 2017), 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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Keynote: David Vallee

Conservation, Meet Development:

The Role of Land & Watershed Protection in Building Resilient Communities



With the changing climate, coordinated land use planning is more important than ever before. And yet, conservation and development are typically discussed in either/or terms, rather than as complementary considerations. Land trusts and watershed organizations can play an important role in supporting community vitality by strategically protecting land that enhances water storage during high flow events and also improves local habitats, maintains farmland and expands outdoor recreational opportunities.

Over the past several decades, New England has seen an increase in the annual average temperature, annual average precipitation, and the number of heavy rainfall events. The number of moderate to major flood episodes has also increased. Flood risk is compounded in smaller and more developed watersheds.

This talk will examine the observed climate trends and will share recent examples where land protection and watershed management have worked to complement the built environment. David will challenge the audience to work in collaboration with municipalities and community planners as we move forward in a changing environment.

About David: David Vallee is the Hydrologist-in-Charge of the National Weather Service's Northeast River Forecast Center. The center provides detailed water resource and life-saving flood forecasting services to National Weather Service Forecast Offices and the hundreds of federal, state and local water resource entities throughout the Northeast and New York. David has worked for the National Weather Service for almost 30 years.

David is widely known for his outreach and education work on the behavior of New England Hurricanes, including many appearances on local radio and T.V. networks as well as the Weather Channel, the History Channel and the Discovery Channel.

David is a graduate of Lyndon State College. He is a life-long resident of Rhode Island, living in the northeast part of Cumberland, with his wife and two sets of teenage twins!

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Workshops at a Glance

	Session 1 10:20 – 11:30 am Descriptions — page 21–23	Session 2 11:45 am – 12:55 pm Descriptions — page 25–27	Session 3 2:45 – 4:00 pm Descriptions — page 29–33
A	Community Engagement: Building Transformational Partnerships Through Environmental Education Atrium II	Partnering with Your Local Library to Engage Families Room 318	Conservation Education for Pre-K through 12 and Beyond Quinn 104
B	Using Social Media to Expand Your Organization’s Reach & Impact Senate Chambers	Engaging Urban Youth in Your Conservation Work Room 360	Strategies for Enhancing Pollinator Habitat on State Land Room 360
C	Practical Tools for Managing Stormwater Runoff Room 315	Municipal Strategies for Managing Stormwater with Green Infrastructure Room 315	Ecological Management of Forage Fish Room 301
D	Finding Aquatic Invasive Plants and Planning Lake Management Strategies Quinn 103	Using the MyCoast Coastal Resilience Tool for Monitoring Shoreline Change and Coastal Resilience Projects Senate Chambers	Emergency Preparedness as a Tool for Community Resilience Quinn 214
E	What Were They Thinking? How to Be Heard in Land Use Decisions and Legislation Room 318	Free Mapping Tools for Conservation Property & Easement Monitoring Atrium I	Update on Ubiquitous Contaminant - PFASs Quinn 103
F	Forest Conservation Strategies to Address Climate Change Atrium I	Statewide Perspectives on Siting Renewable Energy Projects Atrium II	Municipal Planning for Solar Development Atrium II
G	RI State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan: “SCORP” Quinn 214	Land Trust Boot Camp 201: Core Functions of a Land Trust Quinn 214	Conservation Stewardship and Biodiversity: Issues and Resources Atrium I
H	Land Protection 101: Putting a Project Together Room 360	Giving Yourself an Out: Knowing When to Say “No!” to a Land Conservation Project Quinn 104	Federal Funding & Technical Assistance Opportunities for Land Conservation & the Stewardship of Your Lands Room 308
I	Land Management Options for Sustaining Grasslands Quinn 104	Mapping Your Landowner Engagement Strategy Room 308	Planning for New Public Access on Protected Land Room 318
J	How to Be a Successful Board Fundraiser for Your Organization Room 308	Fundraising Metrics and How to Use Them Quinn 103	Recruiting the Board You Need Room 315

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

1.A Community Engagement: Building Transformational Partnerships through Environmental Education

Rachel Holbert — Norman Bird Sanctuary (RHolbert@normanbirdsanctuary.org)

This workshop introduces participants to the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) Guidelines for Excellence in Community Engagement, a set of practices for engaging and working with communities through the lens of environmental education (EE). Participants will have an opportunity to navigate the guidelines, unpack the key characteristics, and discuss application in their practice.

1.B Using Social Media to Expand Your Organization's Reach & Impact

Cindy Sabato — Save The Bay (csabato@savebay.org)

Kathryn Dorchies — Save The Bay (kdorchies@savebay.org)

The world of social media has expanded rapidly, with platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Now, it is often the initial point of contact (or first impression) and a main form of engagement between organizations and their potential supporters, donors, members and wider communities. For many non-profit organizations, budget and capacity constraints limit your ability to dive into the social media world. And, social media can seem daunting with all of its ever-changing features. But if you had just one hour a week to invest in social media, where would you put your eggs? This workshop offers tips for small and volunteer organizations to make the most of social media in a short amount of time.

1.C Practical Tools for Managing Stormwater Runoff

Lorraine Joubert — URI Cooperative Extension, NEMO Program (ljoubert@uri.edu)

Lisa Philo — URI Cooperative Extension, NEMO Program (lphilo@uri.edu)

Whether you are involved in a land trust, local board, or simply interested in conservation, this session will help you reduce stormwater pollution through practical, land-management tools. Featured resources include: new online soil erosion and sediment control training, customized specifically for RI; a simple guide to identify when construction site runoff is properly controlled (or not) and who to contact about violations; maintenance guides and checklists for rain gardens and other green infrastructure; and a RI Weed Guide for identifying the most invasive and weedy plants likely to take over green infrastructure or land trust properties.

1.D Finding Aquatic Invasive Plants and Planning Lake Management Strategies

Katie DeGoosh-DiMarzio — RI Dept. of Environmental Management (katie.degoosh@dem.ri.gov)

Elizabeth Herron — URI Watershed Watch (emb@uri.edu)

Aquatic invasive plants are a rising concern in many watersheds throughout RI, growing aggressively to outcompete native species and clog local waterways. They can reduce water quality and native habitat supporting healthy fish and wildlife, but can also ruin swimming, boating and fishing activities. Participants will learn where the most common aquatic invasive plants are in the state, and become familiar with strategies to prevent their spread, as well as control and manage local populations.

1.E What Were They Thinking? How to Be Heard in Land Use Decisions and Legislation

Representative Kathy Fogarty — Rhode Island General Assembly (rep-fogarty@rilegislature.gov)

Maria Mack — South Kingstown Planning Board (cfm@cox.net)

Have you experienced frustration when you see poor decisions, ill-conceived projects or legislation that is detrimental to the environment? Learn how to have meaningful, effective impact at both the local and state level.

Rhode Island Chapter: American Society of Landscape Architects



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1.F Forest Conservation Strategies to Address Climate Change

Scott Millar — Grow Smart RI (SMillar@growsmartri.com)

Tee Jay Boudreau — RI Dept. of Environmental Management (teejay.boudreau@dem.ri.gov)

Christopher Riely — Sweet Birch Consulting (christopher@sweetbirchconsulting.com)

Kate Sayles — Consultant (katechampiontree@gmail.com)

Although we think of Rhode Island as the ocean city-state, dominated by the Providence metro area, it is also well forested with 56 % of the state covered with trees. These forest lands are an important part of the state's economy, annually generating \$710 million from forest products and \$375 from forest-based recreation. Forest lands are also important for climate resilience, absorbing carbon and rainfall. This workshop will review the important role the forest has in mitigating climate change, current and proposed options for forest conservation strategies in Rhode Island and will introduce participants to the state's new urban forestry initiative.

1.G RI State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan: “SCORP”

Jim Riordan — Weston & Sampson (RiordanJ@wseinc.com)

Michelle Sheehan — RI Dept. of Environmental Management (michelle.sheehan@dem.ri.gov)

The Rhode Island State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) sets the tone for meeting outdoor recreation needs statewide as an element of the State Guide Plan. Critically, the SCORP outlines funding priorities for outdoor recreation investment over the next five years. Your favorite beach, park, walking trail, or boat ramp is part of this plan! This workshop will review the background of the SCORP, summarize public feedback received as part of the planning process, and outline how to use the plan to direct recreation funding to your organization and community.

1.H Land Protection 101 — Putting a Project Together

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

This is a soup to nuts workshop on protecting land including both fee and conservation easement transactions. How do you decide what land to protect? How to approach owners? Obtain land gifts? Secure funding? Buy it outright or get a Conservation Easement? Prepare your land trust and the land owner for a process that may extend for years? Establish relationships that extend beyond the deal and into stewardship? We'll use case studies to dissect a typical land conservation project starting with how a land conservation project begins and how to talk with a landowner. We'll go through the steps and discuss what needs to be done until the project is completed and the property is protected.

1.I Land Management Options for Sustaining Grasslands

Garry Plunkett — Tiverton Open Space Commission & Tiverton Land Trust (grplunkett@gmail.com)

Gary Casabona — USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (gary.casabona@ri.usda.gov)

Grasslands are beautiful natural communities that can enrich the biodiversity of protected lands. They provide space for a multitude of pollinator species, as well as critically important habitat for ground nesting and edge feeding bird species. They are also threatened all across New England as they succumb to development, or bow to the challenges of invasive species and successional dynamics. This workshop will review the history and ecology of New England grasslands, then discuss options for sustaining them. Property managers are encouraged to attend and share their experiences.

1.J How to Be a Successful Board Fundraiser for Your Organization

Keith Tavares — Rhode Island Foundation - Initiative for Nonprofit Excellence (ktavares@rifoundation.org)

This workshop is aimed specifically at board members with passion for mission and limited experience around fund development. The workshop will provide concrete steps to make every board member a fundraiser.



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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

www.nbwctp.org



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Workshops – Session II 11:45 – 12:55 *choose from 10*

2.A Partnering with Your Local Library to Engage Families

Amy O'Donnell — Barrington Conservation Land Trust (amyodo@gmail.com)

Jeanine Silversmith — South Kingstown Land Trust & RI Environmental Education Association (jsilversmith@rieec.org)

Learn how two land trusts collaborated with their local libraries to create a “Young Naturalist Program.” Families check out a backpack from the library like they do with a museum or zoo pass. The backpack has the land trust’s trail maps, magnifying glasses, field guides, and other small tools that young explorers can use in nature. Discuss ways to promote the program and some of the challenges to starting and effectively managing the program.

2.B Engaging Urban Youth in Your Conservation Work

Brianna Balke — Blackstone Academy (bbalke@blackstoneacademy.org)

Ruben Trejo — Blackstone Academy

Ian Lear — Blackstone Academy

Students from Blackstone Academy attended the 2018 Land & Water Summit. They offered to come back this year to share their ideas for how conservation organizations can engage with young people and benefit from youthful energy and enthusiasm in urban communities.

2.C Municipal Strategies for Managing Stormwater with Green Infrastructure

Andrew Silvia — City of Pawtucket (asilvia@PAWTUCKETRI.com)

Scott Wheeler — City of Newport (swheeler@cityofnewport.com)

Cities and towns throughout Rhode Island struggle with managing stormwater. While green stormwater solutions like rain gardens, bioswales and tree plantings provide communities with multiple additional benefits including shading and habitat, they also pose new challenges for the municipal departments charged with maintaining them. The Cities of Pawtucket and Newport are leaders in green stormwater management. This session will leave participants with strategies for encouraging municipalities to embrace green stormwater solutions.

2.D Using the MyCoast Coastal Resilience Tool for Monitoring Shoreline Change and Coastal Resilience Projects

Wenley Ferguson — Save The Bay (wferguson@savebay.org)

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

Caitlin Chaffee — Coastal Resources Management Council (CChaffee@crmc.ri.gov)

Community conservation groups often have the local knowledge of areas where wave and stormwater runoff erode the shoreline; places where coastal resources are threatened by the squeeze between rising seas and crumbling, ineffective infrastructure; and locations where coastal marshes are migrating upland or drowning in place. This workshop will introduce local community liaisons, neighborhood associations, and other interested parties to the MyCoast phone app that allows the user to document current site conditions and changes over time. The MyCoast King Tides and Storm Reporter tools are used to document coastal flooding and storm impacts. This workshop will instruct participants on using the Coastal Resilience Tool to identify potential coastal adaptation projects and document the efficacy of green infrastructure projects that have been installed.

2.E Free Mapping Tools for Conservation Property & Easement Monitoring

Carol Trocki — Consulting Conservation Biologist (ctrocki@gmail.com)

Greg Bonyng — University of Rhode Island Geospatial Extension Specialist (greg@edc.uri.edu)

Learn how to enhance your organization’s approach to monitoring conserved properties and easements by using Google Earth Pro and Esri ArcGIS Online. In addition to introducing these free software tools, we’ll show you how to tap into both historical and the most current available aerial photographs of Rhode Island.

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2.F Statewide Perspectives on Siting Renewable Energy Projects

Sheila Dormody — The Nature Conservancy (sheila.dormody@tnc.org)

Paul Raducha — Kearsarge Energy LP (praducha@kearsargeenergy.com)

Scott Millar — Grow Smart Rhode Island (SMillar@growsmartri.com)

Ashley Sweet — Exeter Town Planner & RI Chapter of the American Planning Assoc. (planner@town.exeter.ri.us)

Climate change is here and Rhode Island has a suite of renewable energy laws to encourage the development of solar and wind projects. These laws are successful and the renewable energy business is booming in Rhode Island. Policy makers, developers and planners are working together to balance this new development with natural resource protection and maintenance of the state's quality of place. This workshop will highlight how properly sited projects can benefit communities with little or no environmental impacts. Panelists will also review the critical importance of forests as we strive to meet greenhouse gas reduction goals.

2.G Land Trust Board Boot Camp 201: Core Functions of a Land Trust

Kevin Case — Land Trust Alliance (kcase@lta.org)

Chuck Toal — Connecticut Land Conservation Council & Avalonia Land Trust (chucktoal@gmail.com)

Running a land trust is complex and unique in the non-profit community, not just because we make a promise of perpetuity with each conservation easement. This workshop provides new board members with an overview of technical aspects of land protection and stewardship for both conservation easements and fee owned land. Experienced board members will learn about new trends and techniques. The workshop will cover the nuts and bolts of land protection and stewardship and discuss everything from the process of evaluating conservation projects to responding to potential violations.

2.H Giving Yourself an Out — Knowing When To Say “No!” to a Land Conservation Project

Reggie Hall — The Conservation Fund (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.I Mapping Your Landowner Engagement Strategy

Hallie Schwab — Highstead Foundation (hschwab@highstead.net)

Cassidy Dellorto-Blackwell — Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies - Sustaining Family Forests Initiative (cassidy.dellorto-blackwell@yale.edu)

Land trusts understand the need to engage landowners and members of the community, but is your outreach portfolio structured in a way that supports your mission and project goals? Do you lack the time, capacity, or direction to keep things progressing after you've gotten a landowner's attention? This workshop will encourage participants to plan out their outreach activities from start to finish using the concept of a “Ladder of Engagement,” developed by The Sustaining Family Forests Initiative's Tools for Engaging Landowners Effectively. Case studies from the Hudson to Housatonic Regional Conservation Partnership will depict lessons learned about follow-up and setting the stage for meaningful relationships with landowners. Participants will have a chance to apply this tool in small breakout groups and map out a series of steps and touch points that will guide landowner action towards change they want to see on the landscape.

2.J Fundraising Metrics and How to Use Them

David Allen — Development for Conservation (David@DevelopmentForConservation.com)

Fundraising metrics matter. We all know that. But not the metrics that many people think of and not the way in which many people use them. For example, metrics shouldn't be used to justify our existence. They should be used to change our behavior – adapt to our changing environment. They should be used to help predict what will happen in the coming months and years. Join fundraising expert David Allen as we explore what you should be measuring and how to use the data you get back.

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3.A Conservation Education for Pre-K through 12 and Beyond

Molly Allard — Northern RI Conservation District (mallard.nricd@gmail.com)

Learn how to share your organization's message with all age groups through a variety of methods and techniques. Learn the many resources available to you in Rhode Island.

3.B Strategies for Enhancing Pollinator Habitat on State Land

Allison Hamel — RI Dept. of Transportation (allison.hamel@dot.ri.gov)

Susan Votta — RI Dept. of Transportation (susan.votta@dot.ri.gov)

Tanner Steeves — RI Dept. of Environmental Management (Tanner.Steeves@dem.ri.gov)

Worldwide, pollinator populations are in decline, affected by climate change, diseases, pesticide exposure and loss of habitat. States throughout the country are working to enhance pollinator habitat along roads and on state owned properties. In Rhode Island, the RI Department of Transportation is working in partnership with the RI Department of Environmental Management on pollinator habitat enhancement. This session will share the lessons learned to date and give attendees tips for replicating this work on locally owned roads and protected lands.

3.C Ecological Management of Forage Fish

Zach Cockrum — National Wildlife Federation (CockrumZ@nwf.org)

Patrick McGee — RI Dept. of Environmental Management (patrick.mcgee@dem.ri.gov)

Offshore forage fish like herring and menhaden are critical food sources for marine mammals and other fish. At-risk marine and coastal birds including Bald Eagles, Ospreys, Royal Terns, Brown Pelicans, and many others rely on these fish. Fisheries management traditionally looks at each species as a unique resource, but there are connections between fish populations and the health of the species that rely on them for food. Recent fisheries management decisions have been considering ecologically based management which considers the importance of a species within the full ecosystem. This workshop will provide an overview of forage fish management and consider implications for recreational fisheries and river management.

3.D Emergency Preparedness as a Tool for Community Resilience

Shaun O'Rourke — RI Infrastructure Bank (sorourke@riib.org)

Melinda Hopkins — RI Emergency Management Agency (Melinda.Hopkins@ema.ri.gov)

Last summer, Governor Raimondo issued "Resilient Rhody, An Actionable Vision for Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change in Rhode Island." This strategy identifies a range of actions we can take to prepare our communities for the impacts of climate change. Participants in this session will get a brief introduction to the strategy, implementation efforts already underway, and then hear about how emergency preparedness strategies and investments are being put in place to protect communities. Participants will learn how they can collaborate with local and state officials to strengthen these efforts in their communities.

3.E Update on Ubiquitous Contaminant — PFASs

Judith Swift — Coastal Institute (jswift@uri.edu)

Rainer Lohmann — University of Rhode Island, GSO (rlohmann@uri.edu)

Terry Gray — RI Dept. of Environmental Management (terry.gray@dem.ri.gov)

Amy Parmenter — RI Dept. of Health (Amy.Parmenter@health.ri.gov)

Amber Neville — Coastal Institute (amneville@uri.edu)

PFASs (poly- and perfluoroalkyl substances) have caught the attention of regulatory agencies because of their persistence, toxicity, and widespread occurrence in the blood of general populations and wildlife. PFASs are widely used to make consumer products nonstick, waterproof/resistant, and stain resistant. They are also used in firefighting foams at military bases and at civilian firefighting training locations where they can leach into groundwater. Members of URI's NIEHS-sponsored STEEP Superfund Research Program and Rhode Island state agencies will provide an overview of current science, regulatory efforts, and presence in Rhode Island.

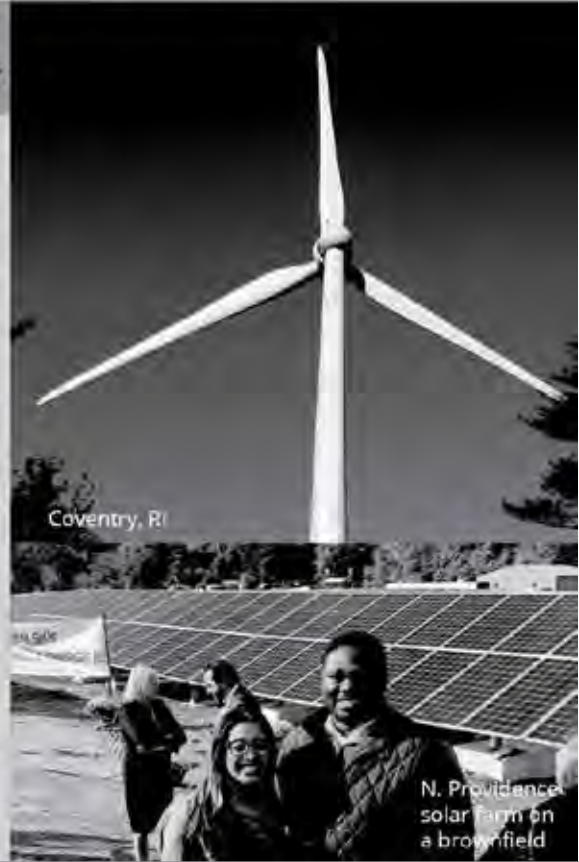
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3.F Municipal Planning for Solar Developments

Douglas W. Doe — West Bay Land Trust (dwdoe@cox.net)

Ashley Sweet — Exeter Town Planner & RI Chapter of the American Planning Assoc. (planner@town.exeter.ri.us)

Solar development is booming in Rhode Island. Municipal planning and zoning is where the rubber hits the road to shape the location, size and character of these developments. This workshop will discuss what we are learning about best practices for solar development and share strategies for how municipalities can work with developers to ensure the development is consistent with the town's comprehensive plan and community interests. Doug Doe will describe what the West Bay Land Trust and citizens in Cranston have encountered in their efforts to protect farmland and the rural character of Cranston. Ashley Sweet will share Exeter's process for adopting planning and zoning for solar developments.

3.G Conservation Stewardship and Biodiversity: Issues and Resources

David Gregg — RI Natural History Survey & Conservation Stewardship Collaborative (dgregg@rinhs.org)

Biological resources are one of the main targets for conservation land managers. Though it remains a challenge to get inventories done at a price you can afford, there are resources available. This session will review available sources of information on Rhode Island's rare species, invasive species, other species of interest, natural communities, and other biological features and what each of these might mean for your land stewardship. We will also consider the strengths and weaknesses of different information sources and obvious data gaps. Also, the Conservation Stewardship Collaborative will provide brief updates on its recent projects and seek input on stewardship obstacles faced by land conservation practitioners in the audience.

3.H Federal Funding and Technical Assistance Opportunities for Land Conservation and the Stewardship of Your Lands

Joe Bachand — USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (joseph.bachand@ri.usda.gov)

Mary-Kate Kane — Eastern RI Conservation District & Sakonnet Preservation Assoc. (mkane@sakonnetpreservation.org)

Kate Sayles — Northern RI Conservation District (ksayles.nricd@gmail.com)

Is your land trust interested in increasing habitat for wildlife, controlling invasives, improving your pasture, or managing your forests? Funding and technical assistance are available through the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) to help you with these projects and so much more! Join us for this workshop to discuss how land trusts are working effectively with NRCS to protect lands through easement programs and how other NRCS programs can assist with funding land stewardship activities on your properties. Free technical and application assistance will be made available to interested workshop participants through the Conservation Districts.

3.I Planning for New Public Access on Protected Land

Alex Chumann — Aquidneck Land Trust (achuman@ailt.org)

Does your organization have plans to open up conservation land for public access? We'll touch on an array of topics you may be thinking about like coming up with a site design and management plan to accomplish your goals, how to make the property safe and secure, working with neighbors, recruiting volunteers and supporters to help take care of your new property, and budgeting time and expenses. The Aquidneck Land Trust successfully completed two land acquisition purchases in 2017 and 2018 in Middletown and Portsmouth with plans to open these new preserves for the public. We'll share our successes and hiccups from the last couple years of work on these two properties, and hope to hear from attendees on their own projects and strategies.



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3.J Recruiting the Board You Need

David Allen — Development for Conservation (David@DevelopmentForConservation.com)

We expect most Board members to be “plug-and-play” leaders – all they need is a two-hour orientation session, and they’ll be good to go. Yet most of us realize that it can take months if not years for new people to understand how the “business of our Nature and the nature of our Business” actually works. How can we compress this learning curve? This workshop will examine the first few years of the board experience. We’ll talk about the qualities of a good Board member, job description, and how to find Board members. We’ll share tools for approaching this important work objectively and systematically. We’ll talk about recruiting diversity – how to recruit a Board that represents the community in which you work. And we’ll offer and consider several fresh ideas for identifying, training, and empowering the Board leaders you need – both now and into the future.



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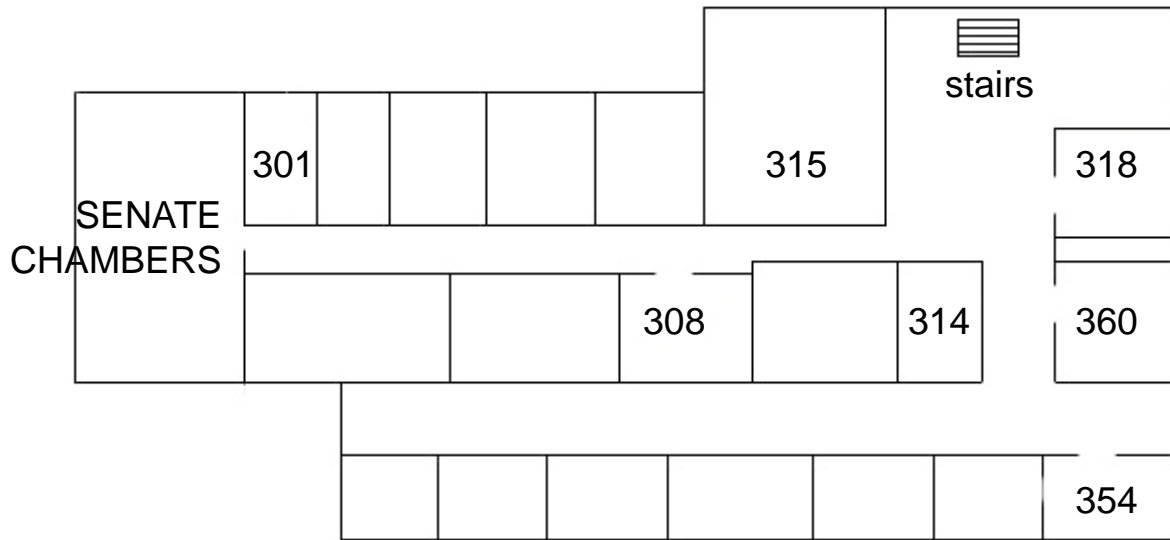
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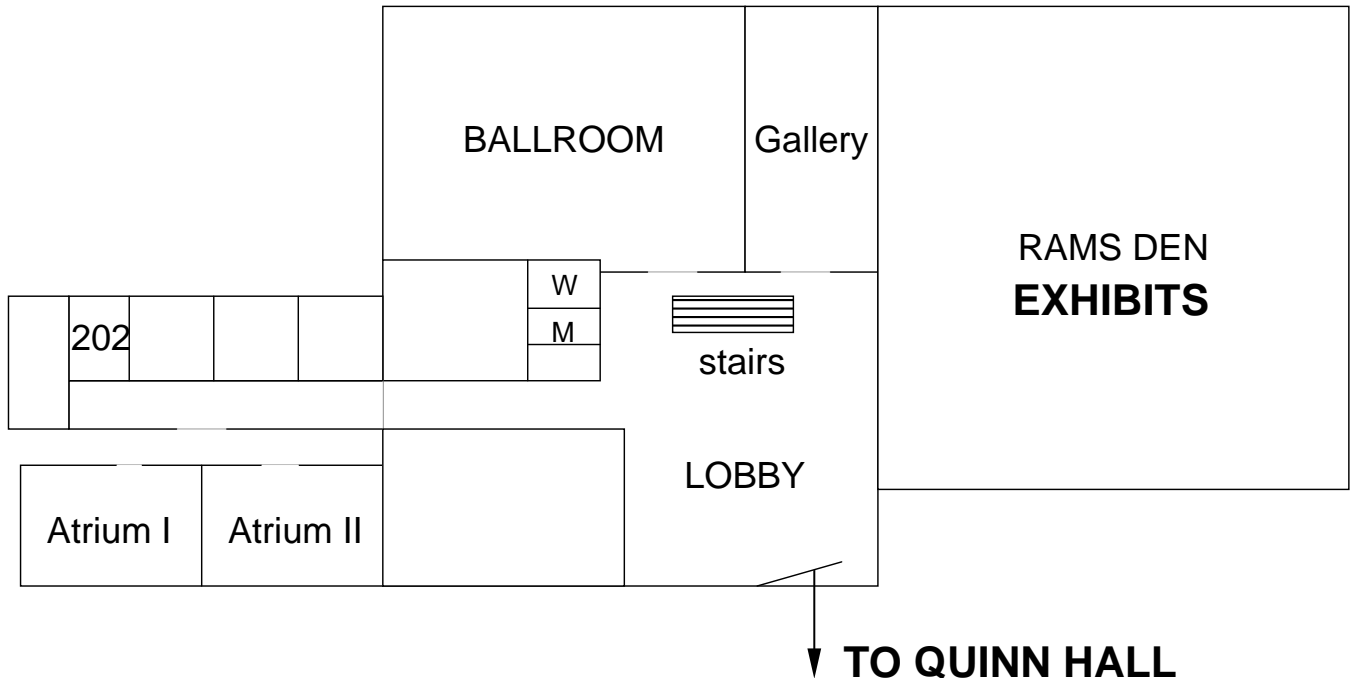
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