

# 7th Annual Sustainable Raritan Conference and Awards Ceremony



## Two States: One Bay

*A bi-state conversation about the future of the Raritan Bay*

**Douglass Student Center**

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey  
100 George Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

**Friday, June 12, 2015**

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## Conference Agenda

8:00 – 8:45 **Registration and Exhibits Open** (Continental Breakfast)

8:45 – 9:30 **Welcoming Remarks**

Sara Malone, Program Manager, Sustainable Raritan River Initiative  
Dr. Judy Shaw, Program Director, Sustainable Raritan River Initiative  
Dr. James Hughes, Dean of the E.J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers  
Joan Leary Matthews, Director, Clean Water Division, US Environmental Protection Agency  
Dan Kennedy, Assistant Commissioner, Water Resources, NJ DEP  
Venetia Lannon, Director, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 2  
Robert Pirani, Program Director, New York-New Jersey Harbor & Estuary Program

**Testimonial Video**

**Conference Goals, Review Agenda, Initial Group Polling**

9:30 – 11:10 **Water Quality Panel**

*Moderator:* Dr. Dennis Suszkowski, Science Director, Hudson River Foundation  
*Panelists:* Jeff Myers, Bureau Director, Water Assessment Management, NYS DEC  
Dan Kennedy, Assistant Commissioner, Water Resources, NJ DEP

**Public Access Panel**

*Moderator:* Nick Tufaro, Principal Planner, Middlesex County Office of Planning  
*Panelists:* Sara Malone, Program Manager, Sustainable Raritan River Initiative  
John Kilcullen, Director, Conference House Park, NYC Dept. of Parks & Recreation

**Fisheries Management Panel**

*Moderator:* Tom Noji, Director, NOAA National Marine Science Lab at Sandy Hook  
*Panelists:* Peter Clarke, Fisheries Biologist, NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife, NJDEP  
Soren Dahl, Coordinator for Seagrass Mgmt., Bureau of Marine Resources, NYS DEC

11:10 – 11:30 **Break** (Beverages)



*Photo Credit: NASA Image of the Raritan Bay Complex in the wake of Hurricane Irene*

11:30 – 12:35 **Resilience Panel**

*Moderator:* Rob Freudenberg, Director, Energy & Environment, Regional Plan Association

*Panelists:* Dave Rosenblatt, Administrator, Office of Engineering & Construction, NJDEP  
Kris Van Orsdel, Dir. Infrastructure & Local Gov. Prgm., Office of Storm Recovery

**Habitat Restoration Panel**

*Moderator:* Debbie Mans, Baykeeper & Executive Director, NY/NJ Baykeeper

*Panelists:* Peter Wepler, Chief, Environmental Branch, US Army Corps of Engineers  
Carl Alderson, Marine Habitat Restoration Specialist, NOAA

12:35 – 2:30 **Working Lunch** (Buffet sandwiches, salad, vegetable tray, brownies & cookies)

2:30 – 3:00 **Break** (Beverages) **and Group Polling Exercise**

3:00 – 4:15 **Towards a Shared Agenda: Issue Reports and Discussions**

*Moderator:* Tony MacDonald, Director, Urban Coast Institute, Monmouth University

*Panelists:* Kate Anderson, Chief, Clean Water Regulatory Branch, USEPA (Water Quality)  
Kerry Miller, Assistant Director, Assn. of NJ Environmental Comm. (Public Access)  
Dr. Bonnie McCay, Professor of Human Ecology, Rutgers (Fisheries)  
Dr. Steven Handel, Professor Ecology & Evolution, Rutgers (Habitat Restoration)  
Adam Parris, Exec. Director, Science & Resilience Institute/Jamaica Bay (Resilience)  
Rob Freudenberg, Director, Energy & Environment, Regional Plan Assn. (Regional)

4:15 – 4:45 **Conference Closing Thoughts and Next Steps**

Robert Pirani, Program Director, New York-New Jersey Harbor & Estuary Program

5:00 – 6:00 **Award Ceremony and Reception** (Wine, beer, beverages, cheese & crackers)

*Presenters:* Dr. Judy Shaw, Program Director, Sustainable Raritan River Initiative  
Michael Catania, Director, Duke Farms Foundation  
William Kibler, Director of Policy and Science, Raritan Headwaters Association  
Debbie Mans, Baykeeper & Executive Director, NY/NJ Baykeeper

**Two States: One Bay is produced by  
The Sustainable Raritan River Initiative and the New York-New Jersey Harbor & Estuary Program**

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