

## 9th Annual Sustainable Raritan Conference and Awards Ceremony



# State of the Raritan

*Status and trends from across the region, where do we go from here?*

**Douglass Student Center**  
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey  
100 George Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

**Friday, June 9, 2017**

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## Participant Biographies

**Michael Catania**, JD, Executive Director, Duke Farms Foundation. Duke Farms, serves as a model of sustainability and environmental stewardship on 2,700 acres in Hillsborough, NJ. Michael founded Conservation Resources Inc., a nonprofit conservation group that provided financial and technical assistance to the conservation community in New Jersey. Previously, he served as Deputy Commissioner of the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, Executive Director of The Nature Conservancy of NJ, and he has been the Chair of the NJ Natural Lands Trust for more than 12 years. Michael currently serves as Co-chair of the New Jersey Climate Adaptation Alliance.

**Kimberly A. Cenno**, Bureau Chief, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Kim is a graduate of Douglass College - Rutgers University and holds her bachelor's degree in Geology. While working for the NJDEP over the past 27 years, she attended the Bloustein School of Planning and Policy and earned a Master's Degree in City and Regional Planning. Currently, Kim is Chief for the Bureau of Environmental Analysis, Restoration and Standards (BEARS) within the Division of Water Monitoring and Standards. She oversees the development, adoption, and administration of New Jersey's Surface Water Quality Standards and the New Jersey Ground Water Quality Standards. BEARS is responsible for determining the causes and sources of water quality impairment, the results of which are reported every two years in the New Jersey Integrated Water Quality Assessment Report, which includes the Section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Waters (303(d) List) and developing the pollutant reductions needed for restoration of water quality through Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and watershed restoration plans. She also manages the Clean Water Act Section 319(h) Nonpoint Source Pollution Control grant program, Citizen Scientist Volunteer Monitoring Program as well as the AmeriCorps New Jersey Watershed Ambassadors Program.

**Cindy Ehrenclou**, Executive Director, Raritan Headwaters. Cindy Ehrenclou became the director of the Upper Raritan Watershed Association (URWA) in February 2006, after twelve years as the Association's development director. Cindy established Education and Outreach Programs for families and children including nature camps and regional school programs, founded an environmental information series for municipal leaders and in 2011, spearheaded a merger between the South Branch and Upper Raritan Watershed Associations. She is a 2007 graduate of Leadership New Jersey and is the Chair of the New Jersey League of Conservation Voters Education Fund. In addition, Cindy serves as a member of the New Jersey Land Trust Network, Keep it Green Campaign, New Jersey Highlands Coalition, and the Sustainable Raritan River Initiative Steering Committee.

**Carrie Ferraro**, PhD, Program Coordinator, Department of Marine and Coastal Sciences, Rutgers University School of Environmental and Biological Sciences. Carrie received her Ph.D. from Rutgers in Oceanography in 2010, studying the active microbial population in aquatic environments using molecular markers. After graduating, Carrie began working with researchers to communicate their science through the construction and implementation of innovative and effective Broader Impact statements that fulfill National Science Foundation requirements. Through this effort, she created high quality educational materials that fostered connections between students, faculty, K-12 teachers, and researchers. Currently, she works with the Rutgers' Raritan InVestigations, Education and Resources (RIVER) Initiative and Rutgers Raritan River Consortium (R3C) to create opportunities for students and researchers to access and study the evolving status of the Raritan River. She is also the program coordinator for Coastal Climate Risk & Resilience (C2R2), an NSF Research Traineeship (NRT) working to prepare the workforce that will build coastal resilience in the face of climate risks.

**Jeanne Herb**, Associate Director, Environmental Analysis and Communications Group, Rutgers University Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy. Jeanne's work at the Bloustein School focuses on leading collaborative research and applied projects that advance sound environmental and sustainability practices at the state, local and regional levels. Among other projects, Jeanne co-facilitates the *New Jersey Climate Adaptation Alliance*, a network of governmental, non-profit, and business organizations focused on advancing climate change and resilience policies and practices in New Jersey, the *New Jersey Planning Healthy Communities Initiative*, a university-based collaborative that focuses on promoting "health in all policies" strategies at the state and community levels, and the *Sustainable Raritan River Initiative*, a collaborative effort to integrate multidisciplinary science and research into planning and decision-making within the Raritan River Basin. At Rutgers, Jeanne is part of a team of practitioners and researchers that have integrated science into decision support tools to support resilience planning. Jeanne's work also includes community engagement projects focused on climate change resilience and fostering healthy community efforts. Prior to joining the Bloustein School, Jeanne was the Assistant Commissioner for Policy, Planning and Science at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection where she led multidisciplinary and cross-program efforts related to climate change and energy, Environmental Justice, smart growth and sustainable development, environmental health and science policy and coastal management. Earlier in her career, Jeanne was the Manager for

the Public Policy Program at the non-profit Tellus Institute, was the founding Director of the New Jersey Pollution Prevention Program and oversaw risk reduction and risk communication efforts at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Jeanne has a Master degree in environmental journalism from The New York University and a Bachelor's degree in environmental studies and education from Rutgers University.

**Leigh Anne (Annie) Hindenlang**, Director, Neighborhood Planning and Redevelopment, Topology. Annie is licensed planner in the State of New Jersey and certified by the American Institute of Certified Planners. She has a broad depth of experience at the municipal level in evolving and challenging urban environments. This experience has resulted in a wide range of knowledge related to brownfield remediation, public financing, comprehensive planning, project and process management, and redevelopment.

Of particular note is Annie's time spent with the City of Perth Amboy as the planning and redevelopment director. During her five years with the city, she successfully oversaw the completion of over a dozen comprehensive municipal planning documents, created sustainability, workforce development and resiliency programs, acquired over \$20 million in grant funds and oversaw \$500 million dollars of new private investment into the City through the redevelopment process.

Annie considers herself a quality of life planner that seeks to creatively solve problems with solutions that address diverse needs and populations. She likes to approach projects with the goal of balanced economic, environmental and social benefits. She enjoys complex projects with many moving parts for the often unique, inspiring processes and outcomes they create.

She is a proud Hokie--graduating from Virginia Tech in 2010 with a Bachelor of Science in Business Management, a Bachelor of Arts in English, and a Bachelor of Arts in Urban Planning. She finished her Master of Urban and Regional Planning at Rutgers' Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy in 2012 with a certificate in historic preservation.

**Jeffrey L. Hoffman**, P.G., State Geologist, New Jersey Geological & Water Survey, NJDEP Division of Water Supply and Geosciences. Jeffrey L. Hoffman is the New Jersey State Geologist and head of the NJ Geological and Water Survey. He has over 35 years of experience in groundwater and geologic issues of New Jersey. He has researched water-supply and drought issues and was the Survey's lead on watershed management. He has participated in the planning, performance, and analysis of aquifer tests and been involved in the development and evaluation of a number of numerical ground-water models. He has also been very involved in issues regarding the protection of water supply in the Highlands. Mr. Hoffman has an undergraduate degree in geophysics from Penn State and a masters in hydrogeology from Princeton.

**Andrew Johnson**, Program Director, William Penn Foundation. Andy manages the Watershed Protection program, which focuses on protecting and restoring water quality in the Delaware River

watershed. He oversees a team organized around three related strategies: research, data collection, monitoring and advocacy with watershed-wide implications; on-the-ground restoration and preservation work and monitoring in specific subwatersheds in the Delaware River basin; and building the constituency for watershed protection by engaging people involved in outdoor activities on the Circuit, Greater Philadelphia's 750-mile regional trail network.

Previously, Andy worked for the Pennsylvania Environmental Council, where he was Chief Operating Officer and Senior Vice President, and in the policy office of New Jersey Governor Thomas Kean. He has been involved in local government in Haddonfield, NJ, where he was chair of the borough planning board for more than ten years. He has an M.P.A. from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government and a B.A. from Gettysburg College.

**Jay F. Kelly**, PhD, Associate Professor, Biology and Environmental Science, Raritan Valley Community College. Jay F. Kelly is an Associate Professor of Biology and Environmental Science at Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC). He holds a BA in Biology and a PhD in Ecology & Evolution, both from Rutgers University, and has been teaching at RVCC since 2007, including a wide variety of ecology, botany, zoology and environmental science courses. His research is focused on the biology and conservation of rare plant and animal species, coastal and forest ecology, and the design and implementation of ecological land management practices that balance the needs of these species with human activities in the landscape. His other research interests include plastic marine debris, wildlife ecology and management, historical ecology, and environmental contamination from toxic consumer products. Dr. Kelly attempts to develop community-based research projects and partnerships that give his students the opportunity to participate in real-world scientific research and its application to solving important problems facing their communities. He received a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition for his research and service in 2010.

**William Kibler**, JD, Director of Policy, Raritan Headwaters. Raritan Headwaters protects, preserves, and improves water quality and other natural resources of the Raritan River headwaters region through science, education, advocacy, land preservation and stewardship. Bill was the Executive Director of the South Branch Watershed Association from 2005 until RHA was created in 2011. An attorney (JD, Syracuse University) whose practice focused on environmental law, land use, and corporate sustainability, he served in the Army Corps of Engineers after graduating from the United States Military Academy. Bill serves on the campaign committee for Keep It Green, and the board of trustees of the New Jersey Highlands Coalition. He lives on the South Branch of the Raritan River in Califon and is a past chief of the Califon Fire Company.

**Richard G. Lathrop, Jr.**, Ph.D., Director, Grant F. Walton Center for Remote Sensing & Spatial Analysis and inaugural holder of the Johnson Family Chair in Water Resources and Watershed Ecology. He co-leads the Sustainable Raritan River Initiative and is a professor in the Department of Ecology, Evolution & Natural Resources, School of Environmental & Biological Sciences, Rutgers University. Rick has served as Director of the Walton Center for Remote Sensing & Spatial Analysis since 1999. He holds

a PhD in Environmental Monitoring and an MS in Forestry from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a BA in Biology from Dartmouth College.

**Sara J. Malone, MES, Facilitator, Sustainable Raritan River Initiative, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.** Sara is a Senior Research Specialist in the Environmental Analysis & Communications (EAC) Group at Bloustein where she works with the Sustainable Raritan River Initiative and Rutgers Raritan River Consortium. As part of the EAC Group, Sara has worked with state and local governments on several planning projects including a Brownfield to Greenfield project in Perth Amboy, a statewide climate adaptation/habitat vulnerability assessment project and a Municipal Public Access Plan and Coastal Vulnerability Assessment for New Brunswick. Sara is a part-time lecturer at Bloustein and co-taught a graduate planning studio on wetlands and habitat restoration for a working waterfront in the Raritan Center. Her Fall 2017 graduate planning studio will focus on environmental, design and regulatory aspects of the Raritan River boardwalk and bicycle/pedestrian bridge as proposed in the Rutgers 2030 Master Plan. She holds a BS from the University of Massachusetts/Boston and she received a Master of Environmental Studies from the University of Pennsylvania in 2012. Sara serves as Chair of the Franklin Township Shade Tree Commission in Somerset.

**Debbie Mans, Esq., Baykeeper and Executive Director, NY/NJ Baykeeper.** Debbie has been Baykeeper and Executive Director since April 2008. NY/NJ Baykeeper is the citizen guardian of the NY-NJ Harbor Estuary. Prior to joining NY/NJ Baykeeper, Debbie was the Environmental and Energy Policy Advisor for NJ Governor Jon S. Corzine. Debbie is a graduate of The University of Michigan and holds a J.D. from Vermont Law School. She is the Chair of the New Jersey League of Conservation Voters and Treasurer of the New Jersey League of Conservation Voters Education Fund.

**Jack Pflaumer, Environmental Scientist 1, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.** Jack Pflaumer has been with NJDEP for 16 years focused on water resources. He currently works for the Bureau of Environmental Analysis, Restoration and Standards within the Division of Water Monitoring and Standards. Jack is a lead scientist for water analysis and also is involved in surface water quality standards as well as restoration.

**Elizabeth Schuster, Environmental Economist, The Nature Conservancy.** Elizabeth joined the Conservancy in 2013 to bring expertise in economic valuation and assessment to our conservation work. Since joining the Conservancy, Elizabeth has supported our Marine program in a variety of projects including quantifying the value of natural infrastructure in coastal areas for flood reduction and community economic development through nature-based tourism. She supports the Freshwater program with an emphasis on water quality research and market-based approaches to watershed protection. Prior to working with the Conservancy, she gained a breadth of experience in conservation and business management in both the private and non-profit sectors. Since 1998, she has been working in project design and implementation with a focus on natural resource management and water resources in the United States and internationally. Several multi-stakeholder projects aimed towards improving the environment while maintaining agricultural profitability have brought her to Venezuela,

Honduras, and Mexico. She earned a Bachelor of Arts, Environmental Studies, from Oberlin College and a Master of Science in Agricultural and Resource Economics from the University of Arizona.

**Isabelle Stinnette**, Restoration Program Manager, New York – New Jersey Harbor & Estuary Program. Isabelle Stinnette is the Restoration Manager at the New York – New Jersey Harbor & Estuary Program (HEP), where she runs the inter-agency restoration work group, tracks restoration progress in NJ and NY, and works with partner agencies to further restoration progress. Prior to joining HEP in January 2017, she worked for the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) as a Restoration Biologist where she aided restoration planning through research and mapping, and worked with conservation organizations to make use of small grants for restoration. She also worked on expediting storm recovery and resiliency projects as a DEC Research Technician. Isabelle has a MS degree from the School of Marine and Atmospheric Science at Stonybrook University and a BA in environmental studies and writing from St. Lawrence University.

**Daniel J. Van Abs**, PhD PP/AICP is an Associate Professor of Practice for Water, Society & Environment at Rutgers University, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences. Previously, he was Senior Director for Planning & Science with the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council (NJ), where he managed staff efforts regarding implementation of the Highlands Regional Master Plan. Dan also has served as Director of Watershed Protection, NJ Water Supply Authority for over eight years; with the NJ Department of Environmental Protection for 12 years, six as manager for statewide water resources planning; and as Technical Director of the Passaic River Coalition for four years. He holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Science from SUNY-College of Environmental Science and Forestry, and a B.S. in Environmental Studies from Cook College at Rutgers University. He is a licensed Professional Planner in New Jersey, a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners, and former Chair of the New Jersey Clean Water Council. Dan is co-editor with Karen O’Neill of a new Rutgers University Press book (June 2016) Taking Chances: The Coast After Sandy.

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*Photo Credit: "Aerial view of the Raritan River Bridge at left with Old Edison Memorial Bridge paralleling it, in Middlesex County on the Garden State Parkway of New Jersey", from Tichnor Brothers Collection, Boston Public Library, [digitalcommonwealth.org](http://digitalcommonwealth.org)*

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