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Fourth Annual Raritan River Conference

Restoration and Future Stewardship: Regeneration and the Next Generation

Thursday, June 14, 2012, 9:00-4:00

Duke Farms, East Gate, 80 US Highway 206, Hillsborough, NJ 08844



RUTGERS

Edward J. Bloustein School
of Planning and Public Policy



RUTGERS

School of Environmental
and Biological Sciences

4th Annual Raritan River Conference

Restoration and Future Stewardship: Regeneration and the Next Generation

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7:00am Pre-Conference

Bird walk – guides from NJ Audubon and Duke Farms

Conference Program

8:00 am Registration

9:00-10:30 am Welcome and Opening Remarks

Judy Shaw, Ph.D., *Director, Sustainable Raritan River Initiative*

Gloria McCauley, *Deputy Mayor, Hillsborough Township*

Tim Taylor, *Executive Director, Duke Farms*

Richard L. McCormick, Ph.D., *President, Rutgers University*

Eric Stiles, *President, NJ Audubon, Partners for Environmental Quality*

Kaid Benfield, *Director for Sustainable Communities, Natural Resources Defense Council, Sustainability from the Region to the Neighborhood: What We Talk About When We Talk About Green*

Workshops of experts and practitioners will discuss progress and future plans to implement the Sustainable Raritan River Action Plan and recommend programs for the coming year.

10:30 am -12:00 pm Morning Workshops

1-A Citizen Scientists – the value of volunteers and how this data matters

Nellie Tsipoura, Ph.D, *Senior Research Scientist & Director of Citizen Science, NJ Audubon Society, Moderator*

Elizabeth Johnson, *American Museum of Natural History - bees*

Susan Elbin, Ph.D., *NYC Audubon - birds*

Cindy Ehrenclou, *Raritan Headwaters Association, water monitoring*

Betty Ann Kelly, *Union County Parks, Bioblitzes*

Nora Wagner, *Duke Farms, citizen volunteers*

Respondent: Kimberly Cenno, *NJDEP, AmeriCorps NJ Watershed Ambassadors Program*

1-B Dam Removal and River Restoration - from stream banks to dam removal: restoring habitat and creating environmental value

Michael Catania, *Conservation Resources, Inc., Moderator*

John Jengo, *MWH, the Calco Project*

Amy Soli, Ph.D., *Stony Brook Millstone Watershed Association, dam monitoring*

Respondents: David Bean, *NJDEP state role*; Carl Alderson, *NOAA, restoring fish habitat*; Laura Craig, Ph.D., *American Rivers, challenges for dam removal* and Beth Styler-Barry, *Musconetcong Watershed Association*

1-C Corporate Responsibility - promoting sustainability, remediation and restoring natural resources for community value

Deb Mans, *NY/NJ Baykeeper, Moderator*

Mark Laska, Ph.D, *Greater Ecology, corporate partners - urban wetland restoration*

Brett Berkley, *GreenVest, corporate partners for urban wetland restoration*

Glen Petrauski, *Somerset Raritan Valley Sewerage Authority*

John Prince, *USEPA Region II Superfund Program*

Jim Cosgrove, *PE, Omni Environmental*

studio at Rutgers Bloustein School. He is a charter member of the Congress for a New Urbanism and Past President of the New Jersey chapter of the American Planning Association. carlos@rodriguessurbandesign.com

Judy Shaw, PhD, PP/AICP, is a Research Program Manager at the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers University. She is the Director of the Sustainable Raritan Initiative. jashaw@ejb.rutgers.edu

Janet Smolenski is a member of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Compliance & Enforcement's Office of Strategy Management. She has been with C&E since 2005 and assisted in the development of the Environmental Stewardship Program. Janet has been the Environmental Stewardship coordinator since the program's initiation in 2008. janet.smolenski@dep.state.nj.us

Amy Soli, PhD, is the Science Director of the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association in Pennington, New Jersey. As the Science Director, Amy is currently involved in construction of a natural wetlands system for wastewater management; water quality monitoring; and habitat restoration, including the removal of two dams on the Millstone River. She is currently the co-chair of the Environmental Business Council's Water and Land Use Committee, on the board of the New Jersey American Water Resources Association and active with the NJ Society of Women Environmental Professionals and the North American Benthological Society. asoli@thewatershed.org

Eric Stiles serves as the President and CEO of New Jersey Audubon Society, New Jersey's oldest conservation organization. Having been at New Jersey Audubon since 2002, Stiles grew his department from a staff of 1 and a budget of less than \$100,000 to a staff of 8 and a budget in excess of \$1,000,000. His leadership earned him the Governor's Environmental Excellence Award. He holds Master's degrees in public administration and ecology from Rutgers University. eric.stiles@njudubon.org

Tim Taylor has served as the Executive Director of Duke Farms for over eight years, which has served as a model of environmental stewardship that inspires visitors to become informed stewards of the land. Prior to joining Duke Farms, Taylor served 30 years as a Captain in the United States Navy. He has a MS in real estate development from MIT and an MBA from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. ttaylor@ddcf.org

Nellie Tsipoura, PhD, is the Director of citizen science for New Jersey Audubon Society, and is coordinating a number of studies that employ volunteers throughout NJ to monitor bird populations. In her research she tries to bridge measures of bird ecology and behavior with measures of habitat loss, pollution, and other human disturbances and their potential effects. nellie.tsipoura@njudubon.org

Michael Van Clef, PhD, of Ecological Solutions, LLC, has over 20 years of experience involving land stewardship, planning and research. He has worked extensively in the evaluation and management of rare and invasive species, white-tailed deer management, habitat restoration, development and implementation of forest health monitoring protocols and natural resource policy. He prepared the New Jersey Strategic Management Plan for Invasive Species for the NJ Invasive Species Council. Mike has worked with over 25 organizations throughout New Jersey and has prepared numerous stewardship plans that include identification of conservation values and their threats along with stewardship strategies to improve ecological health. mvanclenf@hotmail.com

Nora Wagner is the Director of Programs of the Duke Farms Foundation. Nora directs all public experiences relating to environmental stewardship in the areas of horticulture, wildlife ecology, sustainable resources and agroecology. Since joining the Foundation in 2004, Nora has performed various roles beginning with applied research coordination, then launching a robust volunteer program, and most recently in directing programs that educate visitors of all walks of life to apply principles of sustainability in their own lives. Nora received her Bachelor's of Science in Environmental Policy, Institutions and Behavior from Rutgers University and is currently pursuing her Masters of Business Administration at Delaware Valley College. nwagner@ddcf.org

Allan Williams is a leading member of the the Highland Park Environmental Commission for 5 years, Allan retired from a career as a physical chemist with J&J developing biotechnology products. The EC promotes sustainability and environmental quality project in Highland Park and recently completed an Environmental Resource Inventory. anwms43@aol.com

Thank You!

Special Thanks to the Conference Team, lead by **Stacy Perrine**, PP/AICP, **Jarrold Grim**, MCRP '12, **Max Azzarello**, MCRP '12, and students **Richard Bartholomew** MCRP '12, **Ian Wolf** (Rutgers University), **Ann Wolf** (American University) and **Madison Rittley** (Rider College).

Our gratitude to our generous hosts at Duke Farms: **Tim Taylor**, **Gene Huntington**, **Nora Wagner** and **Urwash (Cupie) Singh**.

Thanks to **President Richard McCormick**, **Bloustein School Dean James Hughes**, **SEBS Dean Robert Goodman**, **Douglass Dean Jacqueline Litt**, **Dr. Chris Obropta** and **Dr. Beth Ravit** for their continued support of the Raritan River Initiative.

Special appreciation to Awards Chairs **Michael Catania** and **Bill Kibler**, with the help of **Denise Nickel**.

Thanks to Raritan Initiative Advisors: **Cindy Ehrenclou**, **Deb Mans**, **Sandy Batty**, **Henry Patterson**, **Jim Waltman**, **Eric Stiles**, **Michael Catania** and **Michele Byers**.

Finally, a special thanks to **Bob Spiegel** and the Edison Wetlands Association for their support of the Raritan Initiative and the loan of the first website.

We do this together - for the River - for each other - and for the next generation

Thank you!

Elizabeth Johnson is the manager of the Metropolitan Biodiversity Program at the American Museum of Natural History's Center for Biodiversity and Conservation. At the Center, she initiates and directs state and regional biodiversity conservation programs, integrating information from the museum's scientific departments and regional collections directly into conservation related research, education, planning, and management initiatives. She is particularly interested in raising awareness of biodiversity in urban and suburban areas and has also focused attention on invertebrate conservation. ejohnson@amnh.org

Betty Ann Kelly serves as an environmental specialist at the Union County Department of Parks and Community Renewal. At the Department, she focuses on invasive plant management, wildlife management, and shoreline restoration. She coordinates the County's Adopt-A-Park/Trail Programs, as well as annual Bioblitzes. bkelly@ucnj.org

Michael Kerwin is President and CEO of the Somerset County Business Partnership, which serves as the County's economic development agency. He served as the founding chair of the Somerset County Coalition for Smart Growth and currently serves as vice-chairman of the Somerset County Regional Center Partnership and co-chair of the Somerset County Chapter of the New Jersey Alliance for Action. mkerwin@scbp.org

Mark S. Laska, PhD, is one of the country's foremost authorities on ecological restoration, habitat design, environmental strategies for industry, and an ecologist with 25 years of practitioner experience. Dr. Laska is an industry pioneer, driving innovation on the frontiers of restoration ecology and environmental sustainability. The author of more than a dozen scientific papers, Dr. Laska has developed a practice at the intersection of business and science with significant focus on the use of habitat restoration projects for environmental compliance. Dr. Laska is the Founder (2001) and President of Great Ecology where he and a team of environmental professionals apply their expertise. mlaska@greatecology.com

Richard G. Lathrop Jr. is the Director of Grant F. Walton Center for Remote Sensing & Spatial Analysis and a Professor of Environmental Monitoring in the Department of Ecology, Evolution & Natural Resources at Rutgers University. lathrop@crssa.rutgers.edu

Jo-Ann Liptak is currently serving her second term as the Mayor of Raritan Borough. She is a fourth generation of her family to live in Raritan. Prior to her election as Mayor, Jo-Ann served two terms as a member of the Somerset County Planning Board. JLiptak@raritan-nj.org

Mark Lohbauer is a principal of JGSC Group, LLC, a firm with over 25 years of experience in consulting on retail markets & downtown revitalization. Based in South Jersey, the firm has served over 80 communities in 8 States, including all 5 boroughs of NYC. Mark is a former NJ Assistant State Treasurer, and serves as the current Chairman of the Pinelands Commission. mlohbauer@jgscgroup.com

Debbie Mans has been Baykeeper and Executive Director since April, 2008. Prior to joining NY/NJ Baykeeper, Debbie was the Environmental and Energy Policy Advisor for Governor Jon S. Corzine. She was also appointed by Governor Corzine to the New Jersey State Planning Commission. Prior to working for the Governor, Debbie was the Policy Director at Baykeeper, a position she held from 2002 through 2006. Debbie is a graduate of The University of Michigan and holds a J.D. from Vermont Law School. Debbie is on the board of New Jersey Future and the Chair of the New Jersey League of Conservation Voters. debbie@nynjbaykeeper.org

Richard L. McCormick, 19th President of Rutgers University, is a champion of the restoration and renewed use of the Raritan River. His leadership has reimagined the University's role in the region. President McCormick will complete his presidency on June 30, 2012 and will then return to research and teaching as a member of the Rutgers faculty. president@rutgers.edu

John Miller, PE, CFM, CSM, is an Associate Water Resources Engineer with Princeton Hydro. In that capacity, Mr. Miller manages projects involving stormwater, floodplain and wastewater management. Mr. Miller is a licensed professional engineer in five (5) states and is a Certified Floodplain Manager as administered by the national Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) and a Certified Stormwater Manager under the American Public Works Association. jmiller@princetonhydro.com

Kerry Miller is Assistant Director of the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions, where their mission is to achieve responsible and sustainable use of New Jersey's natural resources through leadership, education, and support of environmental commissions and other local boards, public officials, environmental organizations and concerned citizens. kmiller@anjec.org

Glen Petruski is the Executive Director of the Somerset Raritan Valley Sewerage Authority, which is a regional wastewater treatment plant that serves seven communities: Branchburg, Bridgewater, Hillsborough, Manville, Raritan, Somerville, and Warren. glen.petruski@srvsa.org

Steward Pickett is a plant ecologist at the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies. Dr. Pickett's projects relate to the role of spatial heterogeneity in community and landscape structure and dynamics. Specific projects include research on urban ecosystems, function of landscape boundaries, and plant community succession. Dr. Pickett holds his Ph.D. in Botany from the University of Illinois. PickettS@ecostudies.org

John Prince is Chief of the EPA Region 2 Central New Jersey Remediation Section. John is a graduate of Colgate University and the Civil Engineering Program at the City College of New York. A transplanted Mid-westerner, he now lives in Brooklyn, New York, a few blocks from the Gowanus Canal. He has been with EPA for over 20 years, and his group manages most of the Federal Superfund sites within the Raritan River Watershed. prince.john@epamail.epa.gov

Dr. Zeyuan Qiu is an Associate Professor of Environmental Science, Policy and Management at New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT); Teach courses on environmental economics, watershed management, and environmental studies at NJIT; Conduct research in land use planning, climate change and water resource and ecosystem management. zeyuan.qiu@njit.edu

Carlos Rodrigues PP/AICP, is a practicing planner and urban designer. He has worked in senior management positions in the public, private and non-profit sectors and consults on behalf of private clients, government and the development industry. He teaches a graduate urban design

1-D Municipal Planning, Sustainable Neighborhoods and Regenerative Design –involving schools, non-profits and environmental commissions to create sustainable communities

Sandy Batty, *Association of NJ Environmental Commissions, Moderator*
Mark Biedron, *Co-founder, the Willow School, educating for sustainability*
Allan Williams and Heather Fenyk, *Environmental Commissioners (Highland Park and New Brunswick)*
Karen Detrollo, *Bernards High School, the Green Ribbon School Program*
Donna Drewes, *Co-Director, Sustainability Institute at the College of NJ*
Respondents: Kaid Benfield, *NRDC*, and Jon Erickson, *PhD, Highland Park Borough Council*

12:00-1:30pm Lunch

Steward Pickett, Ph.D., *Distinguished Senior Scientist, the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Linking the Ecosystem: The Urban-Suburban-Rural Framework*
2012 Sustainable Raritan River Awards

1:30-3:00pm Afternoon Workshops

2-A Connections and Recreation – engaging our communities, our neighbors and our kids - linkages to recreation, culture, and corporate leadership

Kerry Miller, *Association of NJ Environmental Commissions, Moderator*
Noreen Bodman, *Crossroads of the American Revolution, tourism and history*
Paul Eidman, *Reel Therapy, regional fishing expert*
Mike Blackwell, *City of New Brunswick, Department of Recreation*
Tom Fobes, *Monmouth County Parks*
Peter Bilton, *Highland Park kayaker*

2-B Land Management –keeping natives in, keeping deer out - connecting land with water and urban with rural for seamless environmental quality

Rick Lathrop, Ph.D., *Rutgers University, Moderator*
Michael VanClef, *PhD, Ecological Solutions, deer and habitat*
Emile DeVito, *PhD, Conservation Foundation, stewardship*
Thom Almendinger, *Duke Farms*
Respondent: Steward Pickett, Ph.D., *Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies*

2-C Regional Economic Growth –Municipal & Economic Leaders Roundtable – attracting investment to the Raritan River Valley

Carlos Rodrigues, *Rodrigues Urban Design, Moderator*
Mark Lohbauer, *JGSC Associates*
Caroline Ehrlich, *Woodbridge Township*
Jo-Ann Liptak, *Mayor, Raritan Borough*
Michael Kerwin, *Somerset County Business Partnership*
Janet Smolenski, *NJDEP, state role*

2-D Flooding, Mitigation and Adaptation - weather and hazard management

Mark Gallagher, *Princeton Hydro, Moderator*
John Miller, *Princeton Hydro, floodplain management*
Tim Crowley, *Director, Mitigation, DHS, FEMA Region 2, Mitigation*
Marcedius Jameson, *NJDEP, state role*
Zeyuan Qui, Ph.D., *NJIT, science and adaptation*

3:00-4:00pm Our Way Forward

Recognition of Sponsors

Reports from the Workshop Leaders

4:00-5:00pm Post-conference Activities

Tours of Duke Farms

Bicycle Tour with Gene Huntington

Tram Rides leave from Orchid Range every fifteen minutes

Walking - self-guided

Speaker Bios

Carl Alderson is a marine resource specialist, project manager, and landscape architect at NOAA. He specializes in fish passage, coastal and riverine wetlands, submerged vegetation, and shellfish restoration. He is the Mid-Atlantic coordinator for the Damage Assessment, Remediation, and Restoration Program. Prior to joining NOAA, Alderson served as a program manager at the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation. Alderson holds a BS in Landscape Architecture from Rutgers. carl.alderson@noaa.gov

Thom Almendinger is the Team Leader of the Natural Resources Team for the Duke Farms Foundation in Hillsborough, NJ. He has a M.S. in Ecology and Evolution from Cook College-Rutgers University and is a Certified Ecologist with the Ecological Society of America. At the 2,740-acre Duke Farms, he directs the regeneration of various habitats, manages a highly successful white-tailed deer management program, as well as supervising the stewardship of numerous threatened and endangered species. Thom's research interests include plant-herbivore interactions, particularly between overabundant white-tailed deer and invasive plants, restoration of degraded habitats, and conservation of threatened/endangered species. talmendinger@ddcf.org

Beth Styler Barry serves as the Executive Director of the Musconetcong Watershed Association, which is dedicated to protecting and improving the quality of the Musconetcong River and its watershed through grassroots activities including educational programs in local schools, municipal government outreach, workshops and seminars for the public, stream cleanups and outdoor educational programs. beth@musconetcong.org

Sandy Batty is Executive Director of the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC), a nonprofit organization that helps commissions and other local officials protect natural resources. She served for many years on her town's planning board, council and environmental commission. sbatty@anjec.org

David Bean began his career at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection in the Site Remediation Program, overseeing the investigation and remediation of contaminated industrial properties. He then worked in the Land Use Regulation Program, gaining a firm knowledge of the Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act, Rules on Coastal Zone Management, Coastal Program Permit Rules and the Flood Hazard Area Control Act. David is now with the Office of Natural Resource Restoration (ONRR) where his experience advances the goals of ONRR. He designs and manages wetland and riverine restoration projects, performs resource injury assessments, and executes natural resource damages settlement agreements. David.Bean@dep.state.nj.us

Kaid Benfield is the Director of Sustainable Communities, Natural Resources Defense Council (Washington, DC); co-founder, LEED for Neighborhood Development rating system; co-founder, Smart Growth America coalition; author of the "Urban Wonk" column for The Atlantic Cities website; engaged in green, inclusive revitalization in neighborhoods across the country. kbenfield@nrdc.org

Brett Berkley is Senior Vice President and Senior Scientist at GreenVest. He possesses over 15-years of experience in land use and environmental consulting. Over the last four years, Berkley directed the ecological division of Matrix New World Engineering, Inc., a NJ based engineering consulting firm and handled federal, state and municipal permit and land use initiatives in NJ, CT, MD, MA, PA, NY and FL. Mr. Berkley launched and directed the Land Development Division for Matrix focused in the areas of land development feasibility assessment, regulatory compliance and approvals, water quality, wildlife surveys/habitat assessment, wetland delineation, wetland restoration design and construction. brett@greenvestus.com

Mark Biedron is a Co-Founder and current Director of Capital Campaign and Major Gifts for the Willow School in Gladstone, NJ. A Mark founded Sustainable Growth Technologies, a green building and design company, to help businesses, educational institutions, and individuals to design and integrate sustainability and place-focused strategies into overall project management. info@willowschool.org

Peter Bilton has experience in transportation planning and public policy in the public, private and non-profit sectors. He focuses on transportation demand management and transit, bicycle and pedestrian planning. Before founding Civic Eye Collaborative, he was project manager at the Voorhees Transportation Center at Rutgers, where he directed outreach programs for NJDOT and New Jersey Transit. Peter holds a Masters in Urban and Regional Planning from Portland State University. peter@civiceyecollaborative.com

Mike Blackwell is the Superintendent of Recreation for the City of New Brunswick where he creates and implements challenging recreational program offerings and special events for residents in the greater New Brunswick area. Mblack942@aol.com

Noreen Bodman is the Executive Director of the Crossroads of the American Revolution Association. Bodman, a former state tourism director, has long been involved with preservation and conservation issues through her work in hospitality, tourism and with the Jersey Shore Partnership. Her tenure in Atlantic City included branding, marketing, partnership programs and community outreach. nbodman@revolutionarynj.org

Michael Catania is the founder and President of Conservation Resources, a non-profit conservation intermediary and grantmaker. He previously served as Deputy Commissioner of NJDEP under three commissioners and two Governors, Executive Director of The Nature Conservancy of NJ, and he began his career at the Office of Legislative Services, staffing the environmental committees in both houses and drafting many of NJ's landmark environmental laws. michael@conservationresourcesinc.org

Kimberly Cenno has served as a supervising environmental specialist at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection for over twenty years. She holds her Masters in City and Regional Planning from Rutgers. Kimberly.cenno@dep.state.nj.us

Laura Craig, PhD, is the Associate Director of River Restoration at American Rivers where she facilitates and manages river restoration activities across Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware. In addition to providing technical guidance for floodplain reconnection and urban stream daylighting projects, her work relates to in-stream barrier removal and associated restoration. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of Maryland in Behavior, Ecology, Evolution, and Systematics. lcraig@americanrivers.org

Timothy Crowley is the Mitigation Director for FEMA Region II and previously served as a Deputy Attorney General and Counsel to the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security & Preparedness. He previously served as a Senior Policy Advisor to the Attorney General and Director of the Office of Homeland Security & Preparedness on homeland security issues, with an emphasis on port security. timothy.crowley@fema.dhs.gov

Karen DeTrollo (Senko) graduated from Rutgers University with a B.S. in Biological Science and an ED, M. in Science Education. She has four years of teaching experience at Bernards High School (a recent recipient of the Green Ribbon Award) where she teaches AP Environmental Science, Anatomy and Physiology, and Biology. She is also the advisor for the BHS Green Team and recently was awarded the 2011-2012 Educational Professional of the Year Award. kdetrollo@shsd.org

Emile DeVito has been the Manager of Science and Stewardship at the New Jersey Conservation Foundation since 1989. Dr. DeVito develops management plans for NJCF's 20,000+ acres of holdings designed to protect and enhance biological diversity. Emile educates government officials, advocacy groups, and land trusts on forest-interior habitat and migratory stopover needs of Neotropical songbirds. He received a doctorate in Ecology in 1988 for research on bird communities and vegetation landscapes in New Jersey's Pine Barrens. emile@njconservation.org

Don Donnelly is the Stewardship Project Director of Forestry for New Jersey Audubon Society. Prior to coming to NJAS, Don had over 17 years of experience as a professional forester for the US Forest Service's Northern Research Station, the Morris County Soil Conservation District, and the Hunterdon County Parks Department. His work has included research data collection, private lands management, municipal assistance for urban forest planning and public lands forest management. don.donnelly@njaudubon.org

Donna Drewes, PP/AICP, serves as the Co-Director of the Sustainability Institute at The College of New Jersey where she directs the award winning "Sustainable Jersey" municipal government certification program for communities in NJ. For over 30 years, Ms. Drewes' private and public sector work has focused on supporting and building sustainable communities. Donna holds a BA in Soil Science and a Masters in City and Regional Planning from Rutgers and is a licensed professional planner in NJ. drewes@tcnj.edu

Cindy Ehrenclou is the Executive Director of the newly formed Raritan Headwaters Association, creating a partnership of the Upper Raritan Watershed Association and the South Branch Watershed Association in 2011. These two venerable institutions have led water quality protection efforts in the region for over fifty years. Cindy spent 5 years leading URWA, and prior was the URWA development director. She is a 2007 Fellow of Leadership New Jersey. cehrenclou@raritanheadwaters.org

Caroline Ehrlich is Chief of Staff to Woodbridge Township Mayor John E. McCormac and Executive Director of the Woodbridge Township Redevelopment Agency. Under her leadership, Woodbridge Township has achieved top honors from Sustainable Jersey and continues to excel in efforts to restore and revitalize industrial properties and foster the arts in Woodbridge. caroline.ehrlich@twp.woodbridge.nj.us

Paul Eidman is the Owner and Captain of Reel Therapy, a recreational outfitter that provides guided saltwater fly fishing charters and fishing instruction, kayak ecotours, and habitat preservation and ecology-related tours. paulfish@reeltherapy.com

Susan Elbin is the Director of Conservation and Science at New York City Audubon. Susan's specialties are avian behavioral ecology, urban ecology, and conservation of colonial waterbirds. She is the chair of the Ornithological Council, President-elect of the Waterbird Society, and, locally, co-chair of the Harbor Herons Subcommittee of the Restoration Committee for the Harbor Estuary Program. Susan is an adjunct professor at Columbia University where she teaches courses in ornithology and migration ecology. selbin@nycaudubon.org

Jon Erickson is a member of the Highland Park Boro Council. Jon is the council liaison to the Environmental Commission. Jon earned his Ph.D. at Rutgers' Bloustein School and is the coordinator of the Environmental Management program at Kean University. jerickso@kean.edu

Heather Fenyk, PP/AICP, is Principal of the New Brunswick-based Global Metrics, LLC and serves on the New Brunswick Environmental Commission. She is preparing to defend her doctoral dissertation on the role of citizen expertise in environmental decision making. In her free time she enjoys exploring New Jersey with her husband and daughter. hfenyk@optimum.net

Tom Fobes is the Assistant Supervisor of the Monmouth County Park System, which includes over 15,000 acres of park lands and 5.58 million visitors in 2010. Conferred by the National Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies and sanctioned by the American Academy for Parks and Recreation Association, the Monmouth County Park System was the first park & recreation agency in the nation to be accredited. tom.fobes@co.monmouth.nj.us

Mark Gallagher is the Vice President of Princeton Hydro, a water resources oriented firm, and is responsible for all of the firm's wetland and terrestrial ecologically oriented projects. His primary interests are related to habitat enhancement and restoration. He graduated from Rutgers University with a Masters degree in Ecology. mgallagher@princetonhydro.com

Marcedius T. Jameson directs the NJDEP Water and Land Use Compliance & Enforcement program. He career in public service spans over twenty years. He previously held the post of Administrator for the Pesticide Control and Land Use Enforcement Programs and worked in various capacities with the Department's Divisions of Watershed Management and Site Remediation. Marcedius is a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University, with a BA in Physics and holds a Master's degree from the NJIT School of Environmental Science. Marcedius.Jameson@dep.state.nj.us

John W. Jengo, PG, has over the last 20 years, lead the characterization and remediation of large, complex contaminated industrial sites throughout New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. He played a key role in the Natural Resource Damage (NRD) assessment that lead to a groundbreaking legal settlement to remove numerous low head dams on the Raritan River to restore historically significant migratory fish spawning runs. As technical project manager, he planned and successfully managed the removal of the Calco Dam in July-August 2011 and will be removing the next significant obstruction on the Raritan (the Robert Street Dam) in the summer of 2012. John.Jengo@us.mwhglobal.com