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

Draft 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)



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 Weppler, 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

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The Sustainable Raritan River Initiative and the New York-New Jersey Harbor & Estuary Program







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