



**New York State Wetlands Forum, Inc. &
Society of Wetland Scientists Mid-Atlantic Chapter**

2017 Annual Conference and Meeting
Suffern, New York
Crowne Plaza Suffern-Mahwah
<http://www.cpsuffernhotel.com>
April 25 & 26, 2017

OUR WETLAND FUTURE: RESILIENCY IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

April 25

- 6:30 - 7:30 Exhibitor/Poster Setup - *Renaissance I & II*
- 7:30 - 5:00 Registration and Review of Exhibits and Posters - *Montebello Foyer and Renaissance I & II*
- 7:30 - 9:30 Continental Breakfast - *Renaissance I & II*
- 8:30 - 8:40 Opening Remarks: Ms. Johanna Duffy, Barton & Loguidice, DPC and Chair, New York State Wetlands Forum, and Mr. Jeff Trulick, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and President, Society of Wetland Scientists - Mid-Atlantic Chapter - *Montebello III & IV*
- 8:40 - 9:20 KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Ms. Hayley Carlock, Esq., Director of Environmental Advocacy - Scenic Hudson
- 9:20 - 9:30 Break and Review of Exhibits/Posters - *Renaissance I & II*
- 9:30 - 10:50 CONCURRENT SESSION A
1. **Resilient and Adaptive Thinking - Montebello III**
Moderator: TBD
- The Impact of Large Storms on Coastal Wetlands of the United States: Meta-Analysis
Speaker: Ms. Frances Knickmeyer, State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry
 - *Phragmites*: Ecosystem Services and Control
Speakers: Ms. Judith S. Weis, Rutgers University and Mr. Erik Kiviat, Hudsonia
 - Using Flood Inundation Mapping and Stream Power to Identify Risks and Set Conservation Priorities
Speaker: Mr. Mark Carabetta, Milone & MacBroom, Inc.

2. **Successful Wetland Mitigation Initiatives: Lessons Learned - Montebello I & II**

Moderator: Mr. Jeremy Waddell, Upper Susquehanna Coalition

- Review of the Wetland Mitigation Process for the NJ Turnpike Authority Interchange 6 to 9 Widening Project
Speaker: Mr. Edward Samanns, Louis Berger Group, Inc.
- Micro-Topography Benefits for Restoration Plantings
Speaker: Mr. Jaak Van den Sype, HDR
- The Use of Seed Mixes in Wetland Creation Sites as an Alternative to Plantings
Speakers: Mr. Steve Wittig, Gannett Fleming, Inc. and Ms. Dani-Ella Betz, Chester County Water Resources Authority

10:50 - 11:10 Break and Review of Exhibits/Posters - *Renaissance I & II*

11:10 - 12:30 CONCURRENT SESSION B

1. **Wetland Vegetation in Changing Environments - Montebello III**

Moderator: TBD

- An Emerging Threat to New York State: *Brachypodium sylvaticum* (False brome)
Speaker: Ms. Andie Graham, The College of Brockport, State University of New York
- Phenolic Content of Invasive and Non-Invasive Emergent Wetland Plants
Speaker: Ms. Melissa Harrison, Rochester Institute of Technology
- Urban Wetland Ecology: Seed Bank and Vegetation Changes Following a Disturbance
Speaker: Ms. Megan A. Larson, State University of New York at Binghamton

2. **SEQR Regulation and Practical Implementation - Montebello I & II**

Moderator: Mr. Chris Einstein, CHA Consulting, Inc.

- NEPA & Federal Agency Involvement in New York State Projects
Speaker: Ms. Teresa Bakner, Whiteman Osterman & Hanna, LLP
- SEQR Regulation Update
Speakers: Mr. Jim Eldred and Mr. Larry Weintraub, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- Using DEC On-Line Tools to Prepare an Environmental Assessment Form
Speakers: Ms. Jean Loewenstein and Ms. Nicole Frazer, CHA Consulting, Inc.

12:30 - 2:00 Lunch and Membership Meetings - *Waterfall Garden*

2:20 - 3:40 CONCURRENT SESSION C

1. **Wetland Mitigation Banks and In-Lieu Programs - Montebello III**

Moderator: Mr. Kevin Bliss, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

- Wetland Mitigation Banking - Measuring Benefits, Weighing Risks
Speakers: Mr. Daniel Spethmanns, Working Lands Investment Partners, LLC and Ms. Charlotte Brett, Environmental Consultant

- Utilizing Wetland Banking for the Preservation and Restoration of Critical Freshwater Wetland Habitats: Case Study of Troy Meadows Wetland Mitigation Bank, Morris County, NJ
Speakers: Mr. Justin Baker, Louis Berger Group, Inc. and Mr. Len Fariello, Wildlife Preserves, Inc.
- Challenges and Progress of the Ducks Unlimited In-Lieu Fee Program in New York State
Speaker: Mr. John Fraser, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

2. Wildlife and Habitat Studies - Montebello I & II

Moderator: TBD

- Habitat Suitability for Muhlenburg's (Bog) Turtle (*Glyptemys muhlenbergii*): Vegetation and Soils in the Hudson Housatonic Recovery Unit of New York, Connecticut, & Massachusetts
Speaker: Mr. David MacDougall, Kleinfelder
- Trapping, Relocation, and Re-Colonization of Devil Crayfish in Cayuga Creek, NY
Speaker: Mr. Tom Somerville, Earth Dimensions, Inc.
- Comparison of Burrowing Effects of Fiddler Crab on Denitrification Enzyme Activity
Speaker: Ms. Tori Moebus, University of Rhode Island

3:40 - 4:00 Break and Review of Exhibits/Posters - *Renaissance I & II*

4:00 - 5:20 CONCURRENT SESSION D

1. Online Resources, Including Databases and Mapping - Montebello III

Moderator: Ms. Melissa Yearick, Upper Susquehanna Coalition

- News From the New York Flora Association and Plant Atlas Program
Speaker: Mr. Joseph M. McMullen, Environmental Consultant
- How Can iMapInvasives Help You?
Speaker: Ms. Meg Wilkinson, New York Natural Heritage Program

2. Adding Resiliency to Infrastructure - Montebello I & II

Moderator: Ms. Stephanie Wojtowicz, NYS Department of State

- Pioneering Roadway and Utility Project Incorporates BMPs to Reduce Flooding in Springfield Gardens, Queens
Speaker: Mr. Brian Sayre, Dewberry
- Tappen Zee Bridge: Design-Build Contracting and Considering Environmental Effects
Speaker: Ms. Melissa Toni, Federal Highway Administration
- Functionality of Floating Islands and Wetland Systems in Lined Reservoirs to Promote Water Quality
Speakers: Mr. David H. Graff and Ms. Samantha Hockenberry, Gannett Fleming, Inc. and Mr. Ray Davis, Floating Wetland Solutions

5:30 - 6:30 Technical Poster Review - *Renaissance I & II*

April 26

- 6:00 - 8:00 Spring Bird Walk, at Celery Farm, in nearby Allendale, New Jersey
with Mr. Kurt Weiskotten, GPI/Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. and Mr. Greg Lawrence, The College at Brockport, State University of New York
- 7:30 - 8:30 Registration and Continental Breakfast - *Montebello Foyer and Renaissance I & II*
- 8:30 - 8:35 Announcements - Ms. Johanna Duffy, Barton & Loguidice, DPC and Chair, New York State Wetlands Forum and Mr. Jeff Trulick, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and President, Society of Wetland Scientists - Mid-Atlantic Chapter - *Montebello III & IV*

8:40 - 10:00

1. **Tools for the Wetland Biologist - Montebello III & IV**

Moderator: Mr. Jason Smith, Hanover Engineering Associates, Inc.

- Evaluating Corps Jurisdiction Via a Subsurface Nexus
Speaker: Mr. Steve Mooney, O'Brien & Gere
- Field Indicators of Hydric Soils in the United States, 2016 Version 8.0
Speaker: Mr. Will Buetow, TRC
- The Wetland Biologist in Court: A Survival Guide
Speaker: Mr. Stephen Seymour, HDR

2. **Fens and Peatlands - Montebello I & II**

Moderator: Mr. Tim Post, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

- Paleocological Investigation of An Atypical Coastal Pocket Peatland of Lake Ontario
Speaker: Ms. Eli Polzer, The College of Brockport, State University of New York
- Cattail Control and Restoration of a Rare Fen Community in Lake Ontario
Speaker: Mr. Brad M. Mudrzyński, The College of Brockport, State University of New York
- Restoration of Fen Habitat at the Former Village Firing Range at the Franklin Correction Facility, Malone, NY - A Case Study
Speaker: Mr. Kyle W. Buelow, O'Brien & Gere

10:00 - 10:20 Break and Review of Exhibits/Posters - *Renaissance I & II*

10:20 - 11:50

1. **Legislative and Regulatory Updates - Montebello III & IV**

Moderator: Ms. Kathleen Bennett, Bond, Schoeneck & King, PLLC

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Updates
Speaker: Mr. Tim Sullivan, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Update on the Wonderful World of Habitat Protection at NYSDEC
Speaker: Mr. Roy "JR" Jacobson, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Updates
Speaker: Mr. Daniel Montella, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Regulatory Updates
Speaker: Mr. Stephan Ryba, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

11:50 - 12:00 Closing Remarks

12:00 - 1:00 Lunch (On Your Own)

1:00 - 4:00 Field Trips - Mr. Kurt Weiskotten, GPI/Greenman-Pedersen, Inc.

- *Vernal Pool Mitigation Sites at Stewart Airport and Forest Preserve*
- *Wetland Birds and Plants at Iona Marsh and Doodletown Bird Conservation Area*
- *Freshwater Wetland and Tidal Marsh at the Richard P. Kane Natural Area*

POSTER SESSION

- Investigating the Role of Shade Tolerance in the Invasive Regime of *Brachypodium sylvaticum* at Bergen Swamp
Presented by Mr. Wyatt Jackson, The College at Brockport, State University of New York
- Impacts of the Cryptic Macroalgal Invader, *Nitellopsis abtusa*, on Macrophyte Communities
Presented by Mr. Andrew S. Brainard, O'Brien & Gere and State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry
- Long Term Restoration Effects on the Denitrification Potential of the New England Salt Marsh
Presented by Ms. Christine Gardiner, University of Rhode Island
- Identifying Quality Vernal Pools: Factors Influencing Amphibian Survival in Small, Isolated Wetlands
Presented by Ms. Leah Nagel, State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry
- Understanding Long-Term Salt Marsh Restoration Trends with Mapping and Porewater Analysis
Presented by Mr. Anthony Campbell and Ms. Serena Moseman-Valtierra, University of Rhode Island
- Predicting the Spread of the Invasive *Brachypodium sylvaticum* in Bergen Swamp
Presented by Ms. Tiffany Clay, The College at Brockport, State University of New York
- Spatial Prioritization Information for Invasive Species Work
Presented by Ms. Meg Wilkinson, New York Natural Heritage Program
- New York Protected Area Database (NYPAD) <http://nypad.org/>
Presented by Ms. Meg Wilkinson, New York Natural Heritage Program
- A Three-tiered Approach To Wetland Assessment in New York State
Presented by Ms. Laura Shappell, New York Natural Heritage Program