

## EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS AND DESCRIPTIONS

Friday Sessions | 3:00 to 3:45 pm | Session A

### **FRI-A.1: Expanding Environmental Consciousness in Diverse Communities**

This session will identify engagement opportunities presented through public, private, and non-profit partnerships. This session will examine how one public entity developed non-traditional partnerships through a recreation, public health, and diversity lens to engage new audiences. With a focus on youth engagement, the session will highlight fun and educational activities that increase awareness of environmental issues and help foster sustainable practices to improve local watershed health.

**Workshop Level: Intermediate**

**Monica Billger** is a 20 year grassroots outreach veteran engaging communities and mobilizing local, state and federal advocacy efforts around the country. Currently she serves as the Community Outreach and Education Specialist with Alexandria Renew Enterprises. Monica also serves as Environmental Co-Chair for the Fairfax Federation of Citizen Associations, a member of the Fairfax County Tree Commission, and the Lee District Representative for the county's Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance Exception Review Committee (ERC). Monica has a bachelor's in nursing from the University of Michigan and a master's in public policy from Georgetown University.

### **FRI-A.2: Correctional Conservation Collaborative**

The Correctional Conservation Collaborative (CCC) is an initiative aimed at reducing recidivism while increasing Pennsylvania's capacity to meet its green infrastructure goals. A partnership between the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, PA Department of Corrections, and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, the CCC has a successful arboriculture training program and a new riparian forest buffer maintenance and establishment training program. Join this session to learn about this effort, and to begin thinking of ways to make connections among non-traditional partners to help tackle both social justice and environmental issues in your communities.

**Workshop Level: Introductory**

**Ryan Davis** manages the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay's Forests Program in PA, NY, and parts of MD. He holds a B.S. in Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology and minor in Forestry from North Carolina State University and an M.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology from West Virginia University. He spent the first half of his career in the field, traveling much of the country while working wildlife technician jobs, and the latter half creating habitat in PA. Ryan now specializes in education and outreach, reforestation, forest management, pollinators, and conservation on working lands.

**Teddi Stark** has an MS in Parks and Resource Management from Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania and a BA in English/Creative Writing from Penn State University. Teddi was an AmeriCorps Volunteers for the watershed office of the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy (WPC) before working as a Watershed Specialist for Juniata County Conservation District for seven years. Since 2017, Teddi has been with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Bureau of Forestry and Western Pennsylvania Conservancy as the Riparian Forest Buffer Coordinator. Teddi works on projects that advance and promote all aspects of riparian forest buffer planning and implementation across PA.

**Shea Zwerver** is one of Pennsylvania's Urban Forestry Coordinators. Shea has been with Pennsylvania's urban forestry program, TreeVitalize, for three years now. She works on projects that seek to build awareness of the value of trees, promote environmental stewardship, and address social, environmental and economic injustices through urban forestry. Shea has a BA in Psychology with a minor in Landscape Studies from Smith College and a Masters of Environmental Studies from the University of Pennsylvania.

### **FRI-A.3: Find Your Chesapeake: Expanding the Reach**

As a non-traditional park, NPS Chesapeake Bay works with their non-profit partner, Chesapeake Conservancy, to spread their joint missions of environmental stewardship, making the Bay accessible, and conserving its beauty for future generations.

We will showcase various web-based resources that have been developed through this collaborative partnership. We will also highlight the Roving Ranger, an educational vehicle in which the joint communications team travels the watershed bringing the Chesapeake to you. Participants will hear successes and lessons learned, plus explore identified gaps in communication with diverse audiences and how the partnership plans to collaborate to develop more inclusive communication products.

**Workshop Level:                      Introductory**

**Kelsey Everett** graduated from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County with a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science and Geography. Shortly after graduation, she participated in a year-long internship program through the Chesapeake Bay Trust, Chesapeake Conservation Corps working with the NPS Chesapeake Bay. After graduation from the Conservation Corps, Kelsey was hired as the Partnership Digital Resources Associate with Chesapeake Conservancy. She manages nine web-products between the Conservancy and the NPS Chesapeake Bay developing three of the websites personally.

**Michael Bowman** is a graduate of Salisbury University with a degree in Environmental Studies. Following graduation, Michael began work at the Chesapeake Conservancy as a seasonal staffer for the Chesapeake Roving Ranger, educating the public on the importance of the Bay and providing interpretive lessons. Following this position, he began an internship with the Chesapeake Conservation Corps at NPS Chesapeake Bay where he undertook duties relating to environmental education and public outreach. Michael has rejoined the Chesapeake Conservancy as the Partnership Communications Associate where he is once again educating the public and advancing the mission of the organization.

### **FRI-A.4: So You Want to Be a Leader?**

Being a leader is not about having the right title, a higher salary (although that is nice), or managing staff. It is a process. One that requires developing and honing in skills, exploiting opportunities, and empowering others. In this presentation, pulled from experts in the field of leadership, you will learn essential leadership skills such as being authentic and having integrity, how those skills should be utilized, and negative consequences of avoiding tough conversations. Finish the hour with outlining at least 3 aspects from the presentation you can implement in your daily activities.

**Workshop Level:                      Introductory**

**Brenna Goggin** Brenna spent over a decade educating the environmental nonprofit organizations on the importance of professional advocacy, best management practices for building an advocacy campaign, and how to utilize advocacy strategies for maximum results prior to joining River Network as the Mid-Atlantic Leadership Development Manager. As the former Director of Advocacy and External Affairs with Delaware Nature Society, Brenna advocated for access to clean drinking water, improved public access to open spaces, and funding to expand and maintain Delaware's natural areas. In addition to overseeing and implementing the organization's environmental advocacy efforts, she served as the primary voice of the organization to elected and appointed officials, reporters and other news media; served on statewide and regional Task Forces and Steering Committees; and trained individuals and organizations alike on effective grassroots advocacy practices. Brenna received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Bridgewater College and a Master of Public Affairs (MPA) from the University of North Carolina Greensboro.

### **FRI-A.5: How Accessible Content Is Inclusive Content**

When you think of the word "accessible," you may think of ramps leading to public buildings or automatic grocery store doors. Accessibility is important in the physical world, but it is just as important in your print and web content. You want to make sure that the language you use does not marginalize your

audience or discourage them from taking part in an activity. In this session, you will learn what it means to have accessible content, why it is important, and how, by making your content more accessible, you are also making it more inclusive.

**Workshop Level:                   Introductory**

*Joan Smedinghoff* is employed by the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay and works as a web content specialist for the Chesapeake Bay Program in Annapolis, Md. Originally from Chicago, she was introduced to the watershed through the streams of central Pennsylvania while attending Dickinson College and working for the Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring. After graduation, she moved closer to the Bay to work at the Chesapeake Bay Program as an environmental management staffer for the Chesapeake Research Consortium. There, she discovered her love of web management, content strategy, and tacky blue crab decorations. When she's not at work, you will most likely find her trying the weirdest thing on the menu, drinking tea, cheering on the Cubs, or tweeting from @smedsayshi.

### **FRI-A.6: Partners at the GreenPort of Baltimore**

The Port of Baltimore has thrived for more than 300 years. Minimizing environmental impacts of Port activities is a critical part of its continued success. Meeting and exceeding the Port's responsibilities to protect water and air quality in the Chesapeake region has led to numerous creative partnerships with local and national non-profit organizations, community groups, state and federal agencies and the private sector. This session will discuss the many partnerships that have led to Port of Baltimore and the Maryland Department of Transportation's Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA) being recognized as a national leader in environmental protection and management.

**Workshop Level:                   Intermediate**

*Bill Richardson* is the General Manager of the Safety, Environment & Risk Management Department at the Maryland Department of Transportation's Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA). He began his career with the Port in 2008. He holds a bachelor's degree in geology from the University of Maryland at College Park. Job highlights include programs to remove all underground storage tanks from MPA's marine terminals, to manage stormwater and improve water quality, to develop waste stream management processes, to reduce air emissions through several voluntary initiatives and receiving ISO 14001, Environmental Management System, and certification. Prior to working for the Maryland Port Administration, he worked for Maryland Department of the Environment.

*Shawn Kiernan* is the Environmental Manager for the Maryland Department of Transportation's Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA) and is responsible for environmental management and compliance for Port initiatives. He previously held the position of Strategic Planner with the Port where he managed several land and water use planning projects. His work has included planning for marine terminal expansion, air and water quality enhancement, dredged material management, and land-side infrastructure improvements. Shawn has also worked as a coastal planner for the New York and the South Carolina Coastal Management Programs and as a regional planner for the Maryland Department of Planning.

### **FRI-A.7/B.7: Elevating Women in Conservation: Breaking Barriers**

Women often face a unique set of challenges when it comes to accomplishing their personal and professional goals - the Chesapeake world is no exception. Building trust and identifying shared values in the workplace can help breakdown some of the barriers facing current and emerging women leaders. Building on previous conversations, session participants will gain a better understanding of how to build trust and identify shared values through the exploration of intersectional and gender-influenced issues. By learning more about themselves and those around them, participants will be able to effectively lead authentic diverse collaborations within their communities and organizations.

**Workshop Level:                   Introductory**

This session will be led by a squad of seven formidable women leaders in the Chesapeake Community: *Kristin Reilly*, Director with the Choose Clean Water Coalition – a clever internal and external communications strategist; *Abbi Huntzinger*,

Maryland Restoration Program Manager with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay – an insightful systems-thinker and landscape restoration specialist; **Kate Fritz**, Executive Director with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay – an impassioned sustainability and environmental advocate; **Chante Coleman**, Director of Equity and Justice with the National Wildlife Federation – a savvy regional environmental policy and DEIJ issue champion; **Molly Brown**, Senior Attorney and Director with the Chesapeake Legal Alliance – a committed facilitator of environmental advocacy and education; **Kacey Wetzel**, Outreach Program Director with the Chesapeake Bay Trust – an environmental philanthropy and stewardship virtuoso; and **Sarah Lane**, Innovative Technology Coordinator with the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science - an astute and forward thinking environmental technology trailblazer.

## Friday Sessions | 4:00 to 4:45 pm | Session B

### **FRI-B.1: Getting the MOST for Maryland Black Mayors**

How do environmental practitioners empower local elected officials to devote limited resources to clean water? Maryland Black Mayors, Inc. and the Environmental Finance Center delivered a training program to six Prince George's County municipalities called *Getting the MOST (Municipal Online Stormwater Training) for Maryland Black Mayors*. It served as a first step in moving elected officials through a pipeline from stormwater education and outreach to BMP implementation. The Low Impact Development Center is currently engaging the same audience in planning for projects that achieve multiple community benefits. Speakers will share their lessons learned and the long-term plans and partnerships.

**Workshop Level:                    Introductory**

**Jacqueline Goodall** served as Mayor of the Town of Forest Heights from 2011- 2017. Under her leadership, the town moved to the forefront of sustainable practices. She has worked locally and nationally to bring awareness, to communicate, and to educate elected officials of environmental requirements and the responsibilities that they have in creating healthy sustainable communities, as well as highlighting environmental injustice.

**Natalia Sanchez** joined the University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center in April 2018 to work on projects that build the capacity of local governments to address stormwater issues. Prior to EFC, Natalia was at the Anne Arundel Watershed Stewards Academy where she developed her on-the-ground skills and expertise in stormwater best management practices and community outreach and education. Natalia has a Master's Degree in Land Use Planning from the University of Maryland's School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation.

**Neil Weinstein**, PE, RLA, AICP, ASLA, ASCE, ENV SP is the Executive Director and one of the founders of the LID (Low Impact Development) Center. Neil is a registered engineer and landscape architect and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners and the ASCE Urban Water Resources Research Council. He has an M.S. in Environmental Engineering from Johns Hopkins University and a M.L.A. from the University of Georgia. For the last 20 years Neil has primarily been focused on the planning, research, and design of innovative stormwater management practices, including LID.

### **FRI-B.2: Seeds of Change: Growing with Inmates**

Howard EcoWorks is empowering an under-served workforce to respect and restore natural systems for future generations. Seeds of Change refers to our workforce program pipeline that is in development at the local detention center for sustainable landscaping employment. The program includes classroom training, hands-on experience at an on-site native plant nursery, and will soon include internships upon release with potential for connecting to permanent employment. Benefits of the program include restorative rehabilitation, reduced recidivism, operational support for EcoWorks' program and project goals and cost savings to the County government through prisoner days avoided at more than \$50,000 to date.

**Workshop Level:                    Introductory**

**Lori A. Lilly** is the founder and Executive Director of Howard EcoWorks, a non-profit organization empowering an under-served workforce to respect and restore our natural systems for future generations. Prior to founding EcoWorks, Lori ran a successful environmental consulting business for 3 years, was employed as a watershed planner with the Center for Watershed Protection for 5 years and directed grassroots watershed restoration work in northwest Oregon for 3 years. Lori has a B.S. in Natural Resource Management and an M.S. in Marine Estuarine and Environmental Science.

### **FRI-B.3: Engaging Plain Sect for Clean Water**

This case study teams NGO's with the local municipality to explain the economic value of conservation to Amish farmers and make clean water a community value. The project goal is widespread understanding, acceptance, and implementation of conservation plans and practices on farms. Lancaster Farmland Trust works with other project partners to track data and results, creating a project capable of replication across the watershed.

**Workshop Level:      Introductory**

**Jeff Swinehart** is the Chief Operating Officer at Lancaster Farmland Trust. He is responsible for carrying out the strategic plans and policies of the Board of Trustees. He provides direction and leadership toward the achievement of the organization's vision, mission and values as established by the Board of Trustees. During his tenure, Jeff and his team have built Lancaster Farmland Trust's easement portfolio to more than 500 easements and 30,000 acres – the largest easement portfolio in Pennsylvania. Jeff is a member of the Pennsylvania Land Trust Association Board and Policy Committee, serves as Vice-Chairman of the Manheim Township Planning Commission, and is a member of the Executive Committee of the Lancaster Clean Water Partners.

### **FRI-B.4: Hospital: Clean Water, Community Healing**

Situated on the bank of the Patapsco River, MedStar Harbor Hospital experiences 20 million gallons of stormwater runoff/ year. This project treats five acres through the planning, design and construction of 14 stormwater facilities, including 48,000 perennials, shrubs, and trees. The jewel of this project is the healing garden which creates space for staff, patients, and community members to connect with nature and one another.

We will share (1) the basics of developing an institutional green infrastructure master plan, (2) information on health benefits of green infrastructure (3) implementation practices, and (4) use of this site as an educational site.

**Workshop Level:      Intermediate**

**Joan Plisko**, PhD, is an award-winning environmental health and sustainability director, strategic planner, researcher, and educator. Joan's life work is based on the premise that people and the environment in which they live, work, and play can become healthier and more resilient with knowledge, assistance, and recognition. As the President of Plisko Sustainable Solutions, LLC, a woman-owned micro business, Joan creates customized sustainability programs for triple bottom line results. Example projects include: researching health benefits of green infrastructure, identifying interventions for reducing food waste, and serving as the Community Sustainability Director for a retreat center. A life learner, community leader, mentor, yoga enthusiast, and multi-tasking mom of two teenagers, Joan enjoys traveling and has been to all 50 states! She has a Ph.D. in Environmental Systems Engineering from Clemson University, an M.E. in Systems Engineering from the University of Virginia, and a B.S. in Commerce and Engineering from Drexel University.

**Jenn Aiosa** is the Executive Director of Blue Water Baltimore, an environmental nonprofit with the mission to restore the quality of Baltimore rivers, streams, and harbor. Jenn spent more than 20 years in Maryland's environmental community and state government, including leadership positions in Maryland State Department of Planning and the Chesapeake Conservancy, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, the Department of Natural Resources and the Cooperative Extension. Jenn earned a BS in Marine Science from University of South Carolina and an MS in Environmental Sciences from University of Virginia.

### **FRI-B.5: Leveraging Partnerships for Environmental Equity**

Members of the Baltimore Environmental Equity Partnership will share their achievements and challenges in building a cross-sector collaboration of mission-driven organizations to improve community health and environmental well-being in neighborhoods of East Baltimore. In the three years since the group formed, members have learned valuable lessons in the power of diverse and non-traditional partnerships and the importance of investing time and funds in relationship-building so that enduring environmental transformation can occur.

**Workshop Level: Intermediate**

**Terrell Williams** is an Organizer at Baltimoreans United In Leadership Development (BUILD), which is a broad-based, non-partisan, interfaith, multiracial non-profit rooted in Baltimore's neighborhoods and congregations. For more than 35 years, BUILD has worked to improve housing, increase job opportunities, and rebuild schools and community power in neighborhoods of Baltimore. Terrell also serves as the Co-Director of Turnaround Tuesday, a nationally recognized workforce development and placement program that has put more than 700 Baltimore citizens to work in living-wage jobs. Terrell holds a Post Certification in Administration from the University of Baltimore and a Master's of Arts degree in Supervision from the College of Notre Dame in Maryland.

**Jessie Hillman** is the Stormwater Program Manager at Blue Water Baltimore, a nonprofit in Baltimore City undertaking green infrastructure projects, water quality monitoring, and legal advocacy to improve the health of Baltimore's waterways. At Blue Water Baltimore, Jessie oversees stormwater projects in collaboration with community groups, schools and congregations and uses this field experience to inform advocacy efforts aimed at streamlining community-led green infrastructure. Jessie holds a BA in Cultural Anthropology from Reed College and a Master's Degree in City and Regional Planning from Morgan State University.

### **FRI-B.6: Accelerating Tree Plantings Through Collective Impact**

Using live stem cuttings, or live stakes, can save time and money on riparian forest buffer restoration projects. In this classroom session, the Chesapeake Conservancy and PA DCNR will share how they formed a "Live Stake Collaborative" to collect over 8,000 stakes through volunteer efforts and distribute them to partners doing restoration projects on high-impact parcels as part of Chesapeake Conservancy's Precision Conservation initiative to accelerate water quality improvements. Attendees will leave with transferable ideas about using live stakes for riparian restoration, adding organizational capacity through partnership development across sectors, and sharing resources with diverse partners to increase collective impact.

**Workshop Level: Introductory**

**Adrienne Gemberling** is the Susquehanna Technical Coordinator at the Chesapeake Conservancy, an environmental nonprofit based in Annapolis, Maryland. Adrienne is housed at the Freshwater Research Laboratory at Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, PA where she facilitates collaboration among organizations in central Pennsylvania to implement Precision Conservation. She is from Mifflinburg, PA and has a B.S. in Biology from Lebanon Valley College and an M.S. in Biology from Missouri State University.

**Kelsey Miller** is a Riparian Forester with the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Bureau of Forestry. DCNR's Riparian Forest Buffer Program engages partners through grants, technical assistance, high-level organization, and flexible approaches to riparian plantings. Kelsey works alongside multiple organizations and landowner-types throughout the Commonwealth to reforest Pennsylvania's streamsides.

**Jason Swartz** is a Riparian Forester with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Bureau of Forestry. DCNR is spearheading the Commonwealth's reinvigorated riparian forest buffer initiative. Within the Bureau, Jason helps to build buffer planting capacity by engaging diverse partners and landowners in the eastern part of Pennsylvania's Chesapeake Bay Watershed. He is from south central PA, has a BA in Environmental Studies/Biology, and is CBLP Design & Install certified.

**FRI-C.1: Translating "Bay-Speak" to Engage Local Decision Makers**

Can't figure out why local decision-makers aren't interested in that super-cool conservation practice that you are championing? Frustrated as to why only regulatory environmental programs garner attention? Using research conducted over the past several years by the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, the Chesapeake Bay Program and the Maryland Department of the Environment, this interactive session will help you reframe the way you communicate and engage with decision-makers at the local level by discussing the unique challenges that you face, along with case studies and real-life examples. Attendees will walk away with a better grasp on how to reframe their current, and plan their future, messaging and outreach campaigns using proven methods that resonate at the local level.

**Workshop Level: Intermediate**

**Rachel Felver** is the Chesapeake Bay Program director of communications with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, a position she's held over the past three years. Previously, she spent almost nine years with the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, D.C., most notably serving as the director of communications for the Office of Environmental Information for four years. Prior to joining the Alliance, Rachel also did a short stint on the marketing team at the National Aquarium in Baltimore. She holds a masters' in environmental policy and management and a bachelor of arts in political science from the University of Pittsburgh. She grew up in Pennsylvania, 22 miles away from the Chesapeake Bay watershed boundary, and now loves living a mile from the Bay where she can paddleboard and take her dog swimming.

**Laura Cattell Noll** as a member of the Alliance's Local Governments Team, Laura coordinates the Local Leadership Workgroup. She has more than a decade of experience managing and implementing community-based watershed restoration and stewardship projects across the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Previously, Laura worked for the Alice Ferguson Foundation, the National Aquarium and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. She has a B.S. in Environmental Science from Eastern Mennonite University and an M.S. in Environmental Science from the University of Virginia.

**Kathy Stecker** grew up in Maryland, spending summers at Grandma's house on the Bay near the mouth of the Patapsco River. Now she is part of the Chesapeake Bay Restoration Section at Maryland Department of the Environment! In between, she worked in many environmental programs in South Carolina, from lake monitoring to air quality to public participation. And she served as Chief of the Water Modeling and Assessment Branch in North Carolina DEQ. Kathy has a BS in Marine Science and an MA in Human Behavior and Conflict Management. Throughout her career, she's worked with local stakeholders to make positive changes in our environment.

**FRI-C.2: Need Data? The CMC Can Help!**

The goal of the Chesapeake Monitoring Cooperative (CMC) is to create a community where all data of known quality are used to inform watershed management decisions and restoration efforts. The CMC has been working for the past 5 years to bring together the grass roots volunteer monitoring efforts under the Cooperative to pool data together in the Chesapeake Data Explorer. This presentation will highlight the data currently available in the system, success stories of how the data has been used to support policy and restorations efforts, and provide other potential ways the data could be useful to a broader audience.

**Workshop Level: Intermediate**

**Liz Chudoba** is the program manager for the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay since August 2015. She graduated from the University of North Carolina Wilmington with a MS in Marine Science and Vermont Law School with a Masters of Environmental Law and Policy. Liz is the water quality program manager for the Chesapeake Monitoring Cooperative.

**Emily Bialowas** is the Chesapeake Monitoring Cooperative Outreach Coordinator. Emily recently completed her Master's degree in Natural Resources at the University of New Hampshire, where she focused on coastal policy and management. She earned her BS in Natural Resources at Cornell University in 2013. She has experience in stream restoration, invasive species control, and watershed education.

### **FRI-C.3: Innovative Solutions to Emerging Toxic Threats**

Did you know that identifying a source of toxic pollution can start with the color of your driveway? Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) are contaminants in Chesapeake tributaries that are toxic to aquatic wildlife and pose risks to human health, particularly children. Pavement sealcoats are used to protect asphalt surfaces like parking lots and driveways, and are a confirmed source of PAHs. This workshop will provide participants a background on sealants as toxic contaminants, innovative new solutions to emerging threats, and the skills necessary for identifying a high-PAH product in the store or in the field.

**Workshop Level:      Introductory**

**Lillian Power** is an Environmental Protection Specialist with the District's Department of Energy and Environment. Lillian leads the team responsible for implementing and enforcing the District's coal tar pavement sealant ban, which has recently been amended to expand the scope of banned products. Lillian also serves as co-chair on a Chesapeake Bay Program-funded project to develop a standardized protocol for testing PAH concentrations in pavement sealants and to create a list of low-PAH products. Prior to joining DOEE's Watershed Protection Division, Lillian worked as an educator with the Anacostia Watershed Society. Lillian has a BS in Zoology from the University of California, Santa Barbara and an MS in Biology from Georgetown University.

### **FRI-C.4: Masonville Cove: A Decade of Dedication**

Ten years ago, a non-traditional partnership was created to transform a contaminated site along the Patapsco River into the nation's first Urban Wildlife Refuge Partnership. To mitigate impacts from building a dredged material containment facility, the Maryland Port Administration worked with the local community to restore Masonville Cove, built an environmental education center, and helped create three world-renowned trash wheels to reduce debris in Baltimore waterways. After a decade of dedication, environmental education programs at Masonville Cove support Baltimore Green Schools, provide equitable access to nature, and engage underserved residents and students to empower the next generation of community and environmental leaders.

**Workshop Level:              Introductory**

**Kristen Fidler**, Director, Office of Harbor Development for the Maryland Port Administration, is responsible for overseeing the dredging program for the Port of Baltimore. Working closely with citizens and partners at the federal, state and local level is critical to ensuring the long-term success of Maryland's Dredged Material Management Program. Kristen holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Marketing as well as a Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature from the University of Maryland, College Park. She also holds a JD, with a focus in Environmental Law and Policy, from the University of Maryland School of Law.

**Katrina Jones**, Outreach Coordinator for the Maryland Port Administration's dredging program, builds diverse stakeholder engagement and maintains partnerships for enhancing the public's knowledge and support of the State of Maryland's dredged material management program (DMMP). She also co-chairs the Baltimore Port Alliance - Education and Outreach Committee, a collaboration of public/private maritime industry, educators, and representatives from government agencies. Katrina coordinates directly with schools and educational programs (Living Classrooms Foundation, Arlington Echo, National Aquarium) to facilitate meaningful field experiences at the Port facilities. She is a graduate of Valdosta State University, with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Communications.



### **FRI-C.5: What Factors Help Ecosystem Collaboratives Succeed?**

In June 2019 the Institute for Engagement & Negotiation (IEN) at the University of Virginia completed a research study aimed at illuminating what specific aspects of collaborative partnerships make the most different in terms of accelerating ecological restoration and conservation activities and outcomes. Funded by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund Program, the project involved a survey of research literature, interviews and case studies with regional and national experts, and an online survey of effective collaboratives. During this session, IEN staff will share key research findings around areas where funders and collaboratives may wish to strategically invest resources in order to maximize long-term effectiveness.

**Workshop Level: Intermediate**

**J. Michael “Mike” Foreman** is the Special Projects Manager of the Institute for Engagement & Negotiation at the University of Virginia. Mike is an experienced facilitator, strategic planner and mediator in natural resources and environmental public policy. Mike had an exceptional 31-year career in Virginia state government with the Virginia Departments of Forestry and Conservation and Recreation. Mike has worked in the university, corporate and public sectors since 1987 and has worked in the natural resources field his entire career from agricultural researcher at North Carolina State University through corporate forester work in Louisiana and Mississippi to work as a forester, program manager and director in Virginia government. He teaches the Leadership portion of the Virginia Natural Resources Leadership Institute.

### **FRI-C.6: Small Organization Strategies for Large-Scale Restoration**

The Clear Creeks Project represents the first significant dive for the Gunpowder Valley Conservancy into a large-scale, multi-year stormwater management education and restoration campaign. We will share successful strategies and lessons learned from 6+ years of the Project with small watershed organizations planning their own leaps forward, including successful social marketing strategies for behavior change, best practices for motivating community action, how to set achievable yet ambitious goals, and how pursuing diversity in partnerships and target audiences has enhanced the Project’s competitiveness for grants. Participants will identify their organizations’ challenges and opportunities and learn potential strategies to guide future growth.

**Workshop Level: Intermediate**

**Peg Perry** is the Program Director of Education and Restoration for the Gunpowder Valley Conservancy (GVC) and the Project Manager for GVC’s Clear Creeks Project, leading the effort to engage community leaders, government agencies, businesses, schools, churches, and other organizations in Clear Creeks Project and other initiatives. With two decades of experience directing programs in environmental education, Peg uses her background in natural history, eco-psychology, deep ecology, and American Indian philosophy to inspire others to restore and protect nature. Peg enjoys nature observation, mountain hiking, bird watching, and wild edibles. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from Towson University.

**Darcy Herman** is the Assistant Project Manager of the Gunpowder Valley Conservancy’s Clear Creeks Project, for which she develops communications products, coordinates the community-based social marketing program, assists with outreach efforts, and leads the Adopt-A-Stream program for volunteers. With a background in technical writing and ecology, Darcy has worked in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors as a writer, editor, proposal developer, outreach coordinator, and naturalist. Among Darcy’s passions are citizen science, entomology, and birding. Darcy earned bachelor's degrees in zoology and English from Michigan State University and a master's in professional writing from Towson University.

### **FRI-C.7: Reinventing Public Meetings: Lessons from DC**

Have you ever held a meeting where barely anyone showed up? Or you already knew everyone in the room? Public meetings are not always the best way to equitably and inclusively engage under-represented communities. As part of the District’s outreach strategy for its Phase III Chesapeake Watershed

Implementation Plan, the District experimented with innovative approaches engage diverse audiences and reduce barriers to participation, such as offering childcare. Learn from our experience. We'll lead exercises to help you think through how this could support outreach in your community.

**Workshop Level:                    Intermediate**

***Katherine Antos*** is Chief of the Partnering and Environmental Conservation Branch in the District of Columbia's Department of Energy and Environment. She coordinates the District's participation in the Chesapeake Bay Program and oversees environmental education, trash reduction, compliance assistance and stewardship programs to improve the health of rivers, streams and communities. Prior to joining DOEE, Katherine worked at the Anacostia Waterfront Trust and EPA's Chesapeake Bay Program.

***Art Slater*** is Director of Operations of the Anacostia Coordinating Council (ACC), a grassroots, community non-profit consortium of organizations and individuals that deals with a number of issues that affect communities living east of the Anacostia River. ACC is a DOEE community partner and fiscal sponsor for DOEE's Community Stormwater Solutions grant-funded Ward 8 Woods, a program that trains and employs local residents in the removal of trash and invasive species from DC parklands.

**SAT-I.S.1: Regional Collaboration for Greater Impact (Limit – 50)**

In landscapes across the Chesapeake, regional collaborative approaches are beginning to achieve more ambitious and enduring conservation outcomes while engaging more people, covering a larger landscape, and harnessing the collective power of a community’s social, cultural, and scientific capacity and networks. What makes these efforts work? How are they formed, resourced, governed, and implemented to deliver more on the ground? How do you build—or strengthen—one of these “force-multipliers” in your own watershed? Join this workshop to learn about exciting local examples in the Shenandoah Valley and Eastern Panhandle and from two of the top experts in the broader field of regional conservation partnerships. Then engage in facilitated, in-depth discussions with peers to plan, troubleshoot, and build strategies that will help you start, grow, or accelerate your own collaborative.

**Seminar Level: Intermediate**

**Bill Labich** is a senior conservationist with Highstead Foundation and coordinator of the Regional Conservation Partnership (RCP) Network comprised of 44 RCPs and other regional partners. Bill has organized, researched, and advised others in advancing collaborative landscape conservation for twenty years. He co-coordinates the Northern Appalachian Trail Landscape Partnership, authored “The Regional Conservation Partnership Handbook,” and co-authored the report, “Wildlands and Woodlands, Farmlands and Communities.”

**Jennifer Miller Herzog** is Chesapeake Program Manager for the Chesapeake Land and Water Initiative, a joint effort of the Chesapeake Bay Funders Network and the Land Trust Alliance to accelerate land protection and restoration to achieve water quality goals. Through both the Initiative and previous work in the western US, she has helped to cultivate, support, and build capacity for regional collaborations to achieve landscape-scale conservation goals for nearly twenty years.

**Kate Wofford** is Executive Director for the Alliance for the Shenandoah Valley. She serves on Governor Northam’s Natural Resources Policy Transition Team and the Chesapeake Bay Stakeholder Advisory Group, as well as multiple boards and steering committees at the watershed and local scale. Kate has worked with local communities to protect land and water resources for more than 15 years, including as one of the founding members of the Shenandoah Valley Conservation Collaborative, an effort to conserve and restore land and water resources in the Valley.

**Tanner Haid** is the Eastern Panhandle Field Coordinator for WV Rivers Coalition, bringing experience in community outreach, hands-on conservation, and coalition building. He coordinates Safe Water for WV projects in the Eastern Panhandle—including the Safe Water Conservation Collaborative to protect drinking water using land conservation as a strategy—and serves as the state lead for the Choose Clean Water Coalition.

**SAT-I.S.2: Beginning and Advance Tree ID (Limit – 30)**

Identification of a tree can be accomplished by learning the physiological characteristics that distinguish it from other trees. Things like leaf shape and size, branching arrangement, color, and sometimes smell can be clues to what type of tree you are observing. Bark is also a defining characteristic for many trees. Students will learn the terminology used to describe these characteristics and be able to apply them in the field using simple checklists and dichotomous keys.

**Seminar Level: Introductory or Intermediate**

**Craig Highfield** is the Director of the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay - Chesapeake Forests Program, where he manages a variety of projects that improve existing forests, create new ones, and educate residents and decision-makers about the benefits of forests in the Chesapeake watershed.

### **SAT-I.S.3: Streamline Environmental Planning Using CAST (Limit – 24)**

CAST enables planners in the watershed to develop a plan for meeting a nitrogen, phosphorus, or sediment load allocation using the most cost-effective strategy. CAST can be used to answer questions about the effect of different BMPs on loads, the impact of land use development over time, and to identify the geographical location where BMPs will reduce the most load. Come to this session to learn how to quantify load reductions from BMPs for grant applications, communication with locally-elected officials, and select and prioritize BMP implementation for restoration and conservation. CAST is free and online so is available for all.

**Seminar Level:                      Introductory**

**Olivia Devereux** is an environmental scientist with expertise in BMP planning and implementation and development of linked watershed and BMP modeling systems. She has performed water quality assessments and facilitated environmental planning efforts. She is the scientific lead in developing the CAST tool and was the scientific lead in developing the first Chesapeake Bay Program Scenario Builder, the system that distributes nutrients to the land and was used to create inputs to the Watershed Model. She also has played a key role in other environmental planning and modeling initiatives.

### **SAT-I.S.4: Behavior Change: Campaigns that Create Change (Limit - 50)**

More than 18 million people live in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. More than 18 million people make decisions and take actions each day that affect the health of the Bay. This hands-on workshop will lead participants through the process of creating a Community Based Social Marketing plan, from behavior and audience identification to tool selection. Participants will demo a new online tool that translates data from over 5,200 stewardship surveys Baywide, to inform your campaign development. Bring your outreach ideas, materials and observations and we'll show you how to apply the principles of behavior change to improve your outreach program.

**Seminar Level:                      Advanced**

**Suzanne Kilby Etgen** is the founding Executive Director of the Anne Arundel County Watershed Stewards Academy (WSA). Suzanne holds a BS in Environmental Science and an MA in Religion and Ecology. Suzanne is also a trained Community Based Social Marketing Technical Assistance Provider, assisting Stewards and organizations in the development of campaigns to change polluting behaviors. Other favorite professional activities have included water quality monitoring, running a summertime food camp on a local CSA, beekeeping and instructing low ropes team building.

**Steve Raabe** is president of OpinionWorks, a full-service market research firm based in Annapolis, Maryland. Steve founded OpinionWorks in 2001 to provide mission-driven clients with critical insights into consumer behavior and public attitudes based on scientifically-sound survey research. His expertise is understanding the cues to individual and consumer behavior through probative interviewing and representative sampling. Mr. Raabe attended American University, earning a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and graduating cum laude in 1986. He is an active community volunteer, having served on the Board of the Lighthouse Shelter, and is chair of the Anne Arundel County WSA Board of Directors.

**Kacey Wetzel** joined the Chesapeake Bay Trust in 2007 and now leads the Trust's Capacity Building, Community Engagement, and Environmental Education programs. Kacey works with funding partners, non-profit organizations, and community leaders to identify and develop projects that improve both community and environmental well-being. Kacey graduated from Rollins College with a B.A. in Environmental Studies and holds an M.S. in Environmental Science and Policy from Johns Hopkins University, and a CPH in Social Marketing from the University of South Florida. Kacey has studied water and waste management in the Dominican Republic and environmental sustainability in Costa Rica.

### **SAT-I.S.5: Amplified Voices: Storytelling and Diverse Narratives (Limit – 40)**

Storytelling has always been an integral part of the human experience. Throughout history, cultures across the world have strengthened community ties using a variety of storytelling methods. Participants in this

session will participate in multiple storytelling exercises and discuss the ways in which the stories we tell (or don't tell) impact the ability of our work to be diverse, equitable, and inclusive. By learning more about the intersection between DEI and storytelling through the platform of Chesapeake Collective, participants will strengthen their abilities to creatively and effectively communicate their work while creating space to elevate and celebrate diverse voices.

**Seminar Level:                    Introductory**

**Laura Todd** is the RiverSmart Program Coordinator at Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay in Washington, DC. She graduated from Elon University in North Carolina with a degree in Environmental Studies having completed research on the influential predictors and formative experiences of adolescent environmentalists. In 2019, Laura became a Master Watershed Steward. A native of the Eastern Shore of Maryland, Laura enjoys kayaking the waters of her native Wicomico River and unwinding on the beaches of Assateague Island. In her free time, Laura enjoys vegan baking, gardening, and curling up with a good book.

**Gabrielle (Gaby) Roffe** is the project and partnership coordinator at the Chesapeake Conservancy. She works closely with the National Park Service on the Gateways and Watertrails Network to help promote stewardship in the Chesapeake Bay. Prior to working at the Chesapeake Conservancy, Gaby worked with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service building urban partnerships and community engagement programs in Kansas City, Denver, and with the National Aquarium in Baltimore. She completed her MS in Environmental Science at Towson University and her BA from the University of Southern California. Outside of work, Gaby loves to collect bugs, do yoga, brew kombucha, travel, and spend time with family.

**SAT-I.S.6: Dairy Farm Tour (Limit – 35)\*\*\***

**\*\*\*Participating in this intensive seminar requires pedestrian travel on unpaved trails and roads. Please contact Jenny McGarvey ([jmcgarvey@allianceforthebay.org](mailto:jmcgarvey@allianceforthebay.org)) with questions about accessibility.**

Take a free tour of a fully operating dairy farm! You'll meet local dairy farmers at Shenandoah Jerseys Dairy Farm in Boonsboro, Maryland and learn first-hand about their farming operations, including animal care, milk production, and environmental conservation practices. Ask any questions you've ever had about dairy farming during your 90-minute, ¼-mile walking tour. Oh, and we'll end the tour with a free surprise dairy treat! The tour is rain or shine, so bring your inclement weather gear. Closed-toed shoes are required. Bus transportation provided.

**Seminar Level :                    Introductory**

**Ron Ohrel** is director of environmental outreach with American Dairy Association North East. He is the organizer of the field trip.

**Tracy and Janet Shank Stiles** purchased Shenandoah Jerseys in 1996. Tracy passed away in 2000, and Janet continued with the farm, remarrying in 2007 to Adna Fulton. Daughter **Jessica Stiles Hess** is herd manager and son-in-law **J.R. Hess** manages the farm. The family manages a total of 742 acres: 125 at Shenandoah, 87 at Janet's home farm near Beaver Creek and 530 leased acres.

**Elmer Weibley** is District Manager of the Washington County Soil Conservation District. The district has a long history of helping farmers maintain healthy, productive farming operations while protecting and enhancing natural resources. District staff work with farmers to install best management practices on their farms to prevent soil erosion, manage nutrients, and protect water quality.

**SAT-I.S.7.A/B: Spiritual Voices in Wilderness: Outdoor Education**

**TWO TOURS: 8:30 to 10:00 (Limit 20)**

**10:00 to 11:30 (Limit 20)\*\*\***

**\*\*\*Participating in the 10:00 to 11:30 tour requires pedestrian travel on unpaved trails and roads. Please contact Jenny McGarvey ([jmcgarvey@allianceforthebay.org](mailto:jmcgarvey@allianceforthebay.org)) with questions about accessibility.**

Join us for a different kind of nature walk! Diverse voices of leaders from 3-4 faith traditions will guide us by sharing environmental spiritual teachings of stewardship and contemplative practices in nature.

Studies show that meditative experiences in nature offer both mental health benefits and inspire deeper commitments to care for the environment. This interfaith walk will also model how these teachings and practices can provide a rich resource to strengthen resilience in trying times of climate change. Through these walks, people of diverse backgrounds are inspired to collaborate to restore both our relationships with each other and the earth.

**Seminar Level:                   Introductory**

*Kolya Braun-Greiner* attended Union Theological Seminary in New York City ('92), M.Div. where her studies focused on theology and ecology, and participated in founding "Ecologians," to assess and activate energy conservation measures at the seminary. An experienced facilitator and faith-based curriculum writer, Kolya has led groups on peace, environmental justice, Native American land rights, advocacy for farm workers, and is a trainer of the non-violence program Creating a Culture of Peace in the tradition of Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr. Prior to coming to IPC, she served as staff with the Catholic Climate Covenant, where she wrote the curriculum "Creation Cries for Justice, Catholic Social Teaching on Climate Change." With IPC she wrote a Vacation Bible School Curriculum "God's Water Heroes, Splash into Living Waters," to foster watershed stewardship. Kolya lives in Takoma Park, MD, where she is gradually converting her suburban lawn to native plants.

**SAT-I.S.8: Young Professionals Networking Session: 10:00 to 11:30 (Limit - 40)**

Are you looking to network with like-minded, early career professionals in the conservation field? This facilitated session will help you make connections across the Chesapeake Bay Watershed and will offer a safe space for young professionals of color and allies to network, share stories, and create expressive art.

**Seminar Level:                   Introductory**

*Carmera Thomas-Wilhite* is the Baltimore Program Manager at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from North Carolina Wesleyan College. Carmera began her career as a Chesapeake Conservation Corps member in its inaugural year in 2010. Carmera has a passion for sharing hands-on experiences with the public, with a knack for inspiring, educating, and raising awareness so that others become stewards of the land and water in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. As the program manager, she manages growing oysters in the Baltimore Harbor and encourages advocacy and engagement to address pollution issues in the Harbor and Chesapeake Bay.

*Malia Pownall* graduated from Christopher Newport University in 2016 with a BS in Environmental Biology. Wanting to gain experiences in urban conservation and community organizing, she completed a year of volunteer service at the Waterfront Partnership in Baltimore through the Chesapeake Conservation Corps program (2016-2017 Cohort). Malia is currently the Baltimore Outreach Educator at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation where she works to develop sustainable relationships with schools and partners and support CBF's Baltimore Harbor Environmental Education Program. While not at work, you can find Malia adventuring on a mountain or river, coaching various sports with Volo City Kids Foundation (check them out!), or enjoying a sunset on her rooftop deck in Baltimore City.

**SAT-I.S.9: Bird Walk (Limit – 30)\*\*\***

**\*\*\*Participating in this intensive seminar requires pedestrian travel on unpaved trails and roads. Please contact Jenny McGarvey ([jmcgarvey@allianceforthebay.org](mailto:jmcgarvey@allianceforthebay.org)) with questions about accessibility.**

Join Potomac Valley Audubon Society trip leader Sandy Sagalkin on a bird walk of the National Conservation Training Center. Anyone with an interest is welcome to sign up, regardless of their birding skills. The walk will include a hike around the eagle's nest, across the road to the landing and meadow, down to the Potomac River, and back. Some binoculars will be provided. Participants are encouraged to bring their own binoculars and bird identification books.

**Seminar Level:                   Introductory/Intermediate**

*Sandy Sagalkin* is a volunteer with the Potomac Valley Audubon Society. In addition to being an avid birder, Sandy most recently served as the co-director of the Monarch Alliance, a program of the Potomac Valley Audubon Society. Sandy is retired from the federal government and worked as a lawyer with the intelligence community before retiring.

**SAT-D.1: Understanding Bias: Building Your Impact**

How are you impacted by the attitudes or stereotypes others hold that they're not aware of? Are you aware of the ways your biases shape the decisions you make and how you engage with others? Learn about implicit bias and how it thwarts progress in relationships, programs, organizations, and collaborations, including those that aim to be equitable and inclusive. We'll briefly consider the legacy of historical and current examples of bias in environmental and conservation movements. Exercises will support participants to evaluate experiences of implicit bias and their own biased tendencies followed by a focus on developing strategies to identify and disrupt it. Participants will leave with tools and resources to use in their work to mindfully identify and disrupt instances of personal and institutionally implicit bias and the resulting impacts.

**Workshop Level:                    Introductory**

**Stacia Turner** is the Urban Conservation Program Director for the Conservation Fund's Parks with Purpose Initiative. Stacia started her vocation for environmental and social justice in high school and has been working to advocate for community centered natural resource planning and decision-making for over a decade with a particular emphasis on engaging communities of color in environmental stewardship and uplifting urban parks and food justice movements. She holds a bachelor's degree in Sustainability from Arizona State's Global Institute of Sustainability, and a Masters' degree in Environmental Studies from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry.

**Sarah Clark**, Senior Associate with the Institute for Conservation Leadership, has over 20 years of experience developing and leading local and national programs, collaborative efforts, and leadership development initiatives with membership, advocacy, volunteer and community-based organizations. A skilled facilitator, Sarah works with leaders to develop strategies to create change and meet goals. Sarah currently leads ICL's efforts with the Delaware River Watershed Initiative, facilitating network development and collaboration with the initiative's 50+ organizations. She has a Masters' in Organization Development from American University and a BA in Sociology from Miami University.

**SAT-D.2: Interest-Based Negotiation for Conservation**

How do we work toward solving problems collaboratively with those who have different ideas and interests than we do? Our ability to negotiate and form creative, sustainable solutions with others is foundational to supporting a cleaner, healthier Chesapeake Bay. This interactive presentation will introduce participants to the principles of interest-based negotiation – a tool that allows people to create and collaborate around issues that may traditionally cause disagreement and conflict. By developing a better understanding of the interests involved in a situation, participants will learn to build value out of disagreement and find effective solutions through communication, collaboration, and creativity.

**Workshop Level:                    Introductory**

**Molly Brown** is a Senior Attorney and Director of Community Legal Education with the Chesapeake Legal Alliance where she helps empower communities with legal tools to effect positive change. Prior to her time with CLA, she ran the Alternative Dispute Resolution programs for the New Hampshire Judicial Branch. Molly has her J.D. from Vermont Law School and an Executive Masters in Natural Resource Management with a focus on Leadership in Sustainability from Virginia Tech.

**SAT-D.3: #TrashFreeDC, in Principle and in Practice**

How do you change the behavior of 702,000 people? This session walks through balancing resident needs with water quality goals, and designing social marketing campaigns that satisfy both, to achieve clean,

safe, and healthy neighborhoods in Washington, DC. Participants will learn how to apply social marketing concepts to government programs and services (and vice versa), how to manage programs from diverse communities toward a common goal, and the challenges of determining--and satisfying--multiple target audiences in a major city. The session includes a deep dive in Anacostia Riverkeeper's piece of the puzzle, including how different projects were implemented.

**Workshop Level: Intermediate**

**Julie Lawson**, Director of Mayor Muriel Bowser's Office of the Clean City, is a skilled team builder and communicator with more than 15 years of experience as an entrepreneurial advocate, marketing professional, and project manager. An international expert on plastic pollution policy and behavior change, she is a respected leader in engaging diverse communities on the restoration of the Chesapeake Bay. As founding Executive Director of Trash Free Maryland, she developed local, state, and national coalitions to pass cutting-edge legislation to protect neighborhoods and waterways, from the Anacostia River to the oceans. Previously, she was also principal for Communication Visual, a graphic design studio specializing in public service communications. Julie is passionate about restoring the Anacostia River so that it can be a full recreational, economic, and natural resource for all Washingtonians to enjoy. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in linguistics from Haverford College.

**Trey Sherard** is in his eighth year with Anacostia Riverkeeper and his third year as DC Vice-Chair for the Anacostia Watershed Community Advisory Committee. Trey coordinates Anacostia Riverkeeper's Clean Waterways cleanup series, Friday Night Fishing, Thursday Night Kayaking, ARK's management of the four Bandalong litter traps in DC and one in Maryland, the installation of a second trap in Maryland, and part of ARK's green infrastructure program. He holds his USCG 100 ton Mariner's Document for inland waters, and gives many of the Anacostia River Explorer boat tours. B.S. Biology Duke University.

#### **SAT-D.4: Expanding the Chesapeake Bay Report Card**

We are expanding the Chesapeake report card to include indicators that reflect the breadth and diversity of the watershed – socially, culturally, economically, and environmentally. Please help us improve the report card by participating in this interactive, engaging session that will inform the report card process for the future. We will use presentations, breakout groups, and real-time polling/surveys to gather information on the best indicators for a holistic report card. We will engage participants through activities like SNAP, stakeholder mapping, and Brain Waves. The session is geared toward bringing diverse stakeholders to the table and sparking new collaborations in the watershed.

**Workshop Level: Introductory**

**Caroline Donovan** oversees project management, science communication, and data analysis at the Integration and Application Network at UMCES. She has over 10 years of experience with ecosystem health report cards. She has been involved in the Chesapeake Bay report card process since its inception in 2006. Caroline now leads the annual production of the Report Card and related communications. She has extensive experience in integrating scientific data into overall assessments, and in generating science communication materials. Most recently, Caroline has worked on expanding report cards, such as the Coral Reef Conservation Program's Status Reports and RECOVER (REstoration COordination and VERification) Everglades report card, beyond traditional water quality indicators.

**Alexandra Fries** is a Senior Science Communicator for UMCES-IAN with extensive experience in data analysis, synthesis, mapping, interpretation, and communication. Ms. Fries' work in environmental management has been focused on assessment, monitoring, and management of aquatic, marine, and terrestrial ecosystems. Ms. Fries has experience working with a diverse group of partners including those in local, state, and federal government, non-governmental organizations, non-profit organizations, private industry, and academia. Within IAN, Ms. Fries conducts data analysis, synthesis, and communication by completing environmental report cards and conducting science communication courses. She also creates science communication materials such as diagrams, posters, presentations, newsletters, and reports using Adobe Creative Suite, Microsoft Office Suite, and ArcGIS.

**Dr. Heath Kelsey** is the Director for the UMCES Integration and Application Network (UMCES-IAN) group and oversees personnel, project management, and communication coordination. Dr. Kelsey has developed ecosystem health report cards in



Chesapeake Bay and Mississippi River, United States, Great Barrier Reef and Darwin Harbor, Australia, and Chilika Lake, India, and facilitated the development of standard indicators and methods for local watershed organizations in the mid-Atlantic. Dr. Kelsey's research specialties include environmental and public health assessment, pollution indicators, bacterial source tracking, land use and nonpoint source pollution, Geographic Information Systems, and international development.

### **SAT-D.5: Channeling Pete Seeger: Music and Stewardship**

Among this folk hero's many accomplishments, Pete Seeger was one of the founders of the environmental movement, starting with cleaning up the Hudson River. He used his music as a means of advocacy and public education, and you can, too! Prepare to join in on crowd-writing a new Chesapeake Bay-themed song of inspiration based upon a traditional folk tune and, of course, get ready to sing!

**Workshop Level:                    Introductory**

**Jeff Holland**, the Riverkeeper for the West and Rhode Rivers with Arundel Rivers Federation, uses his music as a means of inspiring audiences to become better stewards of the Bay's waterways. Over his 30-year career, he has co-founded the Chesapeake folk groups Crab Alley and the Eastport Oyster Boys and written and recorded dozens of humorous and soulful songs inspired by the Bay. "Back Creek Crab" was featured in the National Geographic documentary, "Chesapeake: the Great Shellfish Bay." Jeff has performed at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival, aboard schooners and on stages all around the Bay watershed and as far afield as Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia, Ireland and Estonia singing songs like "The Sub-aquatic Vegetation Tango," which, of course, is a sing-along.

### **SAT-D.6: Teamwork Promotes Stream Monitoring Collaboration**

Collaboration is key and streams need teams. This motto propelled Dickinson College's Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring (ALLARM) to team up with the Lower and Middle Susquehanna Riverkeeper Associations to launch a new volunteer monitoring initiative in Pennsylvania and New York called Susquehanna Stream Team. Attendees of this session will learn about models for collaboration development and implementation; strategies for leveraging and engaging diverse partners; and tools for developing a water monitoring program with multilayered data use goals.

**Workshop Level:                    Intermediate**

**Helen Schlimm** is the Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring's (ALLARM) Community Science Specialist. Helen designs and implements water quality monitoring trainings for volunteers. She also coordinates ALLARM's involvement in the regional Chesapeake Monitoring Cooperative project. Helen has four years of experience working with Pennsylvania and New York communities on stream assessments and watershed education. She is passionate about teaching volunteers and communities the scientific tools for monitoring streams.

**Julie Vastine** is the director of Dickinson College's Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring (ALLARM) in Pennsylvania, where she works with communities and partners interested in using science as a tool for change. Julie has worked in the volunteer monitoring/citizen science field for fifteen years. In 2019, she was appointed to the National Water Quality Monitoring Council as the volunteer monitoring representative. In 2018, she was elected to the Citizen Science Association. A native of the Chesapeake Bay region, Julie enjoys working with community organizations to build their capacity to monitor, protect, and restore water quality in Pennsylvania and New York.

### **SAT-D.7: Bringing Back the Brook Trout**

Piedmont Environmental Council (PEC) initiated Team Trout in 2015, completing a survey of native Eastern brook trout habitat in the Piedmont, and focusing on those road-stream crossings that fragment habitat. Now, PEC has developed a network of partners ranging from private foundations to state and federal agencies all committed and invested in bringing back the brook trout. This workshop takes a virtual tour (as developed by Ecosystem Services, LLC) of the Bolton Branch pilot project completed by PEC earlier in 2019, and demonstrates the level of long-term commitment, funding options, and boots-on-the-ground savvy needed to prove resiliency in the face of meeting Chesapeake Bay goals for fish passage and water quality.

**Workshop Level: Intermediate**

**Claire Catlett**, Land Conservation Field Representative, PEC: Claire works directly with landowners in the protection and stewardship of their lands, and leads stream restoration projects for trout habitat and water quality in the Upper Rappahannock River watershed. Claire has spent much of her career creating cross-watershed collaborations, developing grassroots-to-grasstops outreach and on-the-ground restoration projects for citizens, landowners, non-profits, local and federal government entities. She served as an AmeriCorps in NM and AZ, and holds a M.A. from Denver University.

**Celia Vuocolo**, Wildlife Habitat and Stewardship Specialist, PEC: Celia has worked for the Piedmont Environmental Council since 2014. She is a MSc. candidate in the Environmental Science and Policy graduate program at George Mason University, where she is researching the occurrence of a parasite in bumble bees. Celia completed a Smithsonian Graduate Fellowship in 2015. She has a B.Sc. in Conservation and Wildlife Management from Delaware Valley College, and has held positions as a park ranger, wildlife rehabilitation center manager, and as a wildlife management consultant.

**Saturday Sessions | 3:00 to 4:30 pm | Session E**

**SAT-E.1: Begin Developing a DEIJ Plan**

In May 2019, the guide “Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice (DEIJ) in Action” was released to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed community to provide a path forward on DEIJ for organizations working on environmental issues in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. During this session, participants will learn how to utilize the "DEIJ in Action" Guide and gain an increased understanding on how to begin creating a DEIJ action plan for their organization. This interactive session will provide a space for sharing and learning about challenges, opportunities, and resources related to DEIJ in our individual and collective efforts.

**Workshop Level: Introductory**

**Bre’Anna Brooks** joined the Chesapeake Bay Trust in April 2016 and now manages outreach, engagement, and restoration grant program as well as a residential rebate program. Bre’Anna is the lead for the Trust’s Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee and Action Committee. Bre’Anna earned a B.A. in Environmental Studies with an emphasis on Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Prior to joining the Chesapeake Bay Trust, she served in an AmeriCorps youth program that entailed land conservation efforts such as habitat restoration, fire mitigation and invasive species removal. Bre’Anna was driven to the local area due to an interest in making an impact on the Chesapeake Bay watershed and those who call this region home. She is a Maryland Master Naturalist.

**Kacey Wetzel** joined the Chesapeake Bay Trust in 2007 and now leads the Trust’s Capacity Building, Community Engagement, and Environmental Education programs. Kacey works with funding partners, non-profit organizations, and community leaders to identify and develop projects that improve both community and environmental well-being. Kacey graduated from Rollins College with a B.A. in Environmental Studies and holds an M.S. in Environmental Science and Policy from Johns Hopkins University, and a CPH in Social Marketing from the University of South Florida. Kacey has studied water and waste management in the Dominican Republic and environmental sustainability in Costa Rica.

**Jamie Baxter** serves as CBFN’s Program Director, applying his unique blend of experience to assist members in the development of effective and practical solutions to the vexing challenges facing the regional conservation community. Before CBFN, Jamie held leadership positions with Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Cahaba River Society and Maryland Department of Natural Resources. His extensive experience leading development of youth, advocacy and public policy programs built a diverse skill set in effective non-profit management and a keen understanding of different systems key to the success of any conservation initiative. Jamie holds degrees in Economics and Environmental Science from Dickinson College in Pennsylvania.

### **SAT-E.2: Healthy Farms, Soils and Waterways**

Several organizations are conducting research and outreach to advance soil health practices in the region.

Practices like no till planting and cover crops offer farm production and environmental benefits, such as increased water infiltration rates and decreased need for fertilizers. This session will discuss cutting edge research and farmer-based education efforts in Pennsylvania, with application for surrounding states. In addition, the session will feature demonstrations illustrating some of the key concepts behind the promotion of soil health. The demonstrations have been shared with farmers and non-farmers alike, and can be replicated in your own education and outreach programs.

**Workshop Level: Intermediate**

**Lisa Blazure** has been the Agricultural Resource Conservationist for the Clinton County Conservation District, Pennsylvania since 2008. In addition to the traditional job duties of agricultural planning and BMP implementation, Lisa is a frequent speaker at soil health education events. Her biology background gives her a unique perspective on soil ecology and the role of microbes in healthy soils. Since 2016, she has been a board member for the PA No Till Alliance and also serves as the secretary for the Keystone Chapter of the Water and Soil Conservation Society. She has a B.S. in Biology, Bucknell University and a M.S. in Environmental Science (emphasis in Aquatic Ecology), Indiana University, Bloomington.

**Leroy Bupp** has spent the past 30 years restoring organic matter to the soil on his 700-acre farm in Seven Valleys, PA. Through a combination of long-term no-tilling, cover cropping, planting green, and spreading manure, he feels he is well on his way to restoring the land—in fact, organic matter on his fields has increased from 2% to 4.8% in the past 4 years. A board member of the PA No-Till Alliance, Leroy travels all over Pennsylvania teaching farmers and agriculture educators the importance of soil health. As a farmer himself, he understands the importance of protecting what nature takes so long to create.

**Lamonte Garber** has worked for 30 years in agricultural water quality protection and natural habitat restoration. As Watershed Restoration Coordinator at Stroud Water Research Center, he coordinates agricultural and watershed restoration projects with many partners, leveraging state, federal and private funding combined with landowner funds. Prior to his work at the Stroud Center, he held positions at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and the Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture. He has a B.S. in Agricultural Economics from Penn State University and lives in Lancaster, PA.

### **SAT-E.3: Cultivating Future Clean Water Leaders**

A student's voice is powerful. By giving students a platform to raise their voices and speak for the rivers and streams of their watershed, students can create a lasting clean water legacy for future generations. Come learn how to effectively activate youth leaders and amplify your organization's message, public outreach, and advocacy! We will only be successful in preserving our clean water resources if we have a passionate, knowledgeable next generation of watershed stewards ready and waiting in our eddies.

**Workshop Level: Introductory**

**Megan Fink** graduated with a B.S. in Wildlife Science at Virginia Tech and began her career at the North Carolina Aquariums. In 2011, she was hired by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) to lead students, teachers, and school administrators on ecological, cultural, and historical investigations of the Bay and its communities. After four years of managing CBF's multi-day Island Environmental Education Programs, she moved to CBF headquarters in Annapolis. Now, as the Maryland Student Leadership Coordinator, she works with dedicated high school students, developing programs on how to become Bay leaders and advocates in their home communities. Throughout her career, Megan has designed programs that inspire participants to act on behalf of their local natural resources.

**Emily Thorpe** holds a B.S. in Biology and a B.A. in Environmental Studies from Salisbury University. Joining the Chesapeake Bay Foundation in 2015, Emily began sharing her passion for protecting water resources with students on the Susquehanna Watershed Environmental Education Program. In 2017, she became the Pennsylvania Student

Leadership Coordinator, supporting high school students in advancing advocacy, action, and awareness in their communities. With Emily's guidance, CBF Student Leaders have led a campaign to pass a bill in the state legislature, hosted tree plantings with state senators, and shared their clean water concerns with local communities.

#### **SAT-E.4: Sparking Engagement with Storytelling**

When does dry science become a compelling story? How can journalism be a tool for on-the-ground community engagement? In this joint presentation by outreach and digital storytelling experts, you will learn how to effectively tie media stories to your daily efforts, counteract news fatigue and find the narrative within environmental topics. Through real-world case studies and an interactive component that will let you practice storytelling techniques, you will learn to build connections, tap into the bigger picture, and engage communities.

**Workshop Level: Intermediate**

**Caitlyn Johnstone** is a master naturalist and environmental journalist based in Kent Island, Maryland. She conducts outreach efforts throughout the watershed for the Chesapeake Bay Program on staff at The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay in Annapolis, Maryland. With her background in biological psychology and English literature, her interest lies in the connection between human and environmental well-being as part of the larger ecosystem.

**Will Parson** is a visual journalist and digital storyteller based in Annapolis, Maryland. He produces multimedia for the Chesapeake Bay Program, collecting stories from across the Chesapeake watershed. He is on staff at the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay in Annapolis, Maryland, and previously worked at newspapers in New England. He studied photojournalism at Ohio University School of Visual Communication and biology at the University of California, San Diego.

#### **SAT-E.5: RiverSmart Homes: Reaching Underserved Communities**

The RiverSmart Homes program aims to reduce non-point source pollution caused by stormwater runoff by working with homeowners in the District of Columbia (District) and subsidizing the installation of rain barrels, shade trees, rain gardens, BayScaping, and permeable pavers. We will discuss the findings of a report prepared by Nspiregreen, a Washington, D.C. based professional consulting firm, to find out why residents in our underserved communities were not participating in RiverSmart Homes, in addition to the difficulties and challenges that the program has faced.

**Workshop Level: Intermediate**

**Kevin Newman** is an Environmental Protection Specialist with the District Department of Energy & Environment (DOEE). He has been with the RiverSmart Homes Program since December 2016. Prior to working with RiverSmart Homes, Kevin helped managed the Green Zone Environmental Program, an eight week green summer jobs training program for youth and young adults, ages 14 to 24, at DOEE. He holds a B.S. in Global Business & Public Policy from the University of Maryland University College.

**Priscilla Lyle** joined District Department of Energy & Environment (DOEE) as an Environmental Protection Specialist in October 2018. Before joining DOEE, Priscilla worked as a DCPS educator, where she taught middle school math and science, early childhood and 4th grade English Language Arts. Priscilla is a DC Army National Guard and also participated in DOEE's summer program as a Site Manager for the Solar Works program. Priscilla graduated from Jarvis Christian College in 2014 with a B.S. in Biology.

#### **SAT-E.6: Engaging Teens in Green Infrastructure Careers**

Beginning in 2017, the Maryland - National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) engaged Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professional (CBLP) to train their staff. This year, we added CBLP-A (Associate) to a green infrastructure summer work program for County high school students. CBLP-trained M-NCPPC staff serve as instructors for the CBLP-A training. This effort will expand to high schools and will provide career connections for students entering the workforce. Our

collaboration incorporates CBLP standards and materials to advance knowledge of Bay restoration and develop skills across diverse groups. This session will include hands on learning activities used in this collaboration.

**Workshop Level:**                    **Intermediate**

**Beth Ginter** has been the director of the CBLP certification initiative since 2015. She is responsible for overseeing all aspects of this new program which aims to ensure consistent training and practice standards for landscape professionals working in the Chesapeake Bay region. CBLP is an advanced credential system and network of professionals who design, install, and maintain sustainable landscapes. The credential emphasizes stormwater best management practices and conservation landscaping with native plants to benefit the environment and protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay. Ms. Ginter is a landscape designer, based in Silver Spring, MD.

**Antonia Bookbinder** leads the Special Programs Division's Conservation in Action project at The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George's County. She was part of the Department's first staff cohort to complete CBLP Level 1 certification in 2017 and has helped to organize four in-house Level 1 training programs. She leads a teen summer job crew which will incorporate the CBLP-Associate certification in 2019 and has worked with staff and volunteer groups to transform existing swales and park landscaping at Bladensburg Waterfront Park into native plant habitat for pollinators.

### **SAT-E.7: Online Advocacy to Build Your Organization**

Many rivers organizations use online petitions (and the automatic emails that follow) to broaden their constituency, capture donations, and identify individuals who later become leaders and spokespersons. In general, these advocacy campaigns generate growth. Learn from the experience of the West Virginia Rivers Coalition, which has tried everything from a simple Facebook page to a full online advocacy package, and can speak about the costs and the benefits. (We'll study a smaller organization too.) Participants will leave with an idea of the spectrum of online advocacy and which fit their organization, and how they can employ it with coalition partners.

**Workshop Level:**                    **Introductory**

**Baird Straughan** has worked for the last twenty years consulting, training and research for environmental and conservation groups after a previous life designing databases for nonprofits. He spent 9 years as Associate Director at the Institute for Conservation Leadership, and the last 10 developing the WaterGrass database for river organizations, the CreekCritters macroinvertebrate identification mobile app, and various other tools for river and watershed groups. His quest: to help groups develop volunteer programs that yield leaders, donors, and deep connections to their communities.

**Kathleen Tyner** taught archaeological and environmental education in Pennsylvania before joining WV Rivers in 2009. She leads their membership and online outreach efforts and has nearly doubled the organization's base of support.

**Saturday Sessions | 5:00 to 6:00 pm | Session F**

### **SAT-F.1: Translating DEI Policies into Tangible Actions**

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion are key ingredients for organizations' success. According to the 2018 Chesapeake Bay DEI survey, 83% of environmental organizations hold DEI as a core value yet only 9% consider their DEI processes effective. This presentation will discuss outreach methods for effectively engaging diverse stakeholders in achieving mutual goals. It will help participants recognize some common pitfalls of intercultural outreach while identifying paths to successful collaborations. Participants will learn common barriers to environmental engagement among diverse groups from

the presenters' experience and research, as well as examples of programs that have gained traction and keys to their success.

**Workshop Level:                   Introductory**

**Ruby Stemmler** is the founder and CEO of EcoLatinos, a non-profit whose mission is to engage, educate and empower diverse communities to join the fight for the restoration of the Chesapeake Bay. Out of Ruby's passion for the conservation of *la madre tierra*, ecoLatinos builds a more diverse environmental movement by forging alliances with Hispanic communities and promoting green stewardship and conservation action. Through partnerships with government, environmental and community-based organizations, Ruby organizes grassroots and faith-based communities around stewardship programs, multicultural events and bilingual trainings which have brought the annual *Festival del Rio Anacostia* to the Bladensburg Waterfront Park and the Naturally Latinos Conference to the Woodend Mansion. Ruby is a native of Colombia and worked in government relations, public engagement and Hispanic community outreach for over 20 years.

**Christine Carmichael** holds a Ph.D. in Forestry from Michigan State University, where she examined reasons for resistance among African-American residents to a non-profit organization's street tree-planting program in Detroit, Michigan. Her research has helped non-profit organizations across the U.S. and internationally to revise their outreach and engagement efforts to better serve the needs of diverse residents. Dr. Carmichael is the owner of Fair Forests Consulting (fairforests.com), which provides services to improve diversity, equity, and inclusion within environmental programs, organizations, and agencies.

### **SAT-F.2: Raising the Bar on Cover Crops**

Cover crops are good for the environment - but they can be even better. "Raising the Bar" is an ongoing project and study where farmers are recommended a suite of innovative cover crop practices in an attempt to improve on those benefits by planting a diverse mix of cover crop species and extending the growing season for winter cover crops, through earlier planting and later termination, so they can provide greater ecosystem services that benefit both farms and the wider environment. This session will look at the science behind the practices, lessons learned, and tentative results from the study.

**Workshop Level:                   Intermediate**

**Josh Biddle** is an Eastern Shore native, growing up on a farm between Denton and Ridgely in Caroline County. For the last 15 years he has worked in his family's greenhouses growing flowers throughout the winter and spring. Josh went to Salisbury University, receiving a BS in Biology. Between 2016 and 2018 he worked as a technician at the Talbot Soil Conservation District working with a number of state and federal conservation programs, and assisted in the planning, design, and installation of a variety of different Best Management Practices throughout the County. As ShoreRivers' Agricultural Specialist, Josh works with state, federal, academic, and local farm partners to perform agricultural research projects within our watersheds. He also assists with Ag-community outreach and all of our agriculturally-focused conservation programs to help promote responsible and river-friendly farming all across the Shore.

**Timothy Rosen** grew up outside of Baltimore on one of the Chesapeake Bay's most polluted tributaries. He majored in biology and minored in environmental studies at Mount St. Mary's University and completed a master's degree in watershed hydrology at Louisiana State University. Following graduate school he entered into Chesapeake Bay Trust's Conservation Corps with Midshore Riverkeeper Conservancy (a ShoreRivers legacy organization). At ShoreRivers he partners with academic, state, and federal agencies to advance research on agricultural best management practices, manages restoration projects, completes watershed assessments, and works with farmers and landowners to reduce land based pollution.

### **SAT-F.3: Community Partnership: A Long Branch Story**

The Audubon Naturalist Society (ANS) along with community partners in the Long Branch community of Silver Spring, Maryland hosted a series of Latinx-focused community engagement events in 2019 to increase awareness about and foster connections to the stream that runs through the neighborhood.

During the events, families worked with bilingual leaders to assess stream health by collecting and identifying aquatic macroinvertebrates. Families also participated in bilingual walks along the Long Branch stream corridor to learn about nature in this urban setting and threats to stream health. ANS, community partners and participants will describe their experiences and involvement in the project.

**Workshop Level: Intermediate**

**Denisse Guitarras** is the Maryland Conservation Advocate at Audubon Naturalist Society. She has been working conducting community engagement activities first with birds now with streams in MD and DC. She is currently working on advocating for environmental protection in Montgomery County as it relates to climate change, equity and transportation. Denisse holds a bachelor's in biology from Hood College and a master's in biodiversity, wildlife and ecosystem health from the University of Edinburgh.

**Gregg Trilling** is the Creek Critters Program Manager at Audubon Naturalist Society. He has been working with organizations throughout the region to engage people in protecting local streams. He has also worked as an environmental education program manager, developing and teaching lessons, training teachers, guiding schools through Maryland Green School certification, and managing programming for more than 50 schools. Gregg holds an MBA from the University of Maryland and a B.A. in urban studies from Washington University.

**Vanesa Pinto** is the Community Programs Director at CHEER (Community Health and Empowerment through Education and Research). She organizes all CHEER programming involving community building and networks of support in Long Branch. Before finding her passion in community organizing, Vanesa was an accountant in Bolivia. She volunteered in different community organizations and elementary schools in Silver Spring advocating for the school community. She has also been teaching Literacy in Spanish to adults for the last 4 years (YMCA Program-Linkages-To-Learning).

#### **SAT-F.4: A Regional Partnership Approach to Conservation**

The Upper Susquehanna Coalition is a unique partnership of 22 Conservation Districts focused on addressing water quality issues locally while meeting CB watershed goals. While addressing our primary focus areas (environmentally and economically sustainable agriculture, wetland restoration and stream corridor rehabilitation), attendees will learn how our regional partnership operates, how it has provided for large scale restoration projects, and what aspects of the partnership have provided the coalition staying power. Case studies will be provided on some of our more popular programs and initiatives, including some lessons learned through our diverse projects and partnerships.

**Workshop Level: Intermediate**

**Wendy Walsh** received her Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies and Geology at Binghamton University and completed her Masters of Civil Engineering at the University of Buffalo. Wendy was hired by the Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District in 2000, became District Manager in 2005. She has been a voting member to the USC since 2000, and was chair from 2005-2013. In 2013, she also took on the additional responsibilities of becoming the USC Watershed Coordinator. Her current position includes both administrative and technical planning of environmental and conservation programs that involve both private and public properties and entities in all aspects of natural resource management.

**Lydia Brinkley** is a tireless advocate and boot-strapping, in-the-field Riparian Buffer Coordinator for the Upper Susquehanna Coalition. She uses her Master's degree from SUNY ESF in Forestry and Natural Resource Management and extensive experience to lead a diverse program throughout a 22 county area. As the coordinator, Lydia and her team provide assistance to landowners and conservation districts in the form of technical and programmatic assistance, landscape assessments, site plans, planting strategies, tree planting help, capacity building and funding opportunities.

#### **SAT-F.5: Protecting Drinking Water Through Land Conservation**

This session focuses on developing collaborative, cross-sector approaches to protecting drinking water through land conservation. Participants will learn about our work in developing an innovative, regional-scale partnership in West Virginia, using the Safe Water Conservation Collaborative as a case

study in how we brought experts together from multiple fields to use land conservation to protect drinking water.

Presenters from the Land Trust Alliance, Berkeley County Farmland Protection Board, and WV Rivers Coalition will share our story to help participants envision a model for cross-sector collaboration that can be used throughout the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

**Workshop Level:                   Introductory**

**Tanner Haid** is the Eastern Panhandle Field Coordinator for WV Rivers Coalition. He offers experience in community outreach, hands-on conservation, and coalition building. His bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies, paired with years of experience as a raft guide on the Shenandoah River, drives his passion for environmental protection and outdoor recreation. He coordinates Safe Water for WV projects in the Eastern Panhandle and serves as the state lead for the Choose Clean Water Coalition.

**Jennifer Miller Herzog** is Chesapeake Program Manager for the Chesapeake Land and Water Initiative, a joint effort of the Chesapeake Bay Funders Network and the Land Trust Alliance to accelerate land protection and restoration to achieve water quality goals. Jennifer's two decades in environmental nonprofits include philanthropy, strategic grassroots advocacy and policy, and fundraising. Previously, she was Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Maryland Grassroots Manager, advocated for Montana wilderness at The Wilderness Society and directed the Yellowstone to Yukon grant program for Seattle-based Wilburforce Foundation. She is based in Annapolis.

**Mark Schiavone** is the Executive Director of the Berkeley County Farmland Protection Board. He holds a master's degree and a Ph.D. in Biology from the University of Maryland and formerly designed and built databases for large governmental organizations. His work with the Berkeley County Farmland Protection Board includes managing 50+ easements totaling over 5,000 acres. He is also vice president of the WV Association of Farmland Protection Boards.

#### **SAT-F.6: Advancing Stormwater Research with Citizen Science**

Looking to track stormwater pollution? Not sure how to effectively involve your citizen scientists? In this session, we share techniques to engage volunteers in water pollution detection. As a case study, we discuss the invaluable role citizens have played in our research project, evaluating the cumulative effectiveness of stormwater Best Management Practices. With their help, we have been able to broaden our research scope and collect data that will ultimately inform the management of impaired stream systems. The volunteer training and coordination tools presented will provide avenues to reach the true capacities of citizen scientists and achieve your research goals.

**Workshop Level:                   Intermediate**

**Sarah Giordano** joined South River Federation, now Arundel Rivers Federation as a Chesapeake Conservation Corps volunteer after graduating from Washington College with a B.A. in Environmental Studies. After her Corps experience she was hired to assist the Federation in collecting and analyzing water quality data. Since then she has focused on studying the effect of urban BMPs on water quality. In addition to managing the restoration research project that you will be hearing about shortly, Sarah collects samples, analyzes data, and trains the citizen scientists for this initiative.

**Jesse Iliff** is an environmental attorney and your South RIVERKEEPER. Jesse earned his juris doctor degree at the University of Maryland with a certificate of concentration in environmental law. As RIVERKEEPER, Jesse focuses his advocacy efforts on improving enforcement of environmental law and development of robust new policy and legal protections for the land and water of the South River watershed. Even after work, Jesse spends a great deal of time in, on, and around the river with his wife Abbey and their children Baxter and Willow.

#### **SAT-F.7: Innovative Interfaith Collaboration in Frederick, Maryland**

Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake (IPC) and the Multi-faith Alliance of Climate Stewards (MACS) have formed a diverse and innovative partnership in Frederick County that can be used as a model for outreach to the faith community in other regions. Through the partnership, IPC & MACS have been



able to promote clean water education and restoration efforts and inspire action within the faith community in Frederick County. Several congregations have joined forces to plant trees, host environmental education events, and launch clean water projects. Come hear about this successful collaboration, then, discuss in small groups how to translate this model into your own context.

**Workshop Level:                      Introductory**

**Anna Awimbo**, Director of Leadership Development, is a trainer and specialist in network development with 20+ years' experience developing tools and resources that foster environmental stewardship and sustainable consumption. She leads IPC's green team trainings, and has engaged congregations in watershed restoration efforts in Frederick County, Montgomery County, Prince George's County and other parts of the state.

**Barb Trader** is co-founder of the Multi-faith Alliance of Climate Stewards of Frederick County. She's a member of the Envision Frederick County Board of Directors, the Catoctin Group of the Sierra Club, Smarter Growth Alliance of Frederick County, and the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Frederick. Barb retired to Frederick after a 40 year career in disability services and advocacy. With degrees in recreation therapy and vocational rehabilitation counseling, she has expertise in education, healthcare and civil rights, as well as non-profit administration, community integration and group facilitation.