

5th Annual Delaware River Watershed Forum

Skytop Lodge · Pocono Mountains

Tuesday, October 17th

9:00 AM **Registration & Breakfast**

10:00 AM **Welcome Remarks**

- **Madeline Urbish**, Director, Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed
- **Collin O'Mara**, President & CEO at National Wildlife Federation

Special Address

- **Wendi Weber**, Regional Director — Northeast, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

11:00 AM **Breakout Session One: Watershed-wide Planning with the Delaware River Basin Restoration Program**

Participants will have an opportunity to hear from USFWS about the collaborative efforts underway through the development of the Delaware River Basin Restoration Program, as well as contribute their expertise to the partnership to ensure program priorities are strategic, cost-effective, and community-driven.

Session 1: Fish and Wildlife Habitat Restoration and Conservation Activities

- Michael Slattery, Partnership Coordinator, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- John Cecil, Vice President of Stewardship, New Jersey Audubon

Session 2: Improve and Maintain Water Quality

- Greg Breese, Supervisory Fish & Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- Roger Latham, Principal Investigator, Land-Water Stewardship Panel, Conservation Continental Conservation

Session 3: Water Resource Management for Flood Mitigation and Conservation

- Shelia Eyler, Project Leader - Mid-Atlantic, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- Jeff Skelding, Executive Director, Friends of the Upper Delaware River

Session 4: Public Access and Recreation

- Deborah Rocque, Deputy Regional Director, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- Amanda John, PA & DE Program Manager, National Parks Conservation Association

Session 5: Cross Program Areas—Outreach, Strategic Planning, Monitoring, Technical Assistance, and Regional Significance

- Wendi Weber, Northeast Regional Director, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- Jen Adkins, Executive Director, Partnership for the Delaware Estuary
- Peter Howell, Executive Vice President, Conservation Capital & Research Programs, Open Space Institute
- Matthew Ehrhart, Director of Watershed Restoration, Stroud Water Research Center

12:30 PM **Lunch**

1:45 PM **Field Trips**

Explore the Heritage of Pocono Fly Fishing
Guided Walk at Skytop Lodge
Painting for Conservation
Birding Hike at Mt. Wismer Preserve
Source to Tap Tour at Brodhead Creek Regional Authority

6:00 PM

Reception

Wednesday, October 18th

7:30 AM

Registration & Breakfast

8:00 AM

Breakfast Roundtable Discussions

Hot Topics in the Watershed

9:30 AM

Welcome Remarks

- **Andy Johnson**, Director, Watershed Protection Program, William Penn Foundation

Keynote Address

- **Tykee James**, Alliance For Watershed Education Fellow, Audubon Pennsylvania's Discovery Center and Legislative Aide, 195th Pennsylvania House of Representative District

10:15 AM

Breakout Session Two: Putting Plans into Action with the Delaware River Basin Restoration Program

Participants will hear about current projects in the watershed that illustrate the power of collaboration to achieve conservation results and brainstorm opportunities for strategic partnership and opportunities for leveraging existing work. The goal of all of these sessions is to walk away with concrete ideas for how to put the Delaware River Basin Restoration Program into action to benefit the entire watershed.

Session 1: Fish and Wildlife Habitat Restoration and Conservation Activities

Moderator: Rachel Dawson, Program Director– Delaware River, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

- Alan Hunt, Ph.D., Executive Director, Musconetcong Watershed Association
- Jeff Larkin, Ph.D., Professor of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
- Tim Dillingham, Executive Director, American Littoral Society

Session 2: Improve and Maintain Water Quality

Moderator: Paul B. Wilson, Ph.D., Director Environmental Science Program, East Stroudsburg University

- Sue Myerov, Program Director for Watersheds, Pennsylvania Environmental Council
- Drew Shaw, Section Chief: Environmental Planning, Montgomery County Planning Commission
- Angela Padeletti, Science Programs Manager, Partnership for the Delaware Estuary
- Steve Chuckra, Vice President, Board of Directors, Lehigh River Stocking Association

Session 3: Water Resource Management for Flood Mitigation and Conservation

Moderator: Su Fanok, Director of Freshwater Conservation, The Nature Conservancy

- Amy Shallcross, Manager, Water Resource Operations, Delaware River Basin Commission
- Kelly Gutshall, Registered Landscape Architect, President, LandStudies
- Mark Gutshall, Professional Wetland Scientist, Executive Vice President, LandStudies

Session 4: Public Access and Recreation

Moderator: Executive Vice President, Pennsylvania Environmental Council

- Christopher Stroehler, Senior Conservation Planner, Wildlands Conservancy
- Heather Jacksy, Senior Planner, Sullivan County Planning Department
- Jason Zarnowski, Outreach and GIS Coordinator, Delaware Highlands Conservancy

Session 5: Cross Program Areas—Outreach, Strategic Planning, Monitoring, Technical Assistance, and Regional Significance

Moderator: Nathan Boon, Program Officer, William Penn Foundation

- Jim Waltman, Executive Director, Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association
- Scott Haag, Director BioGeoInformatics Group, Academy of Natural Sciences

12:00 PM

Lunch

1:00 PM

Breakout Session Three: Policy in the Basin

Participants will hear about select policy areas impacting the watershed while delving into the complexities of competing needs, available resources, and how to influence decision making. The goal of all these sessions is to identify opportunities to accelerate collective action that maximizes benefits for the entire watershed.

Session 1: Clean Water Act's 45th Anniversary: Current & Future Outlook

Moderator: Jan Goldman-Carter, Director of Wetlands and Water Resources, National Wildlife Federation

- David Kinney, Mid-Atlantic Policy Director, Trout Unlimited
- Jennifer Orr, Director, Compacts and Commissions Office, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

Session 2: From Funding to Flow: Hot Topics for State Policy

Moderator: Peter Marx, Contractor for Federal Affairs, Choose Clean Water

- Kelly Mooij, Vice President of Government Relations, New Jersey Audubon
- Brenna Goggin, Advocacy Manager, Delaware Nature Society
- Matt Stepp, Director of Policy, PennFuture
- Elizabeth Moran, Water and Natural Resources Associate, Environmental Advocates of New York

Session 3: Growing Conservation Success through the Farm Bill

Moderator: Kyle Rorah, Government Affairs Representative, Ducks Unlimited

- Beth Freiday, Partners Private Lands Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Christine Hall, State Resource Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service

Session 4: Back to the Basins: Bringing the National Conversation on Infrastructure Home

Moderator: Liz Deardorff, Director, Clean Water Programs Pennsylvania, American Rivers

- Abby Jones, Northeast PA Staff Attorney, PennFuture
- Chris Sturm, Managing Director, Water and Policy, New Jersey Future

Session 5: Communicating the Value of Environmental Protection to Decision Makers

Moderator: Rita Yelda, Outreach & Communications Associate, Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed

- Kristin Magnotta, Regional Manager of Northeastern Pennsylvania, U.S. Senator Bob Casey
- Ed Potosnak, Executive Director, New Jersey League of Conservation Voters

2:45 PM

Workshops

Advocating as a 501c3

- Ronnie Pawelko, Elections Counsel, Bolder Advocacy Alliance for Justice

Incorporating Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

- Mariah Davis, Field Manager, Choose Clean Water Coalition

Building Leaders in Organizations, One Volunteer at a Time

- Caroline Bott, Mid-Atlantic Leadership Development Manager, River Network

Watershed Resources Registry and Stormwater Calculator

- Maureen Krudner, Green Infrastructure Coordinator, U.S. EPA Region 2
- Ellen Bryson, Environmental Protection Specialist, U.S. EPA Region 3

Connecting with your School Community to Magnify the Message

- Dale Rosselet, Vice President of Education, New Jersey Audubon

4:00 PM

Conference Concludes