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15th ANNUAL



LAND & WATER CONSERVATION SUMMIT

Working together to protect our communities
Saturday, March 10, 2018 —URI Memorial Union, Kingston Campus

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2018
RHODE ISLAND
LAND & WATER
CONSERVATION
SUMMIT

Agenda

- 7:45 – 8:30 Registration & Continental Breakfast
- 8:30 – 9:40 Welcome — Emcee: Judith Swift, URI Coastal Institute
• **Keynote: Gus Seelig — Executive Director, Vermont Housing and Conservation Board**
“Building Community Through Conservation: Lessons from 30 Years”
- 9:40 – 10:20 **Business Meetings (everyone invited); Network & Visit Exhibits**
9:45 – 10:05 Business Meetings (everyone invited):
• RI Land Trust Council Business Meeting—Atrium I
• RI Association of Conservation Commission Business Meeting—Atrium II
• Watershed Organizations’ Meeting—Senate Chambers
- 10:20 – 11:30 Session I **Workshops** — Your choice from 11 offered
11:30 – 11:45 Break
11:45 – 12:55 Session II **Workshops** – Your choice from 11 offered
- 12:55 – 2:30 Lunch & Awards
• Peter Merritt Conservation Award
• Blueways Stewardship Award
- Celebrating years of dedication to land and water conservation—two success stories:
• Alicia Lehrer, Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council
• Melissa Horne, Barrington Land Conservation Trust
- 2:45 – 4:00 Session III **Workshops** — Your choice from 10 offered

“A true conservationist is a man who knows that the world is not given by his fathers, but borrowed from his children.”

- John James Audubon



**AUDUBON SOCIETY
of Rhode Island**

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With Nature*

Rhode Island Land and Water Partnership

Grassroots conservation organizations play a central role in protecting Rhode Island's waterways, open spaces, farms and historic vistas. Rhode Island is fortunate to have over 45 land trusts, a dozen watershed organizations and numerous conservation commissions that rely on the expertise and passion of hundreds of volunteer conservation leaders.

Since 2004, the **RI Land & Water Partnership** has worked to build the capacity and foster connections between these dedicated grassroots organizations. The **RI Land & Water Partnership** is led by Meg Kerr and Rupert Friday in collaboration with many partners from leading conservation organizations.

The RI Land & Water Partnership recognizes that each community based conservation organization is unique, comprised of local advocates who understand the issues in their community and cultivate local support for their conservation work.

The Partnership also recognizes that grassroots conservation organizations have much in common - each organization faces similar land and water conservation issues and has similar governance, public relations and other administrative activities.

Through the years, the Partnership has demonstrated that local conservationists can learn and work together to strengthen land and water protection throughout the state.

Each year, the **RI Land & Water Partnership** hosts the Land & Water Conservation Summit in March. The Summit's purpose is to help build the skills and foster connections that local conservation leaders need to be more effective.

The Partnership's web site, **www.landandwaterpartnership.org**, stores a wealth of information from past summits and workshops.

The website is also home to an *on-line library of resource materials* created in collaboration with the *RI Conservation Stewardship Collaborative*. This is a web-based collection of "how to" information to support land and water conservation stewardship.

The library contains land stewardship tools including: information on baseline documentation, easement monitoring, management of invasive species, and habitat restoration strategies; watershed stewardship tools including information on Blueways (water trails) and water quality monitoring; and tools for organizational support.

Please check it out and send us your feedback:
Rupert Friday — rfriday@rilandtrusts.org
Meg Kerr — mkerr@asri.org

www.landandwaterpartnership.org

RHODE ISLAND
LAND AND WATER PARTNERSHIP
Working together to protect our communities

The Coastal Institute at The University of Rhode Island



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Educational marine lecture and art exhibit featuring *R/V Endeavor* by E. Lutes; Shed Light Productions films E. Lutes interviewing B. Oakley for CI Napatree Point video (<https://www.youtube.com/user/CoastURI>)

A neutral setting where knowledge is advanced, issues discussed, information synthesized, and solutions developed for the sustainable use and management of coastal ecosystems.

Working in partnership with agencies, NGOs, elected officials, researchers, and the public to promote healthy wetlands, rivers, estuaries and oceans. We are proud to be a sponsor of the Annual Land & Water Conservation Summit.

Where the land and water meet.
<http://ci.uri.edu>

Land & Water Conservation Summit

Fifteen years and counting...

The annual *Land & Water Conservation Summit* is the Land & Water Partnership's flagship event. The Summit has been held yearly since 2004 and is possible because dozens of conservation leaders and experts in organizational development (fundraising, board development, public relations) are willing to spend their Saturday sharing their expertise and latest ideas with their colleagues and friends. The Summit is held in March and is widely acknowledged as Rhode Island's go-to conference for workshops and networking with other grassroots conservation leaders.

Where we started

Rhode Island's land trusts held an annual conference since 1999. In 2004, the RI Land Trust Council invited watershed organizations and conservation commissions to join the conference and created the *RI Land & Water Summit*. The first *Land & Water Summit* was held at the North Kingstown High School. Partner organizations set up displays in the school's atrium. Lunch was served in the school cafeteria. The energy and enthusiasm for this joint conference was terrific.

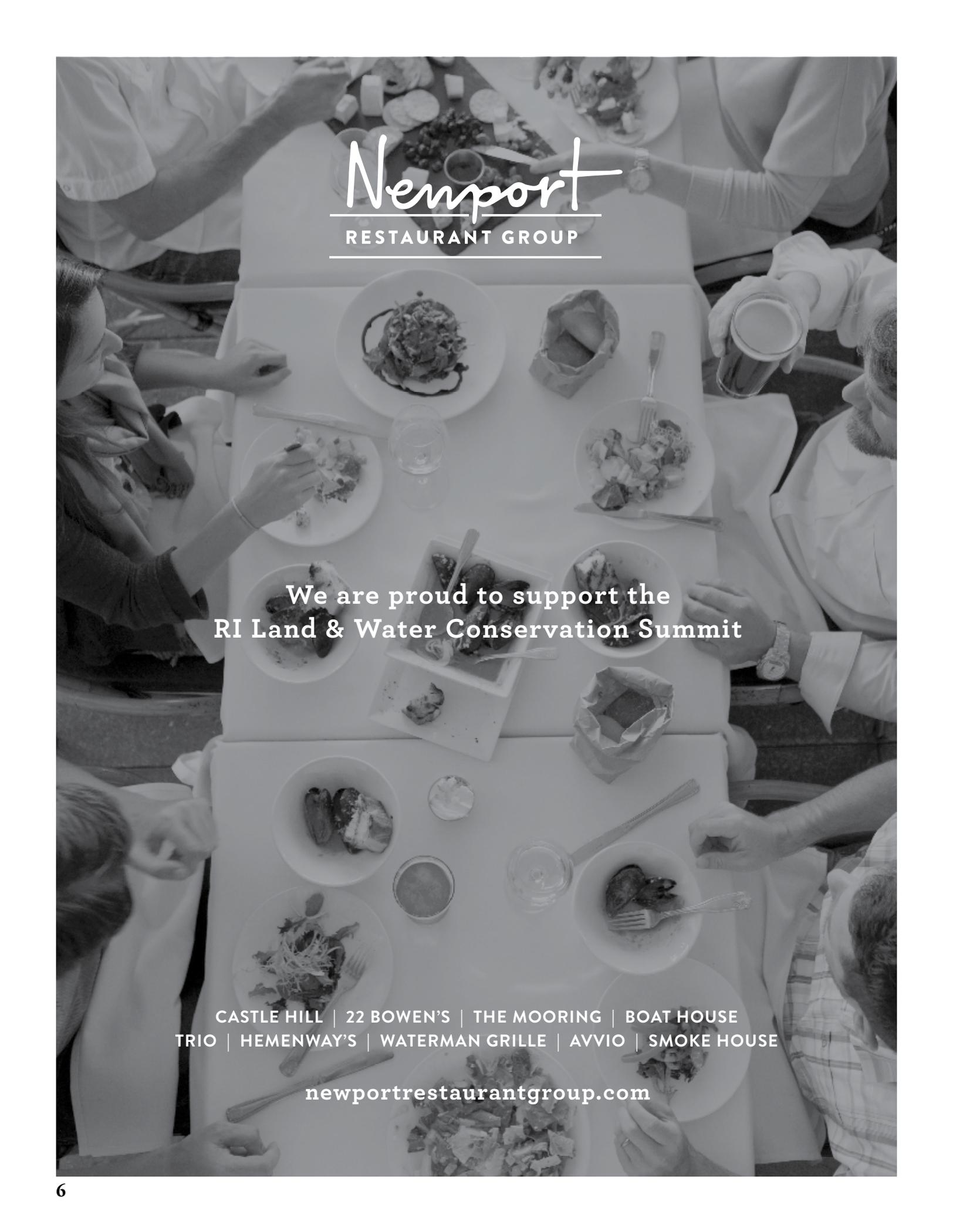
In 2005, the conference was moved to the URI Memorial Union where it has remained. The Summit has grown into the state's premier conservation event, attracting over 300 conservation leaders from Rhode Island and neighboring New England states for a day of learning and networking.

Summit Keynote Speakers

Each year we recruit a keynote speaker for the Summit who can provide summit participants with timely information and inspiration for continuing our work together.

Roster of keynote speakers and their topics:

- 2004 **Gus Seelig**—*Keys to the 15 year Success of the VT Housing & Conservation Program*
- 2005 **Peter Forbes**—*The Soul of the Land – Nurturing Our Emotional Connections to Our Communities, Landscapes and Watersheds and Telling Stories that Celebrate These Relationships*
- 2006 **Jeff Milder**—*Using Development to Support Conservation – How to Leverage the Real Estate Market to Help Fund Conservation Projects*
- 2007 **Richard Greenwood**—*Powerful Currents – A Historical Perspective on Rivers and the Making of Rhode Island*
- 2008 **Gina McCarthy**—*No Child Left Inside*
- 2009 **Tom Wessells**—*Reading the Forested Landscape – A Natural History of New England*
- 2010 **Tom Horton**—*Saving the Chesapeake Bay's Land and Water – Lessons Learned after 25 years*
- 2011 **Steve Sloan**—*Connecting People to Place and Your Conservation Mission*
- 2012 **Mayor Lisa Wong**—*Urban Conservation as a Redevelopment Strategy*
- 2013 **Steve Archibald**—*Not a storyteller? Perhaps it's time to reconsider!*
- 2014 **Alvaro Sanchez Sanchez**—*Building Strong Green Economies Using Land & Water Conservation Strategies*
- 2015 **Peter Forbes**—*Innovation & Evolution in Conservation*
- 2016 **Collin O'Mara**—*Conservation in This Century; What America Can Learn from the Ocean State*
- 2017 **Eric Chivian, M.D.**—*Medical Models for Helping Us Understand Global Environmental Threats*
- 2018 **Gus Seelig**—*Building Community Through Conservation: Lessons from 30 Years*



Newport

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Going Greener

Help us “green” the Summit!

Everyone is at the Land & Water Conservation Summit to talk about conservation — “talking the talk.”

With your help, the Summit is also “walking the walk” — with green practices for this annual event.

What we’re doing:

- We are giving a **reusable ceramic coffee mug** made by local artist John Vierbickas to everyone who attends the Summit **instead of providing bottled water and disposable coffee cups**. We have washed these mugs so you can use yours for water and coffee during the Summit. This reduces the volume of waste we produce and supports a local artist.
- We are partnering with People’s Power & Light to **offset carbon emissions** from the Summit **with renewable energy**. The electricity for this event has been matched by local, clean power.
- We are reducing the amount of paper used at the Summit by **encouraging on-line registration** and by eliminating the folders previously distributed to each participant.
- We asked University of Rhode Island Catering to **support local farms** by purchasing local fruit and using locally grown greens in the salad for lunch.



THANK YOU! These Land Trusts are Supporting the RI Land Trust Council This Year with a Dues-Contribution

Aquidneck Land Trust
Audubon Society of RI
Barrington Land Conservation Trust
Block Island Conservancy
Block Island Land Trust
Borders Farm Preservation
Bristol Land Conservation Trust
Burrillville Land Trust
Charlestown Land Trust
Conanicut Land Trust
Cumberland Land Trust
East Greenwich Land Trust
East Providence Land Conservation Trust
Exeter Rural Land Preservation Trust
Foster Land Trust
Glocester Land Trust
Hopkinton Land Trust
Land Conservancy of North Kingstown
Little Compton Ag. Conservancy Trust

Narragansett Land Conservancy Trust
Narrow River Land Trust
Neutaconkanut Hill Conservancy
North Smithfield Land Trust
Prudence Conservancy
Richmond Rural Preservation Land Trust
Sakonnet Preservation Association
Scituate Land Trust
Smithfield Land Trust
South Kingstown Land Trust
Southside Community Land Trust
The Nature Conservancy
Tiverton Land Trust
Warren Land Conservation Trust
Warwick Land Trust
Weekapaug Foundation for Conservation
West Bay Land Trust
West Greenwich Land Trust
The Westerly Land Trust

Rhode Island Chapter: American Society of Landscape Architects



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www.riasla.org



Together, we are permanently protecting the open spaces and special places that we love - places that define the character of our Ocean State - so they can be enjoyed by future generations.

Because land trusts are strongest collectively, the Council:

- ~ advocates for sound public policy as the voice of Rhode Island's land trusts,
- ~ promotes collaboration and the exchange of ideas among land trusts,
- ~ helps individual land trusts improve their ability to protect and manage land, and
- ~ spotlights land trust achievements so that more Rhode Islanders may benefit.

The Council's initiatives help Rhode Island's land trusts accomplish their conservation goals, boost the impact of individual efforts, and ensure the benefits of this work remain for everyone to enjoy.

The Rhode Island Land Trust Council is our statewide coalition of land trusts

Right now, the Council is:

- ~ advocating in the State House for bond funds to help land trusts save more land,
- ~ influencing legislation in support of farming and to reinforce conservation easements,
- ~ providing training for land trusts in their stewardship and administrative duties,
- ~ facilitating strategic alliances among land trusts to overcome conservation challenges,
- ~ removing barriers to hiking the trails in our state with ExploreRI and ParkRx,
- ~ making plans for Land Trust Days again this year so that hundreds of Rhode Islanders may enjoy the special places land trusts protect,
- ~ convening Rhode Island's land trust community with learning and networking opportunities right here today at Summit !

Rhode Island Land Trust Council is the voice of the land trusts in the statehouse
We guard against legislation that would undermine land conservation

On behalf of the Council, thank you for all you do to make conservation happen in our beautiful state,
Rupert Friday and Members of the Board

Read more in the Council's 2017 Year-End Report !

Post Office Box 633, Saunderstown, Rhode Island 02874 (401) 932-4667 rfriday@rilandtrusts.org



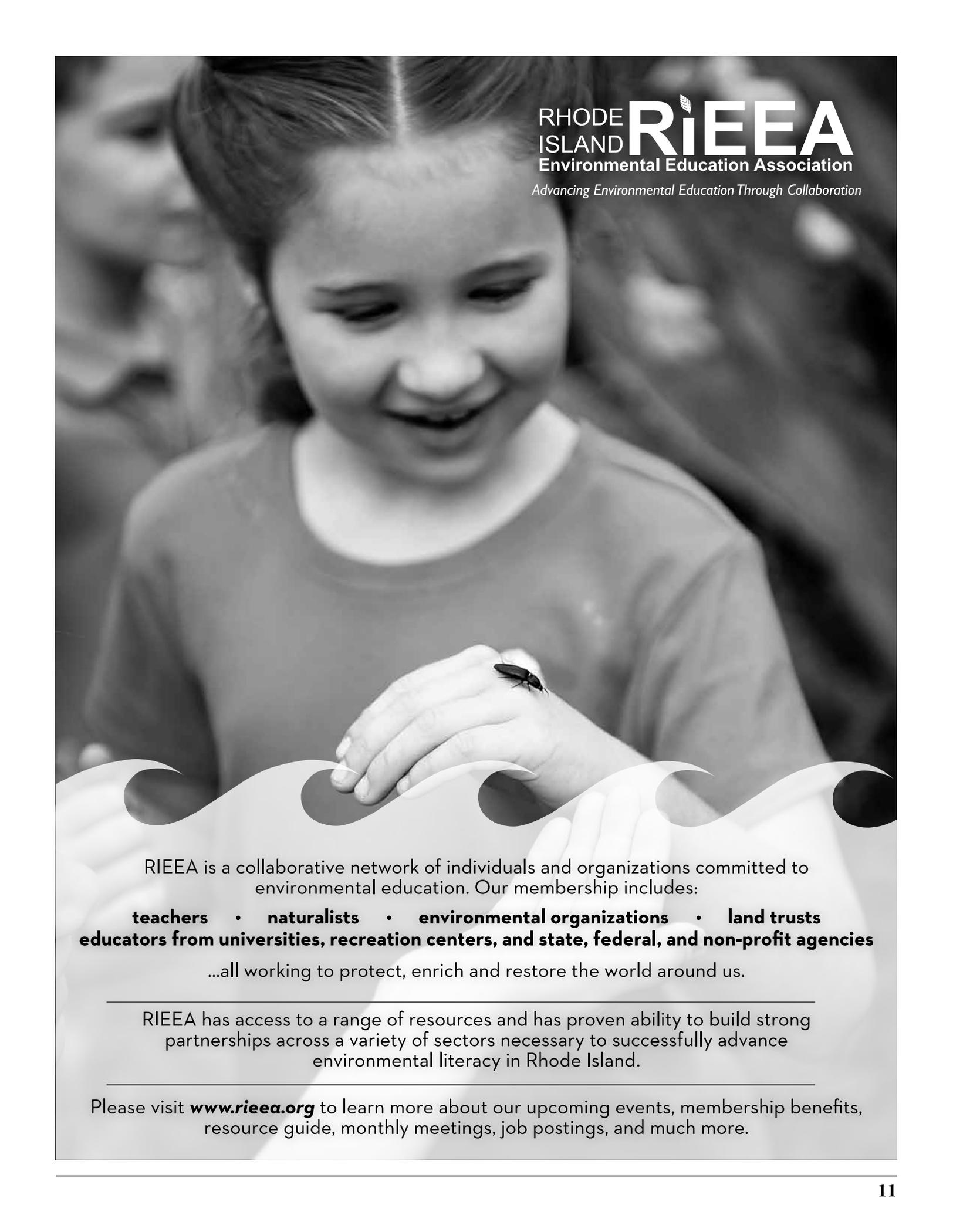
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Environmental Education Association

Advancing Environmental Education Through Collaboration

RIEEA is a collaborative network of individuals and organizations committed to environmental education. Our membership includes:

**teachers • naturalists • environmental organizations • land trusts
educators from universities, recreation centers, and state, federal, and non-profit agencies**

...all working to protect, enrich and restore the world around us.

RIEEA has access to a range of resources and has proven ability to build strong partnerships across a variety of sectors necessary to successfully advance environmental literacy in Rhode Island.

Please visit **www.rieea.org** to learn more about our upcoming events, membership benefits, resource guide, monthly meetings, job postings, and much more.

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To facilitate is to make possible, to ease, to assist.

Need help articulating a more realistic and exciting future or to solve a specific organizational problem or question?

We provide strategic facilitation services to small, locally-based organizations focused on environmental stewardship.



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We've worked with:

- Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association
- The Nature Conservancy's Connecticut Chapter
- The Nature Conservancy's Long Island Sound Program
- U.S. Enviro. Protection Agency Atlantic Ecology Div.
- URI Dept. of Enviro. and Natural Resource Economics
- Meals on Wheels of RI
- RI Agriculture Partnership
- RI Department of Environmental Management
- RI Marine Trade Association
- RI Renewable Energy Siting Partnership
- RI Saltwater Angler Association
- RI Sea Grant
- RI Chapter American Planning Association
- Narragansett Bay Estuary Program
- Narragansett Bay Watershed Counts



Aquidneck Island PLANNING COMMISSION

AIPC is a non-profit organization working in partnership with the communities of Newport, Middletown and Portsmouth to preserve and improve Aquidneck Island's environment, economy and quality of life. In areas as diverse as clean water, clean energy, and transportation alternatives, our goal is an Aquidneck Island that's dynamic, sustainable and connected. Visit us online, and follow us on Twitter & Instagram!

55 John Clarke Rd, Middletown, RI 02842 – (401) 845-9299

www.aquidneckplanning.org – @aquidneckisland

Exhibitors

2018 RHODE ISLAND LAND & WATER CONSERVATION SUMMIT

Please Visit These Displays

About My Woods
Aquidneck Island Planning Commission
Audubon Society of Rhode Island
Bank of America
Caldwell & Johnson
Conservation Stewardship Collaborative
David Allen
Herring Alliance
Interfaith Power & Light
Land Trust Alliance
Mass Audubon
Narrow River Preservation Association
Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
Rhode Island Association of Conservation Districts
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Wildlife Action Plan
Rhode Island Environmental Education Association
Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank
Rhode Island Interfaith Power and Light
Rhode Island Land Trust Council
Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation
Rhode Island Rivers Council
Rhode Island Sea Grant
Rhode Island Water Lady
Rhode Island Wild Plant Society
The Conservation Fund
URI Coastal Institute



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wildlife-friendly offshore wind power at:**

OffshoreWind.NWF.org



Land & Water Conservation Awards



Peter Merritt Award for Land Conservation

Awarded by RI Land Trust Council

The Peter Merritt Award for Land Conservation is given to recognize a volunteer—a dedicated “in the trenches” individual—who is making an outstanding contribution to land conservation in their Rhode Island community.

The Award honors the late Peter Merritt (1943–2000), a founding and dedicated Board member and second president of the Aquidneck Land Trust. Peter worked ceaselessly to establish a vision for land conservation on Aquidneck Island and to marshal the Island’s citizens, municipalities and financial resources toward implementing that vision. He was an eloquent, articulate spokesperson for the need—and the immediacy of the need—for sustainable land conservation. Peter advocated for open space preservation tirelessly. Wherever he was, his enthusiasm and persuasive arguments were a catalyst for action that changed our landscape forever. Peter is described as one part visionary, one part organizer, and one part trench negotiator. Yet, Peter was always the first to give credit and praise to others for the land trust’s accomplishments that he so often led.

We celebrate Peter’s spirit and enthusiasm with this Award in his honor.

Past recipients: Ann Marie Aubrey (Smithfield Land Trust, 2016), Helen Tjader (Barrington Land Conservation Trust and Neutaconkanut Hill Conservancy, 2015), Garry Plunkett (Tiverton Land Trust, 2014), Sophie Lewis (South Kingstown Land Trust, 2013), Heather Steers (Sakonnet Preservation Association, 2012), Bob Marshall (Prudence Conservancy, 2011), Julie Sharpe (Narrow River Land Trust and other land trusts, 2010), Linda Steere (Narrow River Land Trust, 2009), Karen Saucier (Cumberland Land Trust, 2008), Larry Anderson (Sakonnet Preservation Association, 2007), Charlotte Sornborger (Barrington Land Conservation Trust, 2006), Harvey Perry (The Westerly Land Trust, 2005), Bob Kimarx (Barrington Land Conservation Trust, 2004), Kate Smith (West Bay Land Trust, 2003) and Bob Hawksley (Glocester Land Trust, 2002) Sheila Mackintosh (Sakonnet Preservation Association 2017)



Blueways Stewardship Award

Awarded by the Rhode Island Blueways Alliance

The mission of the Rhode Island Blueways Alliance is to develop a water trail network linking Rhode Island’s rivers, lakes and ponds to Narragansett Bay and to use the trail to promote safety, conservation, recreation and economic development.

The Blueways Stewardship Award was created in 2010 to recognize an individual who exemplifies dedication to the stewardship and conservation of Rhode Island’s rivers, lakes and coastal waters.

The Blueways Stewardship Award is given to an individual who has the respect of their peers and who has notable accomplishments in watershed management in any of the following areas:

- water quality monitoring and protection,
- development of trails on water,
- promoting land use that protects waterways,
- working to make connections between watershed conservation and their community.

Past recipients: Lisa Aurecchia (Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council, 2016)

Denise Poyer (Wood Pawcatuck Watershed Association, 2015)

Judy Colaluca (Save The Lakes, 2014), Caroline Wells (Town of Warren, 2013)

Paul Earnshaw (Buckeye Brook Coalition, 2012), Eugenia Marks (Audubon Society of RI, 2011)

Frank Matta (Blackstone River Watershed Council/Friends of the Blackstone, 2010)

Art Ganz (Salt Ponds Coalition, 2017)



Thank you for making our community a better place

Bank of America recognizes the Rhode Island Land & Water Conservation Summit as a vital community resource. People like you are an inspiration to us all.

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Keynote: Gus Seelig

Building Community Through Conservation: Lessons from 30 Years



Gus Seelig has served as the Executive Director of the Vermont Housing & Conservation Board (VHCB) since its inception in 1987.

Under his leadership, VHCB has invested \$310 million in state funding to develop or rehabilitate more than 12,500 affordable homes, to conserve 700 farms encompassing 160,000 acres and 265,000 acres of natural areas and recreational and forest lands and supported restoration of over 60 historic buildings for community use.

Previously, Gus was Executive Director of the Central Vermont Community Action Council (a low-income advocacy and community development organization); has served on the Affordable Housing Program Advisory Board for the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston; and was Chair of the Vermont Energy Investment Corporation. Gus has a B.A. from Goddard College and completed the Harvard University's Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government.



Vermont Housing &
Conservation Board

Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB) was established in 1987 with dual goals of creating affordable housing for Vermonters, and conserving the state's agriculture and recreation land, forestland, natural areas and historic properties. In addition, they focus on keeping conserved agricultural land in production and affordable for future generations of farmers.

For 30 years, VHCB has been a forerunner in the nation in pioneering strategies and programs to achieve these goals. A central part of the Board's mission has been to support the building of capacity by non-profits to both develop projects and steward resources.

**Thank You to these Sponsors
of the 2018 Land & Water Conservation Summit!**

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Narragansett Bay National Estuarine Reserve

National Wildlife Federation

The Nature Conservancy

Newport Restaurant Group

Rhode Island Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects

Rhode Island Sea Grant

Workshops at a Glance

	Session 1 10:20 – 11:30 am Descriptions — page 21–23	Session 2 11:45 am – 12:55 pm Descriptions — page 25–29	Session 3 2:45 – 4:00 pm Descriptions — page 29–31
A	Stream, River & Bay-Friendly Homes: Working with Communities to Install Residential Scale Green Infrastructure Room 318	Designing “Maintainable” Green Infrastructure Senate Chambers	Creating Rhode Island’s First Wild & Scenic River – the Wood Pawcatuck Study Room 315
B	Partnering with Environmental Organizations and Schools Quinn 104	Leading Age Appropriate Outdoor Experiences for Children of All Ages Quinn 104	Leading Engaging Walks Quinn 104
C	Raising Major Gifts Quinn 103	How to Write Killer Fundraising Letters Room 318	Segmenting Your Approach to Donors for Better Results Quinn 103
D	Sacred Waters, Honoring the Gifts an Indigenous Perspective Room 360	Engaging Community through Pollinator Conservation Quinn 211B	Putting Together a Land Conservation Deal Room 318
E	Board Boot Camp 101: Board Member Roles & Responsibilities Room 308	Board Boot Camp 201: Core Functions of a Land Trust Room 308	Board Boot Camp 301: Board Culture and Keeping the Board Engaged Room 308
F	Connect with Your Audiences Through Effective Messaging Room 315	Expanding Your Reach and Impact Through Social Media Strategies Room 360	Resilience Tools for Communities: PREP-RI, STORMTOOLS & more Quinn 211B
G	Siting Renewable Energy: Strategies for Balancing Land Protection with Meeting Aggressive Carbon Reduction Goals Atrium II	Understanding DEM’s Wetland Regulations and Permitting Best Practices Room 315	Land Use and Advocacy 101 Senate Chambers
H	Understanding the Complexities of Renewable Energy in RI Quinn 211B	RI’s Climate Resilience Action Strategy: Update & Next Steps Atrium I	Manage Forests while Mitigating Climate Change Atrium II
I	Invasive Species: What Do We Do and How? Atrium I	The Rhode Island Bird Atlas 2.0: A Conservation Tool for Land Managers Atrium II	Creating and Maintaining Woodland Trails Atrium I
J	Working with Landowners and Third Parties to Prevent Future Problems Quinn 214	Where am I anyway? Map-reading & Orienting in the Field Quinn 103	Protecting Riparian Corridor Connectivity using Wetland Reserve Easements Room 360
K	Current Issues for Municipal Land Trusts & Conservation Commissions Senate Chambers	Getting the Right Value! Appraisals for Land Conservation Quinn 214	



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Conservancy 

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nature.org/rhodeisland

Workshops – Session I 10:20 – 11:30 *choose from 11*

1.A Stream, River and Bay-Friendly Homes: Working with Communities to Install Residential Scale Green Infrastructure

Alicia Lehrer - Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council alehrer@wrwc.org

Sara Churgin - Eastern Rhode Island Conservation District schurgin.ericd@gmail.com

Bob McMahon - Formerly Providence Parks mcmahon4@cox.net

Stormwater management can begin at home with rain barrels, rain gardens, permeable pavement and other strategies. The Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council developed successful strategies for engaging homeowners in stormwater management which are being replicated in communities on Aquidneck Island by the Eastern RI Conservation District. Homeowner and community interest is building throughout the state. Workshop participants will learn how they can help their own communities get started and build on the home stormwater retrofit movement.

1.B Partnering with Environmental Organizations and Schools

April Alix - Providence Parks Urban Wildlife Refuge Partnership april@providenceparks.org

Rachel Holbert - Norman Bird Sanctuary RHolbert@normanbirdsantuary.org

Kassi Archambault - Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council karchambault@wrwc.org

Learn how your organization can effectively partner with environmental educators and schools to ensure long-term programming that strengthens your message and reach. Three environmental educators will share how they have engaged schools and teachers from multiple districts, and their “tips and tricks” for building teacher confidence in leading walks outdoors. Presenters will discuss successful partnerships and delve into specific examples of how collaboration brought about stronger programming for all.

1.C Raising Major Gifts

Sarah Shrewsbury - Vineyard Consulting sarah@vineyard-consulting.com

Need to raise major gifts for the gorgeous parcel you want to preserve or an important project? In this presentation, you will learn how to identify, cultivate, solicit, close and steward major gift donors. We will also cover suggested language to use when asking for an appointment, for a gift, as well as responding to a variety of donor responses. You will learn what motivates donors to make major gifts, how to approach family foundations, the importance of bequests.

1.D Sacred Waters, Honoring the Gifts an Indigenous Perspective

Lorén Spears - Tomaquag Museum lorenspears@tomaquagmuseum.org

Lorén, a Narragansett Tribal member will share the cultural, spiritual, environmental, historical and contemporary uses of local waterways. She will illustrate the changes in the landscape and uses over time, as well as the impact on the people.

1.E Board Boot Camp 101: Board Member Roles & Responsibilities

Jill Pfitzenmayer - The Rhode Island Foundation jppfitzenmayer@rifoundation.org

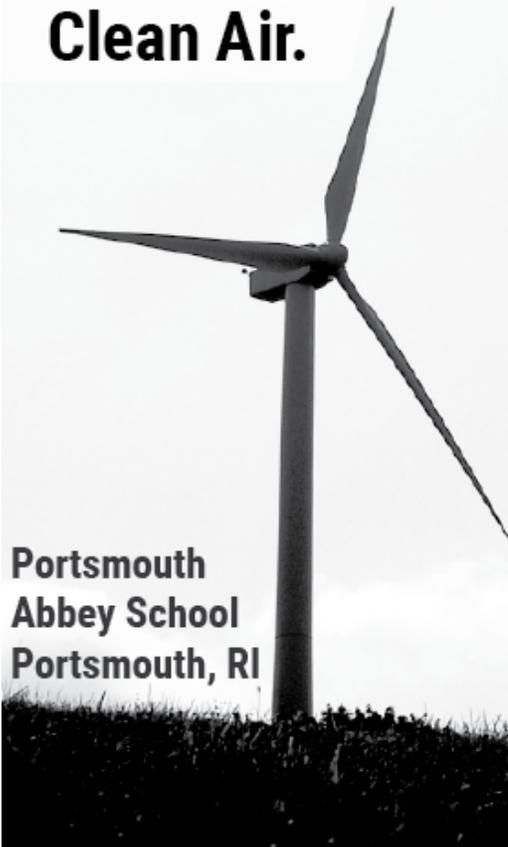
A nonprofit board of directors is responsible for defining the organization’s mission and for providing overall leadership and strategic direction to the organization. This workshop will offer new and experienced board members with an overview of the governance, finance, fundraising and planning roles which lead to an effective board of directors. Participants will leave with tools and templates to improve the function and effectiveness of their board.

1.F Connect with Your Audiences through Effective Messaging

Jennifer West - Narragansett Bay Research Reserve jennifer@nbnerr.org

We all want the ability to develop and express strong messages that are heard and acted upon by our audiences. This session will provide tips, tricks, and insights on how to craft messages and tell stories that are clear and compelling. Whether you’re training volunteers or preparing articles for your newsletter, this session will help strengthen your communication skills and ability to hone messaging that truly engage your audiences’ hearts and minds.

Clean Energy, Clean Air.



Portsmouth
Abbey School
Portsmouth, RI

People's Power & Light is a Rhode Island non-profit working to harness the collective power of energy consumers to speed the transition to a low-carbon future. Join our thousands of members who combat climate change by choosing to green their electricity.

**Make the switch.
Choose 100% local renewable energy
for your next electric bill.**

www.ripower.org/green

PEOPLE'S
Power & Light



The **Narragansett Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (NBNERR) Coastal Training Program (CTP)** provides decision-makers with the science-based information and skills needed to address critical local resource management issues. Municipal staff and officials, designers and developers, landscape architects, engineers, attorneys, natural resource managers, and non-profit conservation organizations all benefit from the program.

Coastal Training Programs range from participatory workshops to hands-on skills training and focus on issues and topics such as:

- Habitat protection
- Water quality
- Climate change
- Science communication
- Stakeholder engagement

For more information please contact:

Jennifer West, CTP Coordinator
401-222-4700, x 7413 | jennifer@nbnerr.org

www.nbwctp.org



NATIONAL
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RESEARCH
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SYSTEM

1.G Siting of Renewable Energy: Strategies for Balancing Land Protection with Meeting Aggressive Carbon Reduction Goals

Scott Millar - Grow Smart Rhode Island smillar@growsmartri.com

Erika Niedowski - Acadia Center eniedowski@acadiacenter.org

Rhode Island has ambitious and worthy goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Expanding renewable energy is critical to meeting these goals. This workshop will review what Rhode Island and other states are doing to expand renewable energy development while reducing impacts to farm and forestland. Attendees will hear about legislation in play in 2018 and engage in discussions of strategies for increasing incentives for siting renewable projects on brownfields, landfills, rooftops and other developed sites.

1.H Understanding the Complexities of Renewable Energy in Rhode Island

Jerry Elmer - Conservation Law Foundation jelmer@clf.org

Expanding renewable energy is critical to Rhode Island's climate mitigation strategies. Energy policy has its own language and programs – distributed generation, net metering, renewable energy fund, PACE, EERMC, PUC. This workshop will decode energy policy and renewable energy programs and highlight priorities for moving the effort forward in 2018.

1.I Invasive Species: What Do We Do and How?

*Carol Lynn Trocki - Conservation Consultant, Mosaic Land Management LLC
and RI Land Trust Council cltrocki@gmail.com*

David Gregg - Rhode Island Natural History Survey dgregg@rinhs.org

What makes a species invasive and why does that matter? We know they are a problem, but our time and money is limited, where do we even start? In this workshop we will explore the way we frame our approach to managing invasive species in the landscape, and discuss realistic strategies given competing interests and limited resources. We will focus on invasive plant species in particular, but many of the concepts apply to animals as well. Time will be allocated for sharing what's worked and what hasn't. Our goal is that you leave feeling empowered, rather than overwhelmed, by this daunting issue.

1.J Working with Landowners and Third Parties to Prevent Future Problems

Alex Chuman - Aquidneck Land Trust achuman@ailt.org

Proactively communicating now with landowners of your land trust's conservation easements can help save a lot of time and money on violations and enforcement later. Topics for this session will include developing relationships with existing landowners of conservation easements, dealing with successor landowners, and strategies to address third party encroachment/trespass from neighbors. We will use examples from Aquidneck Land Trust and hope to hear other strategies that have or haven't worked from attendees.

1.K Current Issues for Municipal Land Trusts & Conservation Commissions

Gregory S. Schultz - RI Attorney General Office gschultz@riag.ri.gov

Roy Najecki - Gloucester Land Trust roy@najecki.com

Barbara Rich - Smithfield Land Trust brich@barbararich.net

When Municipal land trusts and conservation commissions protect and steward land, they must deal with different legal requirements and situations than non-profit land trusts. This workshop will discuss key legal aspects of this work for municipal organizations including: How do deal with Rhode Island's open meeting law and negotiate land conservation deals? How do you use Executive Sessions? How do you deal with requests for public records? What can you do to ensure the lands that you protect remain protected and are not used for other purposes in the future? Beyond legal issues, the workshop will discuss: How do you maintain good relations with the Town Council? How do you manage finances? What is the best way to contract with consultants? Join this discussion with your peers from municipal land trusts. Ask your questions and share your land trust's strategies for success.

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Workshops – Session II 11:45 – 12:55 *choose from 11*

2.A Designing “Maintainable” Green Infrastructure

Brian Byrnes - City of Providence bbyrnes@providenceri.gov

Steve Ricci - Groundwork Rhode Island sricci@groundworkri.org

Proper maintenance of stormwater retrofits follows smart and well thought out design and construction. By designing and constructing ‘maintainable’ and sustainable stormwater best management practices (BMP’s) we can insure that the BMP is working and providing the desired result. This workshop will focus on both small and large green infrastructure BMPs and will review how to improve maintenance through smart and inclusive designs. Participants will also learn how to plan and budget for successful maintenance throughout the year.

2.B Leading Age Appropriate Outdoor Experiences for Children of All Ages

Andrea Stein - Roger Williams Park Zoo astein@rwpzoo.org

How do we make science and the outdoors accessible to children of all ages? This workshop will explore interpreting science across ages and (developmental) stages from preschool to high school. Participants will learn how to meet visitors where they are both as individuals and as a group to promote optimal learning and development.

2.C How to Write Killer Fundraising Letters

David Allen - Consultant - Development for Conservation david@developmentforconservation.com

Writing appeal letters that raise money is not hard. Writing appeal letters that raise a lot more money takes work. This workshop will explore the science of what works and why when writing appeal letters. The science may be hard to believe but the steps are easy to implement. If you follow them, your appeal letters will raise more money for your organization. These letters are better thought of as technical writing than as correspondence. And just like writing skills for many other technical purposes, there is a science to it. This workshop will explore how to start thinking about how to approach writing appeal letters that raise money and how to edit them so that they raise more.

2.D Engaging Community through Pollinator Conservation

Vanessa Venturini - Master Gardener Program/URI Cooperative Extension vanessa@uri.edu

Johanna Vietry - Master Gardener & Friends of the Waterfront jvietry@cox.net

Looking to raise awareness and increase participation in your work? Pollinator conservation projects serve as mechanisms to engage citizens in land stewardship on a residential scale. Learn basic principles of plant selection, garden design and pest control to provide food, cover and nesting sites for native pollinators. We will highlight pollinator education resources, successful demonstration projects in Rhode Island and opportunities to partner with URI Extension Master Gardeners to change behavior in your community.

2.E Board Boot Camp 201: Core Functions of a Land Trust

Kevin Case - Land Trust Alliance kcase@lta.org

Chuck Toal - Connecticut Land Conservation Council & Avalonia Land Trust chucktoal@gmail.com

Sheila Mackintosh - Sakonnet Preservation Association sheilamack@verizon.net

Running a land trust is complex and unique in the non-profit community, not just because we make a promise of perpetuity with each conservation easement. This workshop provides new board members with an overview of technical aspects of land protection and stewardship for both conservation easements and fee owned land. Experienced board members will learn about new trends and techniques. The workshop will cover the nuts and bolts of land protection and stewardship and discuss everything from the process of evaluating conservation projects to responding to potential violations. This workshop complements Board Boot Camp 101 on Board Member Roles & Responsibilities and Board Boot Camp 301 on Board Culture and Keeping the Board Engaged.

2.F Expanding Your Reach and Impact Through Social Media Strategies

Sarah Dell - Advocacy Solutions sdell@advocacysolutionsllc.com

The world of social media has expanded rapidly, with platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram now commonly serving as the initial point of contact (or first impression) between organizations and their potential supporters, donors, and wider-communities. With many non-profit organizations often facing budget and capacity constraints, diving into the social media world may seem unrealistic. If you or your organization is considering adding or bolstering its social media presence, this workshop will provide you with some simple tips and recommendations to consider before you digitally connect with your audiences.

2.G Understanding DEM's Wetland Regulations and Permitting Best Practices

Chuck Horbert - RI Dept. of Environmental Management chorbert13@gmail.com

Organizations advocating for land and watershed protection need a thorough understanding of DEM's wetland program. This workshop will provide an overview of the state's wetland regulations with an emphasis on best practices when working near wetlands, focusing on requirements for trails through wetlands as well as structures in or near wetland. Participants will gain insight on how to better monitor wetland activities and will improve their understanding of special provisions for agriculture and other interests.

2.H Rhode Island's Climate Resilience Action Strategy: Update and Next Steps

Shaun O'Rourke - Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank sorourke@riib.org

In September 2017, Governor Raimondo signed an Executive Order to launch a Statewide Climate Resilience Action Strategy. The strategy will identify and prioritize climate resiliency actions across the state, both in government and in collaboration with business, academic and nonprofit partners to better prepare Rhode Island for a changing climate. This workshop will provide an overview of the strategy development and will highlight opportunities for conservation organizations to participate and lead local implementation efforts.

2.I The Rhode Island Bird Atlas 2.0: A Conservation Tool for Land Managers

Jay Osenkowski - RI Dept. of Environmental Management jay.osenkowski@dem.ri.gov

Peter Paton, PhD - University of Rhode Island ppaton@uri.edu

*Charles Clarkson, PhD - RI Dept. of Environmental Management
and University of Rhode Island clarksonce@uri.edu*

Bird Atlases provide data on the distribution, abundance and long-term change of bird populations within a state. Birds are effective indicators of environmental change and atlases are often employed by conservation agencies to inform land management strategies. The Rhode Island Bird Atlas is unique in that it is the first atlas to survey year-round use of habitats by birds. The collected data on the use of Rhode Island habitats by breeding, wintering and migrating birds allows scientists to model the importance of these habitat types on an annual basis. This workshop will review the current bird atlas, discuss the important conservation tools stemming from its completion and make recommendations on how conservation groups can utilize the atlas for targeted land management.

2.J Where am I anyway? Map-reading & Orienting in the Field

*Carol Lynn Trocki - Conservation Consult, Mosaic Land Management LLC
and RI Land Trust Council ctrocki@gmail.com*

Charles Allott, Esq. - Aquidneck Land Trust callott@ailt.org

Alex Chuman - Aquidneck Land Trust achuman@ailt.org

Have you ever gone out to visit a property, gotten turned around in the woods, and realized – I have absolutely no idea where I am? Well... so have we! Come learn from the experts. Alex and Carol will share their tips and tricks for navigating in the field using aerial photo maps, a mobile device/smartphone, and (maybe?) a compass. Chuck will offer advice on reading survey plans and interpreting legal descriptions. Our focus will be directed at boundary interpretation and field navigation accessible to all, without the need for specialized software or technology.

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2.K Getting the Right Value! Appraisals for Land Conservation

Jenny K. Flanagan - Keystone Consulting Group jflanagan@keystonene.com

Come with your appraisal questions! To get things started, we'll go over the seven items an appraiser needs to know to begin an appraisal assignment. Terms like "before and after appraisal" and "enhancement," and difference between market value and conservation value will be discussed. We'll also examine how various regulations for state and federal grants and for charitable donations impact what goes into the appraisal report ... and even what property is valued! Then we'll offer a case study of one property that was valued four times over the conservation process. This will offer some guidance for what to look for in an appraisal report. Finally, we'll open up the discussion and answer any questions you have about conservation valuation, appraisal regulations and how to find the right appraiser for the job.

Workshops – Session III 2:45 – 4:00 *choose from 10*

3.A Creating Rhode Island's First Wild & Scenic River – the Wood Pawcatuck Study

Denise Poyer - Wood Pawcatuck Watershed Association denisep@wpwa.org

Since 2010 the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association and its partners have been working to get national recognition of the Outstandingly Remarkable Values of seven rivers in southeastern New England – the Beaver, Chipuxet, Green Falls, Pawcatuck, Queen, Shunock, and Wood Rivers. This session will review the Wild & Scenic process, highlighting the key findings and exploring how communities throughout the watershed can benefit from the designation.

3.B Leading Engaging Walks

Wendy Fachon - Rhode Island Netwalking wendyf13@cox.net

Designing, promoting, and facilitating successful walking events require thoughtful planning, effective marketing, and focusing the walk around an engaging activity and/or topic suited to your audience. Environmental educator and founder of Rhode Island Netwalking, Wendy Fachon has organized and led school enrichment field trips, after-school walking clubs, summer-school environmental education programs, and vacation week family adventures. She will provide a list of ideas and guide participants in planning around their own event ideas, objectives, and organizational needs.

3.C Segmenting Your Approach to Donors for Better Results

David Allen - Consultant - Development for Conservation david@developmentforconservation.com

Segmenting is something we do intuitively. We don't send grant requests to individuals. We don't send special appeal letters to the US Fish & Wildlife Service. And we don't send renewal notices to people who have never given money. Organizations segment their donors because the approach to each segment should be different. Organizations segment their donors in planning to make those differences intentional.

As conservation organizations grow, they become increasingly sophisticated in this segmentation, commonly by separating out "major donors" first. More established organizations might segment by giving potential, geography, interest, or currency (how recently they may have given). This workshop will explore how to start thinking about segmenting your approach to donors to get better results and raise more money.



Carol Lynn Trocki
Conservation Biologist
(401) 952-2937
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3.D Putting Together a Land Conservation Deal

Reggie Hall - The Conservation Fund rhall@conservationfund.org

This introductory overview workshop will explore real estate transactions from the initial conversation with a landowner to the party celebrating the completion of the project. Emphasis will be on exploring best practices in the field while connecting the steps of sound real estate transactions as highlighted by LTA's Standards & Practices.

3.E Board Boot Camp 301: Board Culture and Keeping the Board Engaged

Abigail Brooks - Sakonnet Preservation Association abigail@ntlong.com

Chuck Allott - Aquidneck Land Trust callott@ailt.org

Land trusts of every shape and size face the challenge of building an effective and engaged board of directors. It can be difficult to resist the temptation to take another "warm body" when filling an open board seat but the benefits of being thoughtful about board recruitment, orientation and evaluation are worth the effort. This workshop will share tools, resources and ideas to engage and support a positive board culture. This information will be useful to Board Members of any conservation organization.

3.F Resilience Tools for Communities: PREP-RI, STORMTOOLS & more

Pam Rubinoff - URI Coastal Resources Center/RI Sea Grant rubinoff@uri.edu

Teresa Crean - URI Coastal Resources Center/RI Sea Grant tcrean@crc.uri.edu

Michael DeLuca - Town of Narragansett mdeluca@narragansetttri.gov

This workshop provides an overview of the PREP-RI (Providing Resilience Education for Planning in Rhode Island) online training and mapping tools developed to increase the capacity of municipal decision makers to make effective choices supporting resilience to the impacts from flooding, sea level rise and erosion. Considering current and future impacts helps shape decisions that enhance the health, safety, and welfare of Rhode Island's communities. Attendees will be introduced to the suite of tools with local case studies illustrating how the information is being put to use in Rhode Island municipalities.

3.G Land Use and Advocacy 101

Maria Mack - South Kingstown Planning Board cfm@cox.net

Nancy Letendre - Town of Westerly Planning & Zoning Board Solicitor nancyletendreesq@gmail.com

Are you frustrated by a loss of 'sense of place' and quality of life in your community? Do you worry that suburban sprawl is encroaching upon your town? Is it possible to help shape policy that will preserve the special places and natural resources in your town? Yes! Come to this session to learn how to make a difference at the local and State level.

3.H Manage Forests While Mitigating Climate Change

Paul Dolan - RC&D & RI Conservation Districts rircd2283@gmail.com

Scott Millar - Grow Smart RI & RI Conservation Districts smillar@growsmartri.com

Large landowners have an important role in mitigating climate change. This workshop will share strategies for reforestation, avoiding forest loss and best practices for improved forest management. Well managed Rhode Island forests could cost-effectively remove 7 billion tons of carbon dioxide annually by 2030.



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3.I Creating and Maintaining Woodland Trails

Garry Plunkett - Tiverton Open Space Commission gplunkett@cox.net

Woodland trails should offer visitors an authentic nature experience while protecting the ecosystem that has been preserved. Designing, building, then maintain trails that accomplish this goal must often be done with limited resources. This workshop will share lessons learned – both mistakes and successes – from 25 years of trails development and stewardship with the Tiverton Open Space Commission and Tiverton Land Trust. The workshop will include principles of trail design and construction, signage, ongoing maintenance, and working with volunteers.

3.J Protecting Riparian Corridor Connectivity Using Wetland Reserve Easements

Brunilda Velez - Natural Resource Conservation Service brunilda.velez@ri.usda.gov

Joe Bachand - Natural Resource Conservation Service joseph.bachand@ri.usda.gov

Natural Resources Conservation Service will provide an overview of how to use the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program Wetland Reserve Easements to create protected riparian corridors that benefit wildlife and wildlife movement. The Wetland Reserve Easements are used on private lands to protect and restore wetlands.



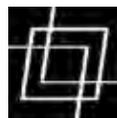
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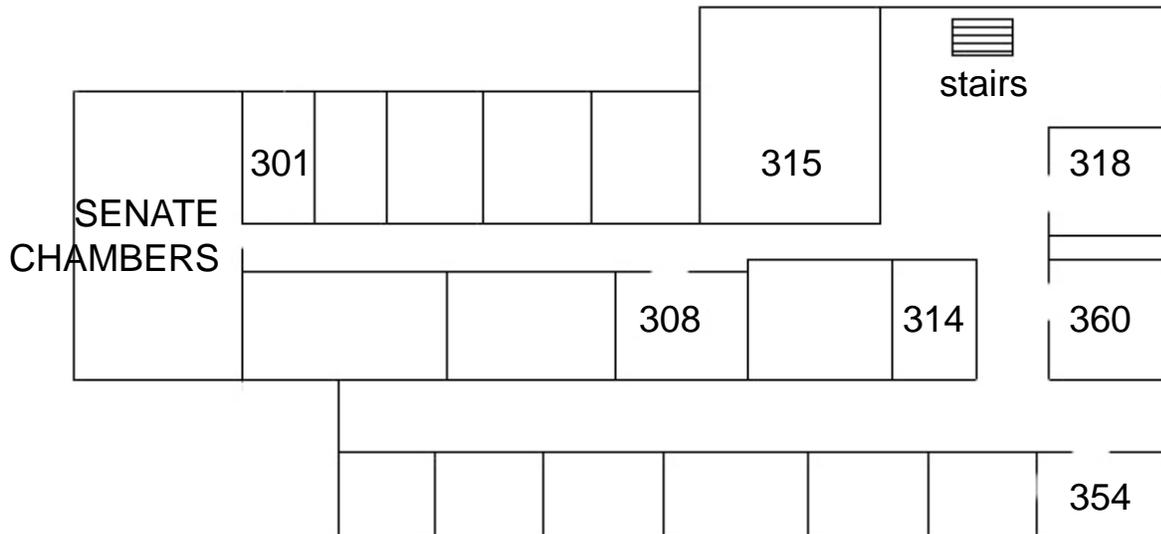


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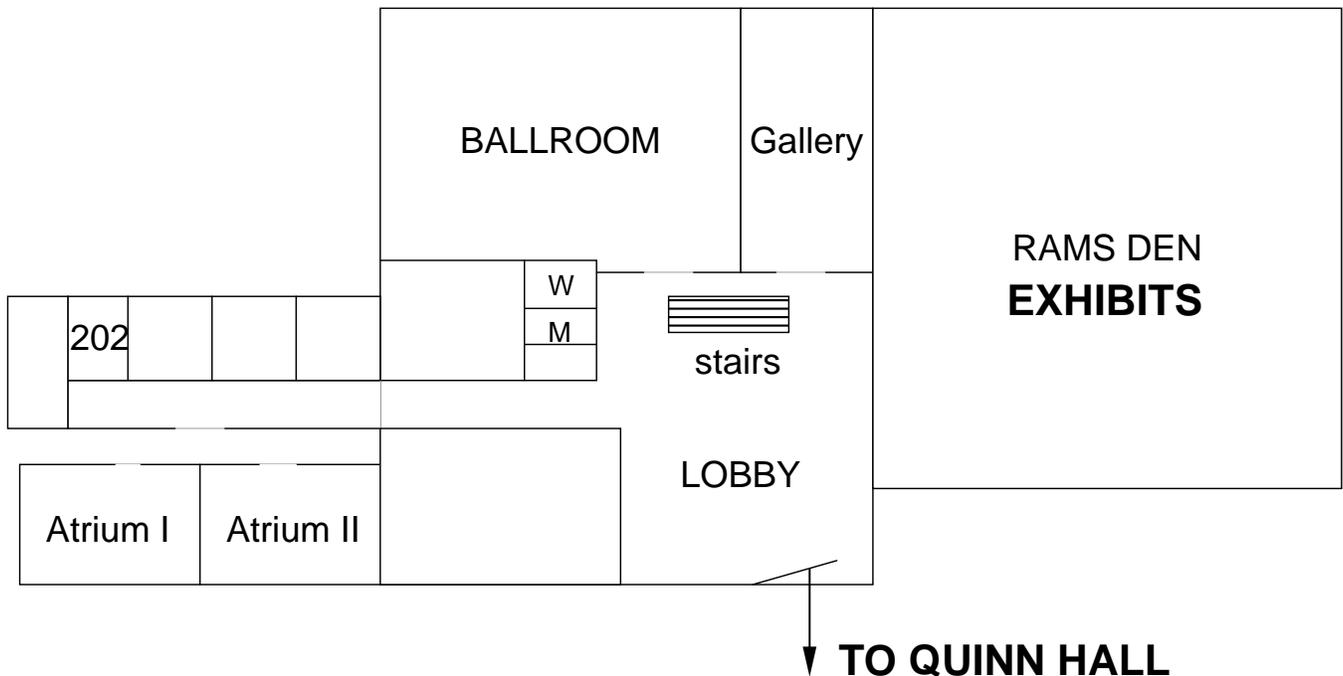
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RI Land Trust Council—
assistance on baseline docs., trail maps & blazing, policy
Rupert Friday (rfriday@rilandtrusts.org)

Youth Conservation League—
trail building, invasive management,
youth engagement

Scott Ruhren (sruhren@asri.org)

RI Wildlife Action Plan—
conservation priorities, planning assistance

**Amanda Freitas
(amanda.freitas@dem.ri.gov)**

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The Conservation Stewardship Collaborative is:



*Photos: RI Youth Conservation League, Sponsored by RI Conservation Stewardship Collaborative.
For information on the 2017 YCL, Contact Audubon Society of RI, sruhren@asri.org*