

## 2012 NJ LAND CONSERVATION RALLY: Presenter Biographies

(arranged alphabetically)

### THANKS TO ALL THE PRESENTERS FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE NJ RALLY!

**Melissa Almendinger** is the Executive Director of the NJ Invasive Species Strike Team. She holds a B.S. in Natural Resource Management from Rutgers University and is a New Jersey Certified science teacher. Melissa was an original co-chair of the Strike Team, initiated in 2008 in central NJ, and served on the Board of Directors during its incorporation as a 501(c)(3) organization in 2011. She also serves on the board of the Mid-Atlantic Invasive Plant Council.

**Thom Almendinger** is the Team Leader of the Natural Resources Team for the Duke Farms Foundation in Hillsborough, NJ. At Duke Farms, he has directed the successful deer management program on the 2,740-acre property since inception in 2004 as well as managing the stewardship of habitats for numerous endangered and threatened species. He has an A.S. in Forestry from SUNY-Environmental Science and Forestry, a B.S. in Ecology and Natural Resources from Cook College of Rutgers University, and a M.S. in Ecology and Evolution from School of Environmental and Biological Sciences-Rutgers University. He is also a Certified Ecologist through the Ecological Society of America. Thom's research interests include plant-herbivore interactions, particularly between overabundant white-tailed deer and invasive plants, restoration of degraded habitats, and conservation of threatened/endangered species.

**Candace McKee Ashmun:** A pioneer of New Jersey's environmental movement, Candy Ashmun has led or played a key role in many groundbreaking initiatives to protect natural resources through responsible resource-based use of land. In 1975 Candy became the first Executive Director of the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions, where she developed New Jersey's first training programs for local environmental commissions and their counterparts in nine New England states. She is a founding member of the Pinelands Commission, serving under eight different governors since 1979. She also served two terms as one of the original appointees to the State Planning Commission, which adopted the first State Development and Redevelopment Plan in 1992. She is also a former trustee of the Crossroads of the American Revolution Association. In 1981 Candy, with ANJEC, convened the Environmental Summit, a consortium of 30 professionally staffed environmental organizations that continues meeting monthly to work together toward common goals. She has received numerous state and national awards, including the National Citizen Planner of the Year Award from the American Planning Association in 1996.

**Dan Barringer** currently manages the 600-acre Crow's Nest Preserve near Elverson, Pennsylvania and has over twenty years of experience with Natural Lands Trust. After graduating from Haverford College, Dan worked as an intern at the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania, and continued his horticultural training at Longwood Gardens.

**Maeghan Brass,** Conservation Advocate. Maeghan joined New Jersey Audubon (NJA) in August 2011 with a background in conservation science and policy and a desire to bring these two worlds together to effectively advocate for strong stewardship of New Jersey's wildlife and their habitats. In addition to engaging in policy and legislative issues that relate to wildlife and habitat conservation, Maeghan contributes substantially to NJA's coordinating role for NJ Keep It Green, a statewide coalition of over 150 organizations to secure sustainable funding for the State's open space, farmland, and historic preservation programs. Maeghan has an M.S. in Sustainable Development and Conservation Biology and an M.P.P. in Public Policy from the University of Maryland, College Park and a B.S. in Environmental Science from Indiana University, Bloomington. Before joining NJA, she had the opportunity to engage in a range of wildlife conservation issues while working for Defenders of Wildlife and The Wildlife Society in the DC-metro area. She has focused on the importance of wildlife and habitat considerations in issues such as climate change, renewable energy development, and public lands management and has advocated for key wildlife programs like State and Tribal Wildlife Grants.

**Tim Brill** has served as Agricultural Retention Program and Planning Manager with the State Agriculture Development Committee since August 1999. Tim's responsibilities include planning for and supervision of the ambitious New Jersey Farmland Preservation Program and the State Transfer of Development Rights Bank. Mr. Brill also coordinates the Farmland Preservation / Agricultural Retention Program with State and regional planning efforts as well as county, municipal, open space / recreation and historic preservation initiatives. Mr. Brill has helped to develop the Farmland Preservation Planning Incentive Grant Program currently involving 18 counties and 45 municipalities, targeting the preservation of more than 5,500 farms and 245,000 additional acres. Tim received his B.A. in geography from Glassboro State College (now Rowan University) in 1980, and he is a New Jersey licensed Professional Planner.

**Kate Buttolph**, Acting Executive Director, Hunterdon Land Trust. Kate began working with the Hunterdon Land Trust on a contract basis in 2003. In 2007, she was hired as the part-time land acquisition and stewardship director. She became full time in 2009. With the direction of the executive director and the Land Acquisition and Stewardship Committee of the board of trustees, Kate Buttolph is responsible for day-to-day management of land acquisition and stewardship programs. Her responsibilities include landowner outreach, negotiations, identification of potential projects, coordination of technical work, and securing funding commitments from public and private partners. Kate is a graduate of Swarthmore College and received her law degree from DePaul University College of Law. She was previously an Attorney with the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of the Solicitor; Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game; Director of Land Preservation for D&R Greenway Land Trust; and University Counsel with Princeton University. She is admitted to practice law in New Jersey, Illinois, and Massachusetts.

**Terry Caruso**, Team Leader, Green Acres Program, South Central Region: Terry has a MA in Environmental Management from Montclair State College and a BS in Natural Resource Management from Rutgers University, Cook College and over 29 years working on the Department of Environmental Protection in Fish and Wildlife, Water Resource, Land Use Regulation and for the last 12 years, the Green Acres Program. Terry is also President of the Dayton Village Citizens Coalition, a local non-profit organization promoting historic preservation and community awareness. She also volunteers her time with the Girl Scouts promoting the importance of open space, outdoor recreation and environmental awareness. Terry is the leader for Action Item #5, Acquiring Land in the Watershed, one of Governor Christie's 10 Point Action Plan to help improve Barnegat Bay.

**Michael Catania** is the founder and President of Conservation Resources Inc., a non-profit conservation group which provides financial and technical assistance to the conservation community in New Jersey. Earlier in his career, he served as Deputy Commissioner of the NJ Department of Environmental Protection under three Commissioners and two Governors. Michael began his career with the non-partisan NJ Legislative Services Agency, where he drafted many of New Jersey's landmark environmental laws, including the Pinelands Protection Act, several of the Green Acres Bond Acts, the Conservation and Historic Preservation Restriction Act, and the Spill Compensation and Control Act. Michael also served as in-house counsel at NJDEP, where he established NJDEP's Division of Regulatory Affairs and oversaw the development and enforcement of all NJDEP rules and regulations. Michael was also the Executive Director of The Nature Conservancy of New Jersey for 12 years. He currently serves as chair of the New Jersey Natural Lands Trust and President of a local land trust, the Schiff Natural Lands Trust, Inc. Michael is also a certified AYO trainer for the Land Trust Alliance, and serves as a consultant to help NJ Land Trusts obtain accreditation. He holds a BA and MA in Political Science from Rutgers University as well as a JD from Rutgers School of Law in Camden. Michael currently resides in Mendham Township, Morris County, New Jersey, where he and his wife Jan Rosenfeld own and operate a permanently preserved farm with their two children.

**Honorable Chuck Chiarello**, Mayor, Buena Vista Township.

**Jennifer Coffey**, Policy Director, at Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association, oversees projects that support proactive planning and environmental stewardship. Jennifer holds a B.A. in Communication and dual Masters degrees in Environmental Policy Studies and Environmental Science. She has worked with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II and the North Jersey Transportation Planning

Association as a researcher and program coordinator. She chairs the Upper Freehold Environmental Advisory Committee and has served as a member of the Planning Board.

**Bill Cogger**, Mayor of Chester Twp (Morris), and former member of the NJ Highlands Council

**Justine Cook** joined the Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Jersey (NOFA-NJ) as the Organic Farming Conservation & Technical Services Specialist in December 2010. Justine has her B.S. in Environmental Studies from Stockton College and her M.S. in Agronomy from Penn State. As an undergraduate, she focused on pollution movement through soil and water mediums, which introduced her to issues facing conventional agriculture. After studying green manures and soil fertility at Penn State, she spent six months on the Seeds of Change Research Farm in New Mexico running a cover crop variety trial and learning about organic production.

**Elizabeth Craighead**, Land Steward: Beth has been working part-time with Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space since 2010, performing a variety of stewardship and recreational projects including the management of weekly invasive species and trail workdays. Beth graduated from Delaware Valley College in Doylestown with a degree in Environmental Science. She has over five years of experience in outreach & education while employed with Hunterdon County Parks, Washington Crossing State Park and the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association.

**Jim Cummings:** In 2004, at the age of 53, Jim sold his small business and began full time ministry, integrating his passion for nature and adventure. In partnership with UrbanPromise Ministries, he created an expeditionary learning program called UrbanTrekks. He seeks to teach urban teenagers basic life skills by widening their comfort zones while stretching them physically and emotionally. Jim is changing lives through these dynamic programs. Young people in Camden who have never been out of the city are seeing the world differently. It is hard to find an individual with more love and passion for living. We know you will enjoy hearing stories of how Jim and UrbanTrekks have touched the lives of children and youth, bringing them into a deeper understanding of the world and their place in it.

**Patty Doerr** has served as the Director of Conservation Projects for The Nature Conservancy in New Jersey since the summer of 2010. In her capacity at the Conservancy, she coordinates on-the-ground conservation projects throughout the state, including serving as project manager for the Delaware River Basin Conservation Initiative. Prior to joining the Conservancy, she worked on natural resource policy issues in Washington, D.C., for the U.S. Senate, National Governors Association and American Sportfishing Association.

**Tim Dunne** holds a BS in Wildlife Science from Cook College, Rutgers University. He began his career with the Soil Conservation Service in 1981 and has worked as a Soil Conservationist, District Conservationists, and Biologist. Tim has provided technical assistance on fish and wildlife and wetland issues to NRCS field office staff and NJ landowners. In 2008 he became the State Resource Conservationist providing leadership for NRCS NJ in fields of biology, agronomy, forestry and water quality.

**Cindy Ehrenclou**, Executive Director, Raritan Headwaters Association, became the executive director of the Upper Raritan Watershed Association (URWA) in February 2006, after twelve years as the Association's development director. Cindy established Education and Outreach Programs for children including an annual summer nature camp and founded Wake Up Call, an environmental information breakfast series for municipal leaders. She is the 2nd Vice President of the New Jersey Highlands Coalition and Chair of the NJHC Governance Committee, serves on the Raritan Basin Alliance Steering Committee, NJ Land Trust Council, Keep it Green Coalition, and is a 2007 Fellow of Leadership New Jersey. Cindy holds degrees from Colby Sawyer College and Washburn University.

**Michael Fedosh** is chairman of the Monmouth County and Middletown Township Environmental Councils. Mike is a geologist who has made a career of environmental remediation and restoration.

**Frank Gallagher** is an Administrator with the NJDEP Division of Parks and Forestry. He is responsible for the future use and development of Liberty State Park, including overseeing the Liberty State Park restoration initiative, which is partially funded by the Wetlands Mitigation Council.

**Tom Gilbert** joined Trust for Public Land in January of 2008 to direct state and local conservation finance initiatives in the mid-Atlantic region. Since then, Tom has helped to design and pass ten successful county and local ballot measures to finance parks and land conservation in New Jersey, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania. As Chair of the NJ Keep It Green Campaign, a coalition of over 140 organizations working to renew and strengthen the Garden State Preservation Trust, he chaired a successful statewide campaign to pass a \$400 million bond measure on the Nov. 2009 ballot to continue open space preservation efforts in New Jersey. Prior to joining TPL, Tom served as Director of Eastern Forest Conservation for the Wilderness Society and Executive Director of the Highlands Coalition. Tom earned his M.S. in Natural Resources Planning & Management from the University of Vermont.

**Marian Glenn, Ph.D.**, is a forest ecologist and co-director of Environmental Studies at Seton Hall University. She works with members of the South Mountain Conservancy and Essex County Parks Department to educate students about the on-going ecological restoration work at South Mountain Reservation, including conducting field trips and supervising student research projects. She has 20 years experience leading field trips and field research projects.

**Gretchen Grajo** has been working at VERTICES, LLC for the past two years as a Research Associate. She graduated from Douglass College at Rutgers University with a BA in Economics and minors in both Planning and Public Policy and Statistics in 2010. Ms. Grajo has been working with clients in supporting various projects including Sustainable Jersey, Sustainable Maryland, Council of New Jersey Grantmakers, Kennedy Health Systems, and others. She has also given several presentations at national GIS conferences regarding interactive Rutgers crime mapping. For this project, she will continue project management with Dr. Im, provide client support, and coordinate the tasks of team members at VERTICES.

**David Gray** is a Certified Financial Planner and a frequent speaker on topics related to nonprofit finance. A former Executive Director, Gray is the author of *The Finance Arts Guide to Nonprofit Cash Flow*. Gray has participated on grant panels reviewing environmental grants, arts and culture grants, as well as social service funding. He has conducted training sessions for groups as diverse as The Watershed Institute, The New Jersey Theatre Alliance, and the United Way.

**Mike Greene**, Use Manager, Envirotactics, Inc., has in-depth experience performing preliminary site assessments, wetlands delineations, wetlands mitigation, CAFRA permits, threatened and endangered species studies and expert witness testimony pertaining to land use regulation matters. Mr. Greene is responsible for overall projects pertaining to land use matters and to any other ecological sensitive issues.

**Kathy Haake** is a Project Manager for the Trust for Public Land and focuses on land acquisition projects in the Barnegat Bay watershed and throughout northern New Jersey. She joined the Trust for Public Land in 1998 and is a lifelong resident of New Jersey. Before joining TPL, Kathy worked as a supply chain supervisor at Nabisco and has a B.A. in business administration from William Paterson University. She is a member of the Rockaway Borough Environmental Committee and VP of Thendara Mountain Club, a hiking club in Harriman State Park that supports conservation and outdoor recreation.

**Alison Hastings** is a Senior Environmental Planner at the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC). DVRPC is the regional planning forum for the Greater Philadelphia region, with a focus on transportation, land use, the environment and economic growth. Ms. Hastings manages DVRPC's Regional Food System Planning work and its Municipal Environmental Planning Services program, among other projects. Before joining DVRPC's Office of Environmental Planning in 2003, Ms. Hastings explored various career paths, including higher education and student life, environmental conflict resolution, and place-making through public art. She currently serves on Philadelphia's Food Policy Advisory Council. Ms. Hastings received a BS from Cornell University and a Master's degree in

City and Regional Planning from the University of Pennsylvania. Ms. Hastings resides in Collingswood, NJ.

**Jeff Hoagland**, Education Director and Naturalist at the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association, has had a lifelong fascination with the natural world. Driven by a passion to share and interpret the wonders of the natural world, he has won numerous awards as an environmental educator, including the Patricia Kane Lifetime Achievement Award from the Alliance for New Jersey Environmental Education (ANJEE). He has been a regular presenter annually at the ANJEE conference as well as presenting at PAEE, the National River Rally and other venues. Jeff writes and publishes haiku as part of his regular engagement with the natural world.

**Wansoo Im, Ph.D.** is the founder of VERTICES, LLC, a geospatial information services company providing innovative and interactive map-based solutions. In addition to VERTICES, he is an assistant professor at the department of Family and Community Medicine at Meharry Medical College. He is an adjunct faculty at Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers University. He specializes in developing decision support systems using a public participatory approach and interactive web-based geographical information systems. Dr. Im received his Masters in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and his Ph.D. from the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy. Since 1991, Dr. Im has taught GIS courses for various schools including the Department of Urban Studies and Community Health at Rutgers University, and the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering/Institute for Transportation Studies at New Jersey Institute of Technology. Dr. Im is most proud of his web portal, <http://www.imrivers.org>, which is currently being used by multiple environmental organizations across the United States. His work on community participatory internet mapping was featured in The New Yorker magazine in 2006 and The New York Times in 2008.

**Anne Jacobson**, who resides in Madison, Morris County, has been employed as a program officer by the Victoria Foundation since 2005. She obtained her J.D. from Rutgers Law School-Newark in 1978, and practiced law for 19 years, first as an associate with Pitney, Hardin in Morristown, NJ, and then as in-house counsel with the Exxon Research and Engineering Company in Florham Park and Clinton, NJ. In 1997, she transitioned to a second career in the nonprofit sector, joining the staff of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra. There, she served in several operational capacities before becoming the Director of Corporate Partnerships. In 2003, she became the senior program officer at The Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey. Anne has served as a trustee and in various leadership roles on the boards of the Colonial Symphony Orchestra, based in Morristown, and the Arts Council of the Morris Area.

**Christopher Jage** is responsible for coordinating New Jersey Conservation Foundation's activities in South Jersey. He also serves as the Regional Manager for the Pine Barrens and is chiefly responsible for land acquisitions in the region. Previously, Chris worked in NJCF's "shared staff" program, working directly with the Rancocas Conservancy and the South Jersey Land Trust in land acquisition and organizational development. Prior to joining NJCF, he worked as a Wilderness Manager with the Bureau of Land Management in Yuma, Arizona and as a Peace Corps volunteer in rural Guatemala. He holds a BS in Environmental Resource Management from Penn State and an MS from Virginia Tech in Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences. Chris currently resides at the edge of the Pine Barrens in Atco, Camden County.

**Steve Jandoli** is a Supervising Program Specialist with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Green Acres Program. Steve manages the Land and Water Conservation Program, and the Pinelands, Planning Incentive, technical assistance and open space tax programs and is responsible for preparing New Jersey's open space and recreation plan. He works on Green Acres' NY/NJ Harbor Estuary projects, is a member of NJDEP's Public Access Workgroup and is responsible for the evaluation of Green Acres state land acquisition projects and local government and nonprofit land acquisition and park development funding applications. Steve is a member of the New Jersey Trails Plan Advisory Committee and the New Jersey Trails Council. He also serves on the New Jersey Scenic Byways Advisory Committee. He has been with the Green Acres Program for 24 years. Prior to Green Acres, Steve was with the Essex County Department of Parks and Recreation for 12 years as an Environmental

Specialist and worked on a variety of park and recreation and natural resource projects. Steve has a Bachelors degree in Biology from Montclair State University and is a member of the Cranford Township Environmental Commission. He is also on the Board of Trustees of the Rahway River Association.

**Pete Kasabach** has served as the Executive Director of New Jersey Future since December 2007. Formerly, he was chief of policy and community development for the NJ Housing & Mortgage Finance Agency, where he guided investment programs and developed a comprehensive state housing policy. Prior to joining the HMFA, he oversaw planning and real estate development for Isles, in Trenton. Peter is a licensed Professional Planner and holds a B.S. in Economics from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

**Dan Kennedy** serves as the Deputy Director of the Office for Planning Advocacy within the Business Action Center in the Dept. of State. Prior to this position, he managed Burlington County's nationally recognized Agriculture Retention and Development Program after working for the NJ State Agriculture Development Committee and the Monmouth County Planning Board. He is a licensed professional planner with a Masters Degree in City & Regional Planning from the EJ Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy (Rutgers University) and a B.S. in Environmental Science from the University of Delaware. Dan's educational experiences include studying at Columbia University's Biosphere II Earth Institute, work-study experience at the University of Pretoria (South Africa) and a term of service in the AmeriCorps. Dan served as Burlington County's representative to the Pinelands Commission from 2007-2011, serving on the Policy & Implementation Committee, Public & Government Committee and chairing the Pinelands Agriculture Advisory Committee. He has also served a term on his City's Environmental Commission and remains active in several local civic organizations.

**Bill Kibler**, Director of Policy & Science, Raritan Headwaters Association. Bill served as the Executive Director of the South Branch Watershed Association from 2005 - 2011. He has a BS in environmental science from the United States Military Academy, West Point, and served as a Corps of Engineers officer in the first Persian Gulf War. After graduating from the Syracuse University College of Law, Bill practiced law in New York and in Boston, focusing on environmental, land use, and international law. Bill serves on the Raritan Basin Watershed Alliance steering committee. He lives on the South Branch of the Raritan River in Califon with his wife, Susan, and their son, Alex. He is an avid fly fisherman and deputy chief of the Califon Fire Company.

**David Kimmel** has been an Agricultural Resource Specialist with the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) since 2003. His responsibilities include helping manage the Right to Farm, Agricultural Mediation, and Farm Link Programs, as well as doing research on agricultural policy issues and supporting policy development working groups. He has provided policy research support on topics such as preserved farmland availability/affordability, on-farm direct marketing, and the equine industry.

**Charles Kline** has coordinated Outreach for REI in the Philadelphia area for over five years. He brings experience in the non-profit and environmental communities, including representing REI on the Pennsylvania Committee for the East Coast Greenway and serving on the board of his home town land trust, the Radnor Conservancy.

**Lt Robert Little** is a 23 year veteran of the New Jersey State Police. He has spent 9 years in the State Office of Emergency Management and has served as the State Hazard Mitigation Officer for the last 3 years. Bob and his staff are responsible for developing and steering the State's Hazard Mitigation Program through the State Hazard Mitigation Plan. This plan is the basis for all Mitigation activities in New Jersey. Also, his office acts as the State Administrator for the 5 FEMA Mitigation grants. This includes helping Local communities develop projects and application, coordinating the delivery of those applications, and the day to day oversight of awarded projects during their 3 year life span. Currently, NJ has close to 50 ongoing projects worth over \$100 Million.

**Cate Litvak** served as the executive director of the Crossroads of the American Revolution Association, the federally designated, non-profit managing organization for New Jersey's Crossroads of the American Revolution National and State Heritage Area from 2005 until her retirement at the end of 2011. The

successful oversight and completion of the federally mandated management plan for the Crossroads National Heritage Area, recently approved by the Department of the Interior, is one of her major achievements. She chaired the New Jersey Task Force on Heritage Tourism and serves as vice president of the Advocates for New Jersey History. A former mayor of Princeton Township and an active land preservationist, Cate is a trustee and former chairman of the D&R Greenway Land Trust. She is also a founder of the Princeton Area Community Foundation. For her work as former president and a founder of The Princeton-Pettoranello Sister City Foundation she was made an honorary Italian citizen and awarded the Cavaliere Order of Merit by the Republic of Italy.

**Andy Loza** has served since 2000 as executive director of the Pennsylvania Land Trust Association where he has led public policy initiatives, helped develop model easements and other technical guidance, and implemented various assistance, training and education programs to advance conservation. Previously he served as a land trust executive director; led conservation, planning and development initiatives for county government; and consulted on environmental policy.

**Rachel Mackow**, Land Steward: Rachel is responsible for stewardship and volunteer recruitment at Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space. As Central Region Coordinator for the New Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team, Rachel has been involved with recruiting volunteers and private landowners, developing training materials, outreach events, detecting and eradicating emerging populations of invasive species, and data management. Rachel is a contributing author and photographer for the Sourland Planning Council's Living in the Sourlands, a stewardship guide for private residents.

**Evan Madlinger** is employed as a Biologist with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). He started working for NRCS in the summer of 1998 as a summer intern and was hired full time in February 2002 as a Soil Conservationist in the Freehold Service Center covering Monmouth, Mercer and Middlesex Counties. In the fall of 2005, Evan was transferred to the Frenchtown Service Center where he covered Hunterdon, Somerset and Union Counties until December 2008. In January of 2009 Evan was promoted to his current position as a Biologist in which he is responsible for all NRCS wildlife and wetland work conducted in North Jersey. His primary duty is to assist NRCS field staff with implementation of Farm Bill program practices related to wildlife, wetlands and forestry. Some professional accomplishments Evan is most proud of is seeding several hundred acres of grassland habitat, being involved with dam removal projects on the Musconetcong river, restoring approximately 200 acres of wetland habitat, being the lead planner on a 500 acre wetland restoration project constructed this past fall, conducting public outreach for NRCS programs and wildlife habitat, and facilitating partnerships between NRCS and groups like U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, N.J. Fish and Wildlife, and Pheasants Forever, to allow landowners increased cost sharing or technical assistance to implement good wildlife habitat on their land. Evan is also the current President of the NJ Wildlife Society in which he has helped maintain the integrity of the Society, been active in political action opportunities, and helped coordinate the bi-annual meetings. In June of 2009 he graduated from the New Jersey Agricultural Leadership Development Program. Evan received a BS in Wildlife Management and a minor in fresh water fisheries from The Ohio State University.

**Debbie Mans** has been Baykeeper and Executive Director since April, 2008. Prior to joining NY/NJ Baykeeper, Debbie was the Environmental and Energy Policy Advisor for Governor Jon S. Corzine. She was also appointed by Governor Corzine to the New Jersey State Planning Commission. Debbie is a graduate of The University of Michigan and holds a J.D. from Vermont Law School. Debbie is on the board of New Jersey Future and the Chair of the New Jersey League of Conservation Voters.

**Demetrius Marlowe** serves as the Principal of UrbanPromise Academy (UPA). UPA is an experimental and expeditionary college prep high school where at least 90% of its students reside in Camden, NJ. The mission of UrbanPromise Ministries is to equip Camden's children and young adults with the skills necessary for academic achievement, life management, spiritual growth and Christian leadership. UrbanPromise Academy is a learning community that enables students to achieve their full potential and to develop a lifestyle of education, community service and leadership. Demetrius came to UPA after serving as the COO for Hales Franciscan H.S. in Chicago, IL. Most of his professional career in higher education administration focuses on the development, organization, and leadership of academic support

units for Division 1 Athletics programs such as, the University of Notre Dame, Syracuse University, University of Maryland, Michigan State University, and North Carolina State University. He began his professional career with Eckerd Family Youth Alternatives (EFYA) as an outdoor education specialist. It was during his stint with EFYA that he was able to craft a philosophy of education that centered on experiential and expeditionary learning as a means to challenge and support the development of youth who are excelling in the traditional classroom. A native of Neptune, NJ, he received a BA in Psychology from Pfeiffer University in Misenheimer, NC, where he was a varsity athlete and assistant coach in the sport of soccer. He received a MA in Education from Bowling Green State University where he served as an assistant soccer coach and graduate assistant in the offices of Greek Life and Alcohol and Drug Education.

**Martin McHugh** has over 25 years of public service in conservation and environmental law. Currently with The Conservation Fund, Mr. McHugh served with NJDEP, the Attorney General's Office and, on assignment to NOAA. He has handled air, water and land use enforcement matters and litigated oil spills. Mr. McHugh created NJ's Natural Resource Damage Program and served as Fish & Wildlife Director. He taught for 11 years at Rutgers and Kean University and has presented extensively at conferences.

**Grace Messinger** is a Watershed Specialist with the North Jersey Resource Conservation and Development Council. Since 2007, she has been managing the Walnut Brook riparian restoration project, which is partially funded by the Wetlands Mitigation Council.

**Ed Ng** is a California native who has lived in New Jersey for the last 30 years. Ed holds a B.S. and M.S. in Biology and Ph.D. in Ecology. He has conducted research in the California chaparral, Chilean matorral, Alaskan tundra, Central Valley sugar beet fields, Idaho potato crops, and Brazilian and Côte d'Ivoire cocoa plantations. In his 27 year career with Mars, Inc. he led teams spearheading the development and application of novel analytical processes to business problems all along the value chain. He is a trustee of the Chester Historical Society and The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey. He is chairman of the Chester Borough Environmental & Open Space Committee. He is married, and has two adult daughters. Tennis, swimming, reading, and hiking with his wife and walking the dog take up what little time is left.

**Margaret O'Gorman** is the Executive Director of the Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey. Margaret has worked in environmental non-profit organizations since 2000. Prior to Conserve Wildlife Foundation, she was Director of Development at New Jersey Future, the statewide anti-sprawl group. She started her environmental career in New Jersey as Director of Development at the Pinelands Preservation Alliance, a non-profit group charged with protecting the 1.1 million acre Pine Barrens ecosystem. Margaret has a BS in Geology and Geophysics from NUI Galway (Ireland) and, a MS in Micropalaeontology from Southampton University (UK.). Margaret is a former President and board member of EarthShare New Jersey, a graduate of Leadership New Jersey and a member of its Graduate Organization Board and, Chair of the Board of the League of Conservation Voters Education Fund.

**Eric Olsen** is currently the Delaware River and Bay Whole System Project Manager for The Nature Conservancy, coordinating the organization's conservation efforts across the 4 state Delaware River region. During his 5 years with the Conservancy, he has been involved with many freshwater projects including land protection, stewardship and reforestation projects, as well as coordination of the Common Waters partnership which strives to protect the freshwater and forest resources in the upper Delaware River.

**Pam Palumbo**, Development Director, New Jersey Conservation Foundation. Pam has over 20 years of development experience. She is the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) NJ Chapter 2010 Fundraiser of the Year. She has run dozens of successful fundraising events.

**Susan Payne** has served as Executive Director of the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) and the State Transfer of Development Rights Bank Board (TDR Bank Board) since January 2005. The SADC administers New Jersey's Farmland Preservation Program and promotes innovative approaches to

maintaining the viability of agriculture. The TDR Bank Board is empowered to purchase and sell development potential from lands located within municipalities with approved TDR programs, provide TDR planning assistance grants to municipalities and the Highlands Council, and provide guarantees for loans secured with TDR credits. As Executive Director, Ms. Payne oversees the preservation of over 10,000 acres of farmland and the expenditure of over \$80 million each year. To date, New Jersey has preserved over 2,050 farms and 194,500 acres of farmed and forested land. Prior to joining the SADC, Ms. Payne was coordinator of Burlington County's nationally recognized farmland preservation and transfer of development rights programs as well as Burlington County's Planning office. Accomplishments achieved under her direction included establishment of a 4-cent dedicated farmland and open space trust fund tax, NJ State Planning Commission endorsement of a regional Strategic Plan for the Route 130 / Delaware River Corridor, creation of the Burlington County Parks System, and designation of Burlington County as the planning agency for a regional water supply planning initiative.

**Andrew Pitz**, a Registered Landscape Architect, is Vice President of Strategic Policy and Planning for the Natural Lands Trust (NLT). Pitz has dedicated over 25 years to NLT, where he has overseen the preparation and execution of strategic plans, protection programs, and stewardship plans for hundreds of projects. Before joining NLT, Pitz was a project manager in a consulting design firm, and a landscape architect with the U.S. Forest Service. In addition to his work at NLT, Pitz was President and a Founding Board Member of the Pennsylvania Land Trust Association. He has also been a member of the Pennsylvania Greenways Partnership Commission and the National Land Trust Council of the Land Trust Alliance. He is frequently asked to speak on conservation and climate topics at professional conferences and seminars. Concerned about the impact of Climate Change on the conservation movement, Pitz has been researching the relationship between the land and Climate Change for several years. In January 2007, he received intensive training conducted by The Climate Project and subsequently has given over 70 climate lectures in twelve states. Pitz received an A.B. in Government in 1973 from Cornell University and his M.L.A. from SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry in 1977. He resides outside Philadelphia, PA.

**Will Price** has been at the Pinchot Institute since 1999, working on public policy and market-based solutions that improve forest management and advance conservation. His studies on forest certification included projects with state and federal agencies, companies, universities, and Indian tribes. This experience evaluating the feasibility and benefits of certification, and earlier work in NASA's global climate change program, lead to subsequent efforts on better ways to mitigate climate change through forest conservation. He also works with Institute staff on other major initiatives--including the Common Waters Fund in the Delaware River Basin, and Bay Bank in the Chesapeake region. Prior to the Pinchot Institute he consulted with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and with the Forest Service PNW Research Station in Corvallis, OR. Will graduated from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies with a Master of Forest Science degree, and holds a Bachelor's of Science from University of Notre Dame, where he studied ecology.

**Zeyuan Qiu** teaches courses on environmental economics, watershed management, principle of economics, and environmental studies at New Jersey Institute of Technology. Trained as a natural resource and environmental economist, his research interest is to assess how the environmental standards can be achieved and the environmental policies can be implemented cost-effectively by incorporating the fundamental principles in economics and social sciences and the new advances in science and technology including geographic information systems.

**William Rawlyk** joined the Open Space Institute (OSI) in February 2011 as its Field Coordinator for the Middle Atlantic region, currently coordinating its Bayshore-Highlands Fund, a \$6 million dollar re-grant program capitalized by the William Penn Foundation and OSI's New Jersey Loan Fund. For the past 12 years, Bill served as Director of Land Preservation for D&R Greenway Land Trust in Princeton NJ, negotiating over 200 land transactions to preserve over 12,000 acres in central and southern NJ. Bill is a founding trustee of the Hunterdon Land Trust Alliance, serving on its Board of Directors for 13 years, also chairing his local Environmental Commission and as a Trustee of the Association of NJ Environmental

Commissions. Bill also founded and operated an agricultural business on his 4-generation family farm, producing sod for landscaping before conveying most of his land to the state of NJ in 2006 as a nature preserve for grassland birds. Bill is a dedicated lifetime naturalist with a BS degree in Biology from Fairleigh Dickinson University and has worked in watershed conservation in NJ and in Latin America to acquire and protect winter habitat of NJ's migratory birds in the Calakmul Bioserve in Mexico.

**Meredith Reeves**, Manager of Marketing and Special Events, New Jersey Conservation Foundation. A flooded marathon route, a tornado during a track meet and volunteer no-shows. From banquets to bowl games, Meredith Reeves has worked on all types of events and faced all types of challenges. She has marketed hospitality and sponsorship for several NCAA and United States Golf Association championships, in addition to providing on-site assistance for a wide variety of corporate conferences and meetings.

**Greg Rемаud** has been an advocate for land preservation in densely developed communities for more than a decade. He has led and partnered in numerous land acquisition, preservation and restoration projects throughout the Hudson-Raritan Estuary Region. Greg serves on numerous Advisory Boards and has presented on urban land preservation in a variety of forums. He is a trustee on the board of the Meadowlands Conservation Trust, and a board member and past president of the Liberty State Park Conservancy.

**Jared Rosenbaum** is the associate Director of Stewardship at D&R Greenway Land Trust. His role includes restoring ecological communities in D&R Greenway's nature preserves, inventorying rare plant and wildlife communities, surveying for emerging species of invasive plants, and maintaining a publically accessible trail system. He directs the Native Plant Nursery and Native Bulk Seed Production Project, the latter located at the St. Michaels Farm Preserve.

**Elliott Ruga** has been the Senior Policy Analyst for the NJ Highlands Coalition for 5 years. He regularly testifies and submits commentary on Highlands environmental policy to municipal, county, regional, Statewide and national level regulators and elected bodies, the press and in public campaigning. He has also authored the series of 3 white papers that outlined the policy platform for the 2008 Keep It Green campaign.

**Richard Shaw** is the Natural Resource Conservation Service's State Soil Scientist since October 2011. Before returning to New Jersey, Mr. Shaw served as the Project Leader for the New York City Soil Survey Program. He previously worked as a Soil Survey Party Leader in Annandale, New Jersey. He holds a B.S. in Natural Resources Management from the University of Maine and both a Masters and PhD from the Department of Crops and Soils at Rutgers University.

**Ralph Siegel** has been Executive Director of the Garden State Preservation Trust for 7 years and in that capacity has maintained an active schedule of public appearances and training programs, including several Rally conferences. He is also a self-taught "guru" in the development of Powerpoint presentations, for which he has conducted training programs.

**Kevin Sparkman** is the co-founder of FusionSpark Media Inc, an interactive communications agency with more than a decade of experience developing web and interactive projects focusing on conservation and environmental issues. FSM has produced web content strategies locally for Pinelands Preservation Alliance (PPA), New Jersey Future, Raritan Headwaters Association and Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey. He serves on the board of PPA, the Medford Environmental Commission and is past chair of Woodford Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge.

**Lisa Specca, PP, AICP**, is a licensed professional planner specializing in rural sector, environmental and alternative energy planning. Her work includes master plan and ordinance creation for TDR, grid scale solar location, farmland and open space preservation and environmental sustainability. She has served as a staff planner and as a consulting planning expert to NJ municipalities across the state. Ms. Specca

has served as a member of the Governing Body and Planning Board in her hometown of Springfield, Burlington County, and as a gubernatorial appointee to the State Agriculture Development Committee.

**Ben Spinelli** is the former executive director of the New Jersey Office of Smart Growth where he was responsible for the 2007-2009 round of cross-acceptance of the State Development and Redevelopment Plan and the creation of the 2009 version of the State Plan. He worked with all 21 of New Jersey's counties and hundreds of the state's municipalities as well as members of public and non-government organizations to create a balanced approach to planning the state's future in a sustainable manner. Prior to OSG Ben was the Mayor of Chester Township where he served three consecutive three-year terms. As mayor he was widely recognized for implementing a resource-based municipal land use plan that included the preservation of over 3000 acres of open space and farmland during his terms in office. He was an original member of the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council and a founder and the president of the Raritan-Highlands Coalition. Additionally he was the executive director of the Westchester Land Trust in Bedford Hills, NY. Ben was a practicing attorney for over 20 years before entering public service. He is a graduate of Muhlenberg College and Seton Hall University School of Law.

**John Stokes**, former Exec Dir, NJ Pinelands Commission.

**Glenn Sullivan** has been involved in management of lake ecosystems and aquatic and wetland plants since 1993, and has been President and Owner of Allied Biological, Inc. since 2004. He directs some 200+ projects each year focusing on aquatic environments, with emphasis on invasive plant control. Mr. Sullivan also serves as Editor and Past President of the Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society, and as President of the New York State Aquatic Managers Association.

**Eileen Swan** is the Executive Director of the NJ Highlands Council and a former member of Governor McGreevey's Highlands Task Force. She served as Executive Director of the State Planning Commission. Eileen is a former mayor of Lebanon Township.

**Kathleen Thayne**, Major Gifts Manager, New Jersey Conservation Foundation. Kathleen has had several years of experience in development and donor relations at Frost Valley YMCA and New Jersey Conservation Foundation.

**John Tiedemann** is the Assistant Dean in the Monmouth University School of Science and Director of the Marine and Environmental Biology and Policy program. A lifelong resident of New Jersey, he has been professionally employed in the marine and environmental field since 1979 and has worked in both the public and private sectors dealing with New Jersey marine and environmental issues. He has been a member of the Wetlands Mitigation Council since 2003.

**Edward Toth** has been the director of the Greenbelt Native Plant Center since 1998. The 13-acre nursery, greenhouse, bulk seed and seed bank facility is owned and operated by the City of New York, Department of Parks and Recreation. The GNPC is a cooperator in the conservation of the region's native flora through partnerships and programs with the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, the Royal Botanic Garden at Kew, England, the Bureau of Land Management, and the national Seeds of Success program.

**Richard M. Tralies, RLA** holds a bachelors degree in landscape architecture and has 10 years of professional experience. He works on Natural Land Trust's Growing Greener: Conservation by Design program. Prior to joining the Trust in 2008, he was a Planner/Landscape Architect at Boucher & James, Inc., acting as a municipal consultant. Rick has presented Google Earth at PSATS, PALTA, The Schuylkill Watershed Congress and other venues. He has presented Growing Greener and other planning topics at PPA.

**Saulius Vaiciunas** has a Masters of Science in Plant Pathology from Rutgers University and has been the State Survey Coordinator for the NJ Department of Agriculture's Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) program since 2004. He has conducted surveys for many foreign invasive species over the years including insects, plant pathogens, weeds and mollusks. Examples include Emerald Ash Borer, Sirex Wood Wasp, Plum Pox Virus, Sudden Oak Death, Giant Hogweed and *Cernuella virgata*.

**Michael Van Clef** is Stewardship Director at Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space. Mike has a Ph.D. in ecology and 20 years working on the evaluation and stewardship of rare and invasive species, white-tailed deer management, forest health monitoring and natural resource policy. Mike prepared the "New Jersey Strategic Management Plan for Invasive Species" for the NJ Invasive Species Council and serves on the Hopewell Township Deer Management Advisory Committee. Mike regularly provides educational talks related to land stewardship.

**Jon Wagar** is the Vice President for Conservation Programs at Conservation Resources and is Director of Land Acquisition and Stewardship at Schiff Natural Lands Trust. At Conservation Resources, Jon has worked with CRI's President Michael Catania to provide over \$100,000,000 in financial assistance to conservation organizations throughout New Jersey. At Schiff Nature Preserve, located in Mendham, Jon is in-charge of stewardship on over 650 acres of preserved Highlands forest and meadows. His responsibilities at Schiff also include acquisition and preservation of additional open space. From 1999 through 2004, Jon was a member of the staff of the New Jersey Conservation Foundation, where he served as Director of Stewardship and Assistant Director of Land Acquisition and Stewardship. Jon is also a certified AYO trainer for the Land Trust Alliance, and serves as a consultant to help NJ Land Trusts obtain accreditation. Jon holds a B.S. in Biology from Richard Stockton College, was a Peace Corps volunteer in Guatemala, and earned a Master of Forestry Degree from Yale University. Jon is former Chairman of the Mendham Township Open Space Trust Committee, where he worked with volunteers and Township officials to acquire additional open space and lead development of [hikemendham.org](http://hikemendham.org). He currently serves as a founding member of the Mendham Township Green Team, and as the Founding Chairman of the New Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team. Jon is a 2011 Fellow of Leadership New Jersey.

**Courtney Wald-Wittkop** is a Program Specialist with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Green Acres Program. Over the last two years, Courtney has directed her attention to the development of the Blue Acres Program which oversees the acquisition of flood-prone properties to create open space along the State's most severely flooded waterways. Her work has been concentrated in Passaic, Morris, and Bergen counties. Courtney has successfully submitted five Hazard Mitigation grant applications for FEMA funding. These grants provide 90%-75% of the acquisition costs needed to acquire several Blue Acres properties in flood ravaged communities like Wayne, Lincoln Park, Pompton Lakes, and Little Falls. She has also worked with communities throughout the Passaic and Raritan River Basins to help them make their own FEMA grant applications and to encourage them to seek matches to their FEMA applications via the Green Acres Local Assistance Program. In addition to her Blue Acres work, Courtney continues to work with both the Local Governments and Nonprofit Assistance Funding Program which provides loans and grants to municipal and county governments as well as to nonprofit organizations to acquire recreation and conservation lands and the State Land Acquisition Program which serves as the real estate agent for the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), helping to acquire land that is offered for sale by property owners and that will become part of the system of state parks, forests, natural areas, and wildlife management areas. Courtney has been with the Green Acres Program since 2005. She holds a Bachelors degree in Environmental Studies and Geography from the University of Colorado-Boulder and a Masters degree in Land Use Planning & Environmental Geography from Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey.

**Xavier Walters** is president of The Energy Team, and as a BPI Accredited Contractor, and Certified BPI Proctor, he serves Home Energy Team affiliates across the country. Xavier is actively conducting energy audits, air sealing, and whole home retrofits under the New Jersey Home Performance with Energy Star program. As a local affiliate for the Home Energy Team, he facilitates all aspects of business operations with a work load of three to six projects per day. Students and Home Energy Team affiliates come from across the county to train with Xavier and his team, enhancing the mission of the "whole house approach" through energy auditors and energy efficiency technicians. Xavier has worked with local politicians, and as a board member on the Building Performance Contractors Association, he is able to promote the local Green Jobs market. Xavier is an instructor with over 100 hours in classroom and field sessions, bringing real-world scenarios to other people interested in launching new careers, like he did. Xavier volunteers as a committee member for local initiatives including: Relay For Life, My Three Roses Charity Events,

Habitat for Humanity, and many local fundraising opportunities

**Ann Waters**, Monmouth County Planning Board member.

**A. Elizabeth Watson** is a nationally recognized leader in heritage development, community stewardship and rural conservation. She is a co-author of *Saving America's Countryside*, a National Trust for Historic Preservation publication that is the preeminent text for rural conservation. She has served as Chair of the National Coalition for Heritage Areas. As Principal Preservation Planner at John Milner Associates she led major planning efforts for nine heritage areas in the eastern United States. Until 2010 she served for seven years as Executive Director of the Stories of the Chesapeake Heritage Area on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Elizabeth prepared successful management plans for the Delaware and Lehigh Canal National Heritage Corridor, the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District and most recently, as a principal in Heritage Strategies, for New Jersey's Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area. She is recognized for her knowledge, energy and creativity combined with practical experience.

**Heidi Winzinger** joined the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) as Chief of Acquisition in November 2005, overseeing all aspects of land acquisition under the State Farmland Preservation Program. Prior to that time, Heidi was the environmental, project and real estate manager for the family-owned and operated construction / demolition / recycling business, Winzinger Inc. She also assisted with the operation and development of a family restaurant and a redevelopment / adaptive reuse project / artist incubator in downtown Mt. Holly, NJ, which has become a budding artisan and entrepreneurial enclave.

**James P. Wyse, Esq.** has more than twenty years' experience representing land trust organizations and property owners in connection with open space, conservation and farmland preservation transactions. He is currently a partner in the firm of Coughlin Duffy LLP in Morristown, and serves as general counsel to New Jersey Conservation Foundation. Mr. Wyse has handled hundreds of conservation acquisitions from the very simple to those involving thousands of acres and complex funding arrangements. He counsels clients with respect to state statutes and federal tax rules applicable to charitable organizations, including management, operations, and compliance issues. He was legal editor of the most recent revision of Land Trust Alliance's Conservation Easement Handbook, and is a frequent lecturer and author on topics related to the drafting and enforcement of conservation and preservation easements, tax aspects of qualified charitable contributions, complex multi-party land transactions, and lobbying and other operational rules applicable to charitable organizations. His land trust clients have included Upper Raritan Watershed Association (now Raritan Headwaters Association), Harding Land Trust, The Trust for Public Land, Hunterdon Land Trust, Tewksbury Land Trust, Lamington Conservancy, and the New York – New Jersey Trail Conference, among others.

**Tricia Zimic**, South Mountain Conservancy..Tricia is a signature member of Artists for Conservation. The organization's mission is to support wildlife and habitat conservation, biodiversity, sustainability, and environmental education through art that celebrates our natural heritage. Her home and studio are a short walk from South Mountain Reservation, and she is a key player in the South Mountain Conservancy's support team for the forest regeneration project.

**Presenters generously donate their knowledge and experience to share with NJ's conservation community attending the NJ Rally.**

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL THE PRESENTERS!**