2020 RIPARIAN FOREST BUFFER SUMMIT

MARCH 11TH & 12TH

Full Conference Agenda
## Wednesday, March 11th

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<td>10:00 am – 10:15 am</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
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<td>10:15 am – 11:00 am</td>
<td><strong>Seizing this Moment and Staying with it for the Long Haul</strong></td>
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<td>Trees and natural solutions are emerging as a critical component of climate action and water quality improvements. How can we take advantage of being here and now, leverage our collective vision to improve water quality, and ensure our current efforts and building momentum are prepared to take us the distance? It’s easy to be excited when things are taking off, but we need to ensure our efforts can carry us all the way to the finish line.</td>
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<td>Tom Horton, Author, Journalist, and Professor of Environmental Science</td>
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<td>11:00 am – 11:30 am</td>
<td>Remarks from our Leaders</td>
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<td>Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn, DCNR; Deputy Secretary Gregory Hostetter, PDA</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 am – 12:00 pm</td>
<td>Creating and Adopting a Common Buffer Dialogue</td>
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<td>Teddi Stark, Riparian Forest Buffer Program Manager, DCNR; Tracy Pawelski, Senior Communications Council, PPO&amp;S</td>
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<td>12:00 pm – 1:00 pm</td>
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### Creating a Riparian Forest Buffer Workforce Pipeline, CCC Pilot Year | Ballroom 1

At the 2019 Riparian Forest Buffer Summit, the Correctional Conservation Collaborative unveiled a Riparian Forest Buffer Vocational Training that would be piloted that year at the State Correctional Institution (SCI) - Huntingdon. The RFB Vocational Training kicked off in July 2019 and culminated in October 2019 with the 20 participating inmates planting a 2-acre riparian forest buffer on the prison's property. This session will be an overview of how the training went in its first year, lessons learned, and exciting future plans for the program.

Shea Zwerver, PA DCNR; Ryan Davis, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

### PA Department of Community & Economic Development Project Funding Panel | Ballroom 3

A panel of PA DCED program experts will offer information and suggestions for financing environmental improvement projects.

Jessica Trimble, PA DCED; Yvonne Lemelle, PA DCED; John Winters, PA DCED; Gregory Welker, PA DCED

### Interpreting Soils in Riparian Areas | Room 202

Soils are an integral part of a riparian buffer system. Soil characteristics such as drainage, texture, and depth to limiting layer all influence the design of the riparian buffer system and its effectiveness at removing sediments and excess nutrients. This session will explain basic soil forming factors, the different physiographic characteristics that can affect hydrology, soil characteristics most important to consider, and where the landowner can find that information.

Yuri Plowden, PA USDA-NRCS
Ecology of Streams & Riparian Forests: How Streams Work & Role of Forests | Room 207

Trees play critical roles in making streams productive and healthy. Did you know? Trees provide the majority of energy for stream life. Most of that energy comes as dissolved organic compounds we call watershed tea. Forested streams are 2-4x wider than grass buffered streams (2-4x more room for life). Forested streams have 3-5x more life than grass buffered streams. Some stream insects must feed on hardwood tree blossoms before they can reproduce, while others require logs that span the creek to lay eggs above the creek, safe from egg predators in the stream. Our streams provide critical environmental services such as removing nutrients and toxins and do their best work when aided by trees. Forested buffers not only act as filters/barriers that reduce pollutant loading to streams. Streamside trees transform streams so that the stream itself is enabled to deal with the pollutants that reach the channel. Understanding how streams work and the importance of trees to streams is fundamental to engaging landowners and decision makers. Many past participants have found this information transformative and expanded their understanding of how streams work.

David Wise, Stroud Water Research Center

2:00 pm – 2:45 pm Breakout Sessions

Working with Your Nursery: The Importance of Communication & Collaboration | Ballroom 1

Communication and collaboration is critical when working toward shared goals of successful riparian buffer projects. Nursery professionals are part of your team in this process. Topics of this session include communication with the grower, understanding of seasonality of the industry and effect on plant availability, retail vs wholesale, plant specifications, plant protective measures and the effect of invasive species and climate change. We’ll also try to answer these questions - Why can’t I find this plant or why don’t you grow this plant? Time will be provided at the end for attendee questions, concerns and experiences.

Jim MacKenzie, Octoraro Native Plant Nursery, Inc.

Buffer Management: What Is the Role of the Landscape Professional? | Ballroom 3

Like other vegetated conservation practices, riparian buffers require regular, proactive maintenance by individuals who understand the specific environment and stressors at the water’s edge. Without careful management, buffers may quickly become infested with invasive plant species that outcompete young native trees and shrubs. Buffers overgrown with invasives may be unsightly, creating a negative perception about this type of practice, which may discourage others from planting them. Unmanaged buffer plants may suffer from other issues, such as tree protection failure, pests, or damage from inundation or drought. In some cases, landowners have the skills and resources to perform routine maintenance, but frequently, outside help is needed. Landscape professionals who offer maintenance services have a unique opportunity to assist with efforts to support and maintain buffers and ensure long-term survival and aesthetic appeal. Doing this work successfully and profitably may require professionals to adjust their practice model, purchase new equipment, or work with new clients. This interactive session will explore the role of the landscape professional in buffer management.

Beth Ginter, Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professional Certification Program; Justin Ulanoski, Native Creations Landscape Services; Tim Seifarth, Earthbound Artisan LLC.

Multifunctional Riparian Forest Buffer Opportunities in PA | Room 202

Multifunctional riparian forest buffers (MFRFB) integrate the traditional riparian buffer goals of water quality and wildlife with income-generating opportunities. This session explores productive MFRBs in Central Pennsylvania including edible, medicinal, and floral product agroforestry systems. Additionally, this session explores how to design these native plant
systems for production, calculate economic opportunities, understand landowner motivation, and market opportunities for value-added goods and services in the restoration economy.

Andrea Ferich, Ironwood Forestry

**Keystone 10 Million Trees Partnership: Updates from Fall 2019-Spring 2020 | Room 207**

Learn about the immediately approaching spring season logistics plan for obtaining trees and supplies. Potential partners can join this first hour to listen in/gain info on the partnership and its operations, general overview of progress and next 6-month goals.

Brenda Sieglitz, Chesapeake Bay Foundation

| Room 207 |

3:00 pm – 3:45 pm  **Breakout Sessions**

**Developing Effective Planting Plans | Ballroom 1**

This session will show you how to write an effective planting plan for funders, contractors, and landowners.

Teddi Stark, DCNR Bureau of Forestry

**The Benefits of Pre- and Post-plant Vegetation Management for Buffer Establishment | Ballroom 3**

It verges on axiomatic that candidate sites for establishing riparian forest buffers are currently hosting a plant community that is not a recognizable successional stage of native. Common sites range from current pasture or crop land to abandoned crops or marginal land populated by mixtures of exotic trees, shrubs, vines, and persistent herbaceous groundcovers. Successful conversion to forest requires reducing competition from the existing vegetation to provide added trees a free-to-grow condition, creating a belowground soil microbial community compatible with reintroduced native woody species, and preventing re-establishment of an exotic plant community. Operationally, this means planting trees is the middle phase, not the beginning. Aphoristically, the process is a) find the site, b) determine what's there and how long it takes to remove it, c) actually remove it, d) introduce your new plant community, and e) actively encourage optimal growth of your desired community at the expense of undesirable plants.

Art Gover, Penn State

**Market Trends, Value-added Products, and Telling Your Story | Room 202**

Trying to decide what to plant? Looking to add products to sell using your harvests? No matter what stage you are at, it’s always a good time to take a look at the market and think about how your endeavors can align with societal purchasing patterns. In this session we’ll review current purchasing trends along with their historical roots and actively apply this knowledge by designing value-added products to hit identified attributes. This session will go over methods for processing including residential style kitchens and co-packers along with marketing tips for connecting to potential customers. This presentation by supply chain consultant, entrepreneurship extension educator, and farmer, Alicia Anderson, will guide you through the process and help you to achieve your goals.

Alicia Anderson, Penn State Extension

**The Pittsburgh Redbud Project: An Urban Riparian Buffer | Room 207**

The City of Pittsburgh rests along the banks of three major rivers and its shorelines encompass a vibrant network of riparian greenspaces. From Point State Park to the summit of Mt. Washington, residents and visitors alike are drawn to the allure of these urban waterways. An industrial legacy, exotic plant species, and economic development provide unique opportunities for riparian buffer restoration. The Pittsburgh Redbud Project is a community forestry initiative to increase urban riparian tree canopy while highlighting the ancillary cultural
and aesthetic benefits. Since 2016, the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy has planted thousands of trees and complementary plant material within the viewshed of downtown Pittsburgh. Exotic plant species have been removed and replaced with native flowering trees. Swaths of sod have been transformed into planting beds and rain gardens. Tree seedlings have been rappelled down cliffs and others planted by boat. By cultivating partnerships with key property owners and engaging the public through numerous planting and maintenance events, the Redbud Project has created an attractive reminder to celebrate the beauty of urban riparian buffers.

Brian Crooks, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy

3:45 pm - 4:15 pm  Networking and Refreshments | Grand Lobby

4:15 pm – 5:00 pm  Breakout Sessions

The Business End of Multifunctional Buffers: Can I make any money at this? | Ballroom 1
This presentation will cover three core topics: 1. Basic business management concepts necessary to improve landowner (and partnering professionals) understanding of the opportunities and challenges of a start-up multifunctional buffer business. 2. Exploration of potential saleable crops in multifunctional buffers. 3. Identification of potential customers and markets.

Jim MacKenzie, Octoraro Native Plant Nursery, Inc.

Overcoming Maintenance Challenges in Riparian Forest Buffers | Ballroom 3
We will be presenting on issues that can arise during the establishment period and beyond for any riparian buffer. We will be focusing on livestock issues, tree shelter and stake failures, wildlife concerns, natural disasters, and troubleshooting common problems to ensure a healthy successful forested riparian buffer.

Kristen Hoke, Chesapeake Bay Foundation; Ashley Spotts, Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Riparian Forest Buffers for Pollinators and Wildlife | Room 202
Riparian forest buffers are essential not only for water quality, but also for wildlife and pollinator habitat. In our modern landscape which generally lacks high-quality habitat, establishing a riparian forest buffer is a fantastic way to boost populations of pollinators and other important fauna. Moreover, accommodating pollinators and other wildlife in a buffer is simple and only requires some forethought and management tweaks. Landowners are increasingly interested in doing their part to restore pollinator habitat, and this has become a top motivator for people to sign up for a riparian forest buffer. Join Ryan Davis, Forest Program Manager for the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, to learn how to plan for and manage a buffer that is specifically targeted at benefiting pollinator and wildlife populations, and how to harness the interest in pollinator conservation to yield more buffers on the ground.

Ryan Davis, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

25 Years of Insights on Buffer Methods and Insights from Research on Methods | Room 207
The first half of this presentation describes the current methods that Stroud Water Research Center uses for its forested buffer restoration projects, and the reasons underlying those choices of methods. We use 5’ vented tubes, treated oak or fiberglass stakes, container seedlings and contractors to do the installation. More important than (and as costly as) good installation methods are the 4 years of post-planting care and regular status checks that make or break the success of plantings. The second half presents insights from Stroud’s research on buffer methods including: center-hole net method, methods to reduce vole damage (including stone mulch in lieu of herbicide spots), use of pre-emergence herbicide INSIDE tree shelters to eliminate invasives, performance of tree tubes in our context - Tubex Combitube (vented), standard Tubex (not vented), Plantra system (vented), use of 4’ tall fencing to
David Wise, Stroud Water Research Center

5:15 pm – 6:00 pm  **Evening Keynote: Making a Home for the Rain**  |  Ballroom 3
Too often, average citizens ignore this precious and life-giving resource and do not leave the necessary spaces for rain to soak in. Changes to our management practices are needed to include the presence and needs of rain in all of our environments: both built and natural. Artist Stacy Levy works with engineers, ecologists and landscape architects to make a place for rain that is both functional and inspiring: good for the rain and for people too. Levy will present new ways we can encourage people to look at this un-celebrated natural resource.

Stacy Levy, Environmental Artist, Sere, Ltd.

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm  **Networking and Happy Hour**  |  Grand Lobby

**Thursday, March 12th**

8:30 am – 9:15 am  **How to Communicate Effectively with Decision-Makers**  |  Ballroom 3
Elected officials at the local, state or federal level are in the business of developing policy and enacting budgets to support the public good. Whether their motivation in seeking elected office was to protect the status quo or promote a change, legislators are driven to be problem-solvers. This expectation is reinforced by their constituents, with frequent pleas of “there ought to be a law . . .” and “you need to do something about . . . “But solutions are not always obvious or easy. Issues are complex, demands for public dollars are many, and the diversity of interests is immense. As a result, a depth of knowledge on any given topic is sacrificed to learn a little about a lot of different things. Subject-matter experts are valuable resources for a legislator, but only if their knowledge can be communicated effectively. Brevity, simplicity and relatability are key. The most successful communication doesn’t just influence the receiver. It empowers the receiver to share that knowledge and influence others. That is the moment a supportive legislator can become a champion. Ann Swanson and Marel King will share lessons learned from their more than five decades of combined experience working with state and federal officials to translate science into policy.

Ann P. Swanson, Executive Director, Chesapeake Bay Commission; Marel King, Pennsylvania Director, Chesapeake Bay Commission

9:30 am – 10:15 am  **Breakout Sessions**

**Buffers and Floodplains Working Together: In Practice and In Policy**  |  Ballroom 1
Planting riparian buffers enhances natural floodplain functions and provides benefits to communities including improved water quality, enhanced wildlife habitat, cooler stream temperatures, and reduced flood damage. Pennsylvania is promoting riparian buffers with technical assistance and innovative investment to help increase forested land cover and meet Chesapeake Bay and state water quality improvement commitments. One limitation to expanding buffers across Pennsylvania is a lack of landowner demand yet Pennsylvania has a roster of 1500+ properties in the flood hazard mitigation program that offer a potential wealth of opportunity to add forested buffers on floodplain properties. These deed-restricted open space properties must remain undeveloped and buffers can result in flood insurance discounts through the Community Rating System, however planting on flood mitigation properties can come with unique flood related requirements. This presentation will provide a primer on floodplain management and flood hazard mitigation programs that provide opportunity to
increase riparian buffer land cover and explore the pathways, including challenges, to leverage those programs.

Eileen Shader, American Rivers; Liz Deardorff, American Rivers

Reforesting Shallow Brook School: A Case Study in Grassroots Engagement | Ballroom 3

Beginning in autumn 2019, a huge reforestation project broke ground on Northeastern School District property in York County. When completed, the project will total nearly 20 acres of riparian forest buffer and upland lawn conversion. The project alone will complete 1/4 of York County's goal for urban riparian forest buffers and is already accelerating buffer implementation in the county. The project began as the dream of a science teacher in the school district, who through his participation in the Penn State Master Watershed Steward program was introduced to partners at the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay. Together, the group was able to get school board permission and secure funding for the massive project. Scores of volunteers from Master Watershed Stewards and the community are fastidiously maintaining the site and using the project as an advertisement for riparian forest buffers in the region. The reforestation of Northeastern School District serves as a case study in the power of partnership and grassroots engagement, and the project can be replicated across the Commonwealth to help meet our buffer goals.

Jodi Sulpizio, PSU Extension; Ryan Davis, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

How Partnerships Help Volunteer Tree Nurseries Grow | Room 202

Our presentation discusses the immense uplift both Donegal Trout Unlimited and the Penn State Ag and Environment Center experienced when we agreed to merge our separate tree nurseries this year. Our goals were largely to streamline nursery operations and leverage the separate and diverse resources each of our organizations could provide in pursuit of comprehensive watershed restoration projects. Through this presentation, we hope to demonstrate the benefits that organizations can gain through local partnerships, in addition to the benefits that statewide initiatives receive from such partnerships. When small organizations partner for a common goal, resources can be leveraged to achieve spectacular outcomes that either organization may not be capable of achieving on their own. The results of our merged nursery will hopefully serve as an example for many small watershed organizations across Pennsylvania, which proves comprehensive watershed restoration projects are possible at the local level and that through partnership, we can all move the needle on larger statewide goals.

Sarah Xenophon, Penn State Ag and Environment Center; Greg Wilson, Donegal Trout Unlimited

Federal assistance for Forest Buffers: CREP, EQIP, CSP, and other acronyms | Room 207

This presentation will summarize and compare the various forms of Federal assistance (financial and technical) available for riparian forest buffers. CREP will be discussed in detail, as will other program options like EQIP and CSP. Changes and updates for USDA programs will be discussed, including updates related to the passage of the 2019 Farm Bill.

Jim Gillis, USDA NRCS

10:15 am – 10:45 am Networking and Refreshments | Grand Lobby

10:45 am – 11:30 am Breakout Sessions

Accelerating Tree Plantings through Collective Impact with Live Stakes | Ballroom 1

Using live stem cuttings, or live stakes, is an efficient way to save time and money on riparian forest buffer restoration projects. In this classroom session, the Chesapeake Conservancy and
PA DCNR will share how they formed a “Live Stake Collaborative” to collect over 20,000 live stakes to-date through volunteer efforts and distribute them to partners doing restoration projects. Attendees will leave with transferable ideas about using live stakes for riparian restoration, adding organizational capacity through partnership development across sectors, and sharing resources with diverse partners to increase collective impact.

Adrienne Gemberling, Chesapeake Conservancy; Kelsey Miller, DCNR Bureau of Forestry

**Selling Buffers WITHOUT Financial Incentives** | Ballroom 3

For decades, the prevailing thought has been that landowners will only agree to riparian reforestation if there are substantial financial benefits attached, namely through CREP. The advent of flexible non-federal funding for buffers has shown that remarkable progress can be made toward PA’s buffer goals without the promise of rental payments. Join Ryan Davis, a biologist who has years of experience with both CREP and non-federal buffer implementation, to hear tips, tricks, and insight on selling riparian forest buffers without financial incentives and federal programs.

Ryan Davis, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

**Tools for Teaching Kids About Buffers** | Room 202

Are you engaging youth groups and school classrooms to help you plant buffers in your community? Need some fresh ideas for teaching about buffers at community fairs or afterschool programs? Help our future water stewards better understand the benefits of trees along streams through fun, educational tools and activities. This workshop will provide hands-on demonstrations of several activities that you can easily replicate for your own programs. We will include table-top activities that are useful for quick contacts at your exhibits as well as up-and-moving games that can accommodate a full classroom period with students. Come prepared to have fun!

Jennifer Fetter, Penn State Extension; Kristen Koch, Penn State Agriculture & Environment Center; Sarah Xenophon, Penn State Agriculture & Environment Center

**Leveraging Opportunities for Buffers through Municipal Activity** | Room 207

Riparian forested buffers play a critical role in protecting our waterways from the harmful effects of polluted stormwater runoff from developed areas. Regulations at the state-level and regulatory opportunities at the municipal-level create pathways to protect and install buffers, especially in urbanized areas. Not only does this protect the health of rivers and streams in our communities, it ensures connectivity of buffers across rural and developed landscapes. In this breakout session, American Rivers and the Brandywine Conservancy will discuss state regulatory tools available to increase the acreage of protected, restored and planted buffers protecting streams. This breakout session will explore options for municipal action to advance buffer protection including open space policies to generate money for buffer plantings and maintenance. The audience will hear case study examples from around the Commonwealth on local governments’ successes with implementing buffers.

Liz Deardorff, American Rivers; John Theilacker, Brandywine Conservancy

11:45 pm – 12:45 pm **Lunch** | Ballroom 3

1:00 pm – 1:45 pm **Breakout Sessions**

**Seed cleaning and storage** | Ballroom 1

Collecting and cleaning your own seed for planting projects allows you to manage more variables than purchasing seed from an unknown source. While collecting your own seed, there is an opportunity to evaluate site conditions and select comparable source populations to decrease the likelihood of maladapted seedlings. Knowing that the species you want and
the quality you demand are available when you need them, decreases the unknowns that contribute to failure and reduces project costs by breaking your reliance on purchased seed. This presentation will provide information on what should be considered before, during and after gathering to increase your chances of successful seed collecting. Topics will include seed structure, factors that affect your decisions of when and what to collect, and basic storage considerations. There will be time to address some specific seed collection and cleaning questions so come prepared.

Annetta Ayers, DCNR Bureau of Forestry

Do Hellbenders, Freshwater Mussels, and Native Brook Trout Matter? | Ballroom 3
Riparian buffers are one of the most important restoration project types for increasing clean water potential in Pennsylvania and beyond. The significance of this best management practice is well understood but the types of aquatic species that could benefit from their installation is often much less considered when a riparian buffer is installed. WPC staff have been installing riparian buffers in earnest since 2010 and often try to install these practices in watersheds that have several if not all of the important aquatic species (hellbenders, mussels, and brook trout) to WPC scientists and funders alike. These species inhabit different parts of the watershed, headwater areas contain brook trout and the middle and lower portions of the watershed typically contain hellbender and mussel populations. A top down approach to riparian buffer planning can yield the highest return on a conservation investment due to clean "filtered" water high in the watershed which will eventually make its way down to the hellbenders and mussels present lower in focal watersheds.

Eric Chapman, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy

Lessons Learned from Long-term Monitoring of Forest Buffers | Room 202
Over 30 riparian forest buffers in Maryland’s Piedmont and Ridge and Valley provinces were monitored from time of establishment to over 15 years, evaluating tree survival, growth, stream characteristics, temperature, and more. Most forest buffers at 15 years had adequate tree stocking and had developed a closed canopy, creating a changed microclimate for the stream. Invasive species will continue to be problematic and active management is needed. Buffers are one of multiple BMPs contributing to improved water quality seen in grab samples, and ecosystem values are likely to continue to increase for decades. Young buffers average higher infiltration rates than adjacent agricultural areas, an advantage for expected filtering function. Instream stability and benthic macroinvertebrates are variable, particularly with recent hydrology. The 15-year-old buffers are preventing the downstream warming seen earlier in unshaded streams, and moderating temperatures within ranges critical for cold-water fish. Forest buffers are necessary for restored Mid-Atlantic streams, but not sufficient unless combined with other practices that reduce nutrient loading and build a treatment train along flow paths.

Anne Hairston-Strang, Maryland Forest Service; Colleen Kenny, Maryland Forest Service

Utility ROW Riparian Buffers and FirstEnergy Conservation Program | Room 207
Utility ROW are becoming more thoroughly managed and collaboration with the utility is critical for establishing successful buffers within Rights-of-ways. FirstEnergy representatives will also discuss the policies and procedures that are being put in place to establish, maintain and document pollinator habitat within the ROW.

Adam Wentzel, FirstEnergy; Andrea Shannon-Coco, FirstEnergy
Spotted Lanternfly in Natural Landscapes: Beyond the Basics | Ballroom 1
The invasive spotted lanternfly (SLF) is now well known for damaging grapes, fruit trees, and hops, but there are important implications for forests and natural areas, including riparian buffers, as well. This presentation will review the basic ecology, management, and regulatory information related to this species, but it will also discuss the potential behavior and impacts of SLF in forested systems. Though many unanswered questions still exist about SLF ecology and behavior in forests, this presentation will review what information we have gained through recent research. There is much more to this species than its love for grapes and Ailanthus; a deeper understanding of the temporal and habitat factors influencing its behavior may help you proactively manage the threat more efficiently.
Sarah Wurzbacher, Penn State Extension

From Bank to Table: Transforming Buffer Projects with Precision Restoration | Ballroom 3
Precision restoration—projects that are aptly scaled in effective locations at the appropriate time—is a strategy that spurs progress towards water quality goals by aiding both regional planning and local implementation efforts. The panelists for this discussion are all engaged in supporting and improving the restoration process, from planning to reporting. Chesapeake Conservancy (CC) is utilizing high-resolution data and innovative methodologies to identify opportunities for forested riparian buffer projects, including mapping effective variable buffer widths. Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) is restructuring their forested buffer financing program to encourage projects that are more effective in terms of both load reduction and cost. Both CC and CBF are involved in using these datasets and finance strategies to implement high-quality projects with partners and landowners that align with the foundation of precision restoration. Chesapeake Commons is developing a streamlined platform for tracking and reporting implementation efforts across organizations and geographies. Working together, these organizations are strategically remodeling the process for riparian buffer plantings.
Katie Walker, Chesapeake Conservancy; Adrienne Gemberling, Chesapeake Conservancy; John Dawes, Chesapeake Commons

Improving and Enhancing Existing Riparian Forest Buffers | Room 202
There are many opportunities to improve and enhance the functions of existing riparian forest buffer past the planting, establishment, and maintenance activities associated with developing a new riparian forest buffer. This presentation will provide a detailed look at the methods and strategies that can be employed to augment existing riparian forest buffers. This advanced level presentation is for practitioners and planners who wish to improve their understanding and/or help clients manage existing buffers for expanded functions.
Peter Hoagland, USDA NRCS

Understanding and Mitigating the Effects of Roads and Trails on Buffers | Room 207
Roads and Trails change the landscape. If they are near or part of the Buffer understanding how and why that happens will help better manage and improve buffer efficiency.
David Creamer, The Penn State University

3:15 pm – 3:45 pm Closing Remarks | Grand Ballroom
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