



Fall Conference 2017—MACC Academy  
 Saturday, October 28, 2017  
 The Publick House, Sturbridge, MA

**AGENDA**

<b>8:00</b>	Registration Open Coffee and Refreshments; Visit Exhibit Booths	
<b>8:50</b>	First Period Bell – Move to Classrooms	
<b>9:00</b>	<p>First Period Begins – Four Fundamentals &amp; Peer Review Workshop  <i>(choose one)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unit 102: Wetlands Protection Act Fundamentals</li> <li>• Unit 104: Wetland Functions and Values</li> <li>• Unit 202: Protecting Wildlife Habitat</li> <li>• Unit 203: Open Space Planning and Protection</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peer Reviews: When, Why and How to Hire Outside Consultants</li> </ul>	<p>102: Michael Howard, Epsilon          104: Scott Jackson, UMass Amherst          202: Chase Bernier, BSC Group          203: Michele Girard, MACC</p> <p>Michele Grzenda, Weston          Barry J. Fogel, Esq.          Ann Marton, LEC</p>
<b>10:15</b>	Morning Break (20 minutes)	
<b>11:50</b>	First Period Ends	
<b>12:00</b>	Lunch	
<b>12:30</b>	<p style="text-align: center;">Guest Speaker</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program: Helping Communities Prepare for Climate Change and Build Resilience</i></p>	Kathleen Theoharides, EEA
<b>1:00</b>	Second Period Bell – Move to Classrooms	
<b>1:15</b>	<p>Second Period Begins- Four Fundamentals &amp; Floodplain Workshop  <i>(choose one)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unit 103: Plan Review and Site Visit Procedures</li> <li>• Unit 105: Writing Effective Orders of Conditions</li> <li>• Unit 204: Managing Conservation Land</li> <li>• Unit 207: Fundamentals of Wetlands Enforcement</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rivers Beyond Their Banks: Reviewing and Permitting Projects in Rivers and Floodplains</li> </ul>	<p>103: Karro Frost, NHESP          105: Michele Grzenda, Weston          204: Jordan McCarron, Lexington          207: Rebekah Lacey, Esq.          Matt Schweisberg, WSS</p> <p>Nick Nelson, Inter-fluve          Thomas Maguire, DEP</p>
<b>2:30</b>	Afternoon Break (20 minutes)	
<b>4:15</b>	Second Period Ends	
<b>4:15</b>	Networking and Social Hour (cash bar)	Ebenezer's Tavern

## INSTRUCTORS & SPEAKERS

### **Chase Bernier**

P. Chase Bernier, CWB is a Project Manager with BSC Group, Inc. based out of their Worcester, MA office. He holds degrees in Fisheries and Wildlife Technologies and Wildlife Management and is a Certified Wildlife Biologist with The Wildlife Society. Chase has over 11 years of ecological consulting experience and has worked on projects throughout the United States and abroad including projects in Central and South America and New Zealand. His work has focused on wetlands, wildlife, compensatory mitigation, impact assessments, environmental permitting, habitat restorations, biodiversity assessments, and rare species investigations.

### **Barry Fogel**

Barry Fogel is a partner at Keegan Werlin LLP and was the initial member of its Environmental, Municipal and Land Use Group. Mr. Fogel has extensive experience with construction projects that require permits and licenses for activities in and near inland and coastal wetlands and other protected resource areas. He also regularly manages cases involving administrative appeals, resolution of enforcement notices, and civil disputes involving litigation and mediation. Prior to joining the firm in 1991, Mr. Fogel worked for six years as a Deputy General Counsel and Regional Director with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, and before that he served as Counsel to the District of Columbia City Council's Committee on Transportation and Environmental Affairs. Mr. Fogel was a member of the West Newbury Conservation Commission from 2001 to 2012.

### **Karro Frost**

Karro Frost is the Plant Conservation Biologist at Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program. She previously worked for New England Environmental as a Senior Scientist. Karro holds a Master's Degree in Environment, Technology and Society from Clark University. She is a member of the Warwick, Massachusetts, Conservation Commission, and currently serves as vice chair, and served as chair for several years.

### **Michèle Girard**

Michèle Girard is MACC's Associate Director and Education Coordinator and has been with the organization for over 11 years. At MACC she supports the Executive Director with the Board's general business and special projects, helps develop training programs and workshops, and organizes educational programs and conferences. Prior to joining the MACC staff, Michèle served as a conservation commissioner in her town and worked as the Assistant Conservation Administrator for the Town of Boxford. She also served a three-year term as a MACC Director. Michèle volunteers as an overseer for the New England Wild Flower Society and organizes programs for her local land trust.

### **Michele Grzenda**

Michele Grzenda is the Conservation Administrator for the Town of Weston where she administers the Wetlands Protection Act and helps manage over 2,000 acres of Conservation Land. She has over 20 years of experience blending the fields of environmental regulation, land management, and education. Michele currently serves as the Vice President of the Massachusetts Society of Municipal Conservation Professionals. Michele previously worked for Applied Ecological Sciences, LEC Environmental Consultants, Sudbury Valley Trustees, and Massachusetts Audubon Society. She also served as a Conservation Commissioner for the Town of North Attleboro.

**Michael Howard**

Michael Howard is a Principal and Manager of the Ecological Sciences group at Epsilon Associates, Inc. (an environmental consulting and engineering firm) with extensive experience in environmental permitting and regulatory analysis. He is registered as a Professional Wetland Scientist by the Society of Wetland Scientists and is a licensed Certified Wetland Scientist in the State of New Hampshire. He is President of the Association of Massachusetts Wetland Scientists and also serves as First Vice President of MACC. He is a frequent instructor of MACC's "BVW Delineation for Beginners" workshop and units in MACC's Fundamentals for Conservation Commissioners certificate training program. Michael has served as Vice Chairman of the Princeton Conservation Commission and was the Conservation Agent in the Town of North Andover. He is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

**Scott Jackson**

Scott Jackson is Extension Associate Professor in the Department of Environmental Conservation at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. He teaches courses and workshops on wildlife conservation and wetlands ecology, assessment and conservation. Significant integrated research/extension projects include the Conservation Assessment and Prioritization System (CAPS), North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative (NAACC), MA Wildlife Climate Action Tool, and the MA Wetlands Assessment and Monitoring Program. Scott is chair of the Whately Conservation Commission and is vice chair of the Kestrel Land Trust Board of Trustees. Scott currently serves as a Director of MACC.

**Rebekah Lacey**

Rebekah is an attorney with Miyares and Harrington LLP in Wellesley. She represents public and private sector clients on a wide range of local, state and federal environmental and land use law issues, including wetlands permitting, appeals, and enforcement. She is a graduate of Harvard Law School. Before law school, Rebekah worked as an environmental scientist, experience she draws on when legal and technical issues intersect. Rebekah currently serves as a Director of MACC.

**Thomas Maguire**

Thomas Maguire has worked for the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Wetlands and Waterways Programs since 1989. He previously worked for the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation and Federal Emergency Management Agency flood hazard programs. He has a Master's of Science Degree from the University of Massachusetts at Lowell College of Engineering. His specialties include river and flood modeling and stormwater management. He edited the 2002 Hydrology Handbook for Conservation Commissioners and the 1997 and 2008 Massachusetts Stormwater Handbooks, including authoring several of the sections of the Stormwater Handbook.

**Ann Marton**

Ann is the owner of LEC and has been working in the consulting field since 1987 upon her graduation from Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Landscape Architecture. As the Director of Ecological Services, she oversees the company operations while managing the Wakefield Office. Ann is adept at consulting with project team members regarding project design and regulatory implications; assessing land use impacts to wetlands, wildlife, and endangered species; and effectively managing projects to obtain required permits in a timely manner. Ann has provided expert testimony for Middlesex and Norfolk Superior Courts, the DEP Adjudicatory Process, and the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development Housing Appeals Committee and the MA Appellate Tax Board. She has also lectured and instructed seminars on Wetlands, Rare Species, and Planning and permitting for the Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education (MCLE), Boston Bar

Association (BBA), Rhode Island Real Estate Board, Association of Massachusetts Wetland Scientists (AMWS), and Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions (MACC).

### **Jordon McCarron**

Jordan McCarron is the Conservation Stewardship Coordinator for the Town of Lexington Conservation Division. In this role, he supervises land management and stewardship activities on more than 1,400 acres of municipal conservation land by engaging a diverse group of volunteer stewards, neighbors, consultants, and community groups. Jordan has a graduate degree in Environmental Studies from Antioch University New England.

### **Dorothy McGlincy**

Dorothy (Dot) McGlincy is Executive Director of the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions, where she is responsible for fundraising and development, program planning and implementation, advocacy, and assuring that MACC is focused on its mission to protect Massachusetts natural resources through education, advocacy, and support of conservation commissions. She is a Professional Geologist, a Licensed Site Professional, and an environmental professional with 30 years of experience. Dot has been active in leadership roles for several non-profit organizations in Massachusetts over the past 20 years. She has a degree in geology from Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, PA, and has worked in environmental consulting, in the electric power generation business, and for state government.

### **Nick Nelson**

Nick Nelson is a fluvial geomorphologist and regional director for Inter-Fluve, a river and wetland restoration firm. Nick has conducted geomorphic assessments on over 250 river miles and has been involved in dozens of river restoration and dam removal projects throughout MA and the country. Nick has taught at the University of MN, currently teaches at Northeastern University and at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design, and is a technical advisor for the MA Fluvial Geomorphology Erosion Hazard Task Force. Nick has a BA in geology from Williams College and an MS in fluvial geomorphology from Utah State University. Nick currently serves as a Director of MACC.

### **Matt Schweisberg**

Matt Schweisberg is the principal of Wetland Strategies and Solutions, LLC, where he provides assistance to clients seeking to navigate a wide range of regulatory and non-regulatory issues related to wetlands and other aquatic resources. Matt is a Professional Wetland Scientist under the Professional Certification Program of the Society of Wetland Scientists. He is a retired federal wetlands ecologist and wildlife biologist who spent over 32 years with the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency. He has served several times as an expert witness in federal, state, and private litigation. He co-instructs a one-week intensive course on wetland identification and delineation at the Eagle Hill Institute in Maine, and has taught courses in wetland regulation, restoration and creation, wetland ecology, and wetland identification and delineation for federal and state agencies, academic organizations, and environmental consultants. Matt is well versed in all aspects of alternative dispute resolution. He received his degree in Wildlife Management from the University of Maine. Matt currently serves as Vice President of Education for MACC.

**Kathleen Theoharides**

Katie Theoharides is the Assistant Secretary of Climate Change at the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. In this new position created by the Baker administration, Theoharides directs the Commonwealth's climate change program which works across state government and with cities and towns to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the impacts and opportunities from climate change, with a major focus on mainstreaming climate change into the daily work of state and local government. Originally trained as a field ecologist Theoharides has run an environmental consulting business, served as the Executive Director of a Massachusetts land trust, and worked on climate science and policy at Defenders of Wildlife in Washington, DC. An avid naturalist, Theoharides studied ecology at Dartmouth College and UMass-Boston and has served as a Conservation Commissioner in Grafton and Westborough.