

Fall Conference 2018—MACC Academy
Saturday, October 20, 2018
Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, Leominster, MA

AGENDA

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| 8:00 | Registration Open Coffee and Refreshments; Visit Exhibit Booths | |
| 8:50 | First Period Bell – Move to Classrooms | |
| 9:00 | First Period Begins – Three Fundamentals & Two Workshops <i>(choose one)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 102: Wetlands Protection Act Fundamentals • Unit 103 Plan Reading and Site Visit Procedures • Unit 204: Managing Conservation Land: Inventories, Goals, and Conflicts • Trail Work & the MA Wetlands Protection Act: What Happens when These Paths Cross • Forestry Regulations & Practices: Updates & Opportunities | 102: Michele Girard Unit 103: Michael Howard & Greg Hochmuth 204: Jordan McCarron Elizabeth Armstrong, Jennifer Hughes, Dave Rimmer Ariel Maiorano, Jeff Ritterson, Jennifer Fish, Sean Libbey, Michael Fleming |
| 10:15 | Morning Break (20 minutes) | |
| 11:50 | First Period Ends | |
| 12:00 | Lunch | |
| 12:30 | <i>Roundtable Q & A/Discussions</i> | Dorothy McGlincy Michael Howard |
| 1:00 | Second Period Bell – Move to Classrooms | |
| 1:15 | Second Period Begins- Three Fundamentals & Two Workshops <i>(choose one)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 104: Wetland Functions and Values • Unit 105: Writing Effective Orders of Conditions • Unit 202: Protecting Wildlife Habitat • Building Sustainable & Accessible Trails in Massachusetts • Riverfront Area: Putting the Regulations into Practice | Unit 104: Matt Schweisberg 105: Michele Grzenda 202: Chase Bernier Dick O'Brien and Peter Westover David Cameron, Richard Kirby, Mary Rimmer |
| 2:30 | Afternoon Break (20 minutes) | |
| 4:00-4:15 | Second Period Ends | |
| 4:15 | Networking and Social Hour (cash bar) | |

INSTRUCTORS & SPEAKERS

Liz Armstrong

Liz Armstrong is a volunteer for the Appalachian Mountain Club and serves on its Board of Advisors. She also volunteers for Essex County Greenbelt Association, Friends of North Andover Trails and is a regional coordinator for the Bay Circuit Trail (BCT), covering Georgetown, Boxford, Middleton, North Andover and Andover. The BCT is a 230-mile continuous trail linking some 40 Boston area towns via mostly greenways including state forests, town parks, non-profit land trust parcels and private properties. The co-existence of trails and wetlands has been her focus for past five years, helping to fund, design, gain approvals and organize volunteers to build wetlands crossings in her town and her BCT region. Liz advocates for a better understanding by trail volunteers of the Wetlands Protection Act and its requirements; but, more importantly, for a better understanding of the approval process for specific types of trail projects by local conservation commissions.

Chase Bernier

P. Chase Bernier, Certified Wildlife Biologist, 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 12 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.

David Cameron

David Cameron, Professional Wetland Scientist, has served as the Wetlands & Waterways Program Section Chief in MassDEP's Western Regional Office (WERO) since 2015. He has 26 years of professional, applied experience in wetlands science, wildlife biology, ecological design and restoration, and natural resources policy analysis, having worked for a number of regional engineering firms prior to joining MassDEP.

Jennifer Fish

Jennifer Fish is the Director of the Service Forestry Program at the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation. The Service Forestry Program is responsible for the administration of the Forest Cutting Practices Act (Ch. 132) and the Forestry Current Use Program (Ch. 61). In addition, she administers the Working Forest Initiative, which is a suite of outreach programs geared toward private landowners, including Estate Planning, Foresters for the Birds, and Forest Stewardship. Jennifer is a co-author of the 2013 edition of the Massachusetts Forestry Best Management Practices Manual. She has a Bachelor of Science in Forest Management/Forest Resources Management from Pennsylvania State University and a Master of Science in Natural Resources Management and Policy from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Michael Fleming

Mike Fleming currently works part-time as the Conservation Agent for the Town of Shirley. Mike retired from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) in 2015. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry (UMass Amherst). Mike started out as a Forester working on State Forests and Parks land in Essex, Middlesex, & Berkshire Counties, and with private and municipal forest landowners in Worcester County. Mike then served as the SuAsCo Watershed Team Leader with the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (Massachusetts Watershed Initiative), a broad partnership of

state & federal agencies, non-profit organizations, businesses, local officials, and individuals working on watershed related issues, and was appointed as one of two gubernatorial appointees to the SuAsCo Wild and Scenic River Stewardship Council. During his last 12 years with DCR, Mike served as the Massachusetts Forest Legacy Program Coordinator, a US Forest Service funded program with a goal to protect important forest resources.

Michèle Girard

Michèle Girard is MACC's Associate Director and Education Coordinator and has been with the organization for over 12 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 has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Government from Harvard College and a Master of Science in Natural Resource Management and Administration from Antioch University New England. She 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 21 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.

Greg Hochmuth

Greg Hochmuth is employed by Williams & Sparages LLC, in Middleton, MA. Greg has 20 years of experience in environmental consulting, specializing in wetland ecology, wetland restoration and replication, wildlife biology, vernal pool assessments, soil evaluation, subsurface sanitary disposal system design, impact statement preparation, peer review, environmental regulatory analysis, expert testimony, environmental permitting and project presentation before local and regional agencies. He is an experienced biologist with extensive experience in wetland delineation and functional assessments using federal and state methodologies. Greg is on the Board of Directors at MACC and is a regular instructor for MACC courses. In addition to his MACC affiliation, he is a Professional Wetland Scientist, New Hampshire Certified Wetland Scientist, Registered Sanitarian, Certified Soil Evaluator, Certified Title 5 Inspector, a Licensed Designer of Subsurface Sanitary Disposal Systems and Conservation Commission Member in the Town of Merrimac, MA.

Michael Howard

Michael Howard is a Principal at Epsilon Associates, Inc. (an environmental consulting and engineering firm based in Maynard, MA) 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 currently President of MACC and Immediate Past President of the Association of Massachusetts Wetland Scientists. 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.

Jennifer Hughes

Jennifer Hughes has been the Conservation Administrator for the Town of North Andover since 2008. She oversees environmental permitting and management of town owned open space. She is currently chair of the Ipswich Conservation Commission where she has served for over 18 years. She previously worked as a wetland scientist for Massachusetts based consulting firms and as a Teacher/Naturalist for Massachusetts Audubon Society. In addition to spending time with family she enjoys running, skiing, kayaking, biking and rock climbing.

Richard Kirby

A member of the LEC team since 1999, Richard Kirby has been devoted to conducting ecosystem evaluations, wetland boundary determinations, riverfront studies, wildlife habitat evaluations, construction monitoring, wetland restoration and replication monitoring, and preparing environmental permit applications following federal, state, and local regulations for an array of residential, commercial, and infrastructure projects. Richard is adept at managing and guiding complex projects through the environmental permitting processes and has provided expert testimony at the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development Housing Appeals Committee, Division of Administrative Law Appeals, and DEP Adjudicatory Process. Richard received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Biology from Boston University, has taken graduate courses in Soil Science at the University of Massachusetts, and has lectured at the Massachusetts Municipal Association on Wetlands Protection in Massachusetts.

Sean Libbey

Sean Libbey began his career as a private forester in Maine in 1996. He moved to Massachusetts in 2005 and has been working for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a Service Forester since 2008. He has a Masters in Forest Science from University of Maine, Orono.

Ariel Maiorano

Ariel Maiorano is the Assistant Director of the Shaping the Future of Your Community Program at Mass Audubon, where she works as a facilitator, researcher, educator, and advocate to advance equitable development through resilient, climate-smart infrastructure.

Jordan 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.

Dick O'Brien

Dick O'Brien is a Partner at Conservation Works, LLC. He has extensive experience as a conservation land manager with a broad range of hands-on skills and knowledge in the design and construction of sustainable and accessible trails (complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act), development and implementation of land management plans, and visitor impact assessment and management. Prior to joining Conservation Works, Dick worked as the Regional Director for The Trustees of Reservations, and as the Director of the Buck Hill Conservation Education Center. Dick has a Master of Science degree in Forestry, and is experienced in arboriculture, landscape construction, grounds maintenance, and tree and shrub pruning. He is an avid hiker, snow-shoer, gardener, and wood worker.

David Rimmer

Dave Rimmer joined Greenbelt in 2001 as the Director of Land Stewardship. During his time at Greenbelt, Dave has overseen the successful implementation of conservation restriction and property monitoring programs, the creation of the Osprey Program as well as the oversight of significant construction projects at Greenbelt's headquarters on the Cox Reservation. Dave lives in Newbury with his wife Mary, has two grown sons and enjoys hunting, fishing, and boat picnics on Crane Beach. Dave is also a licensed US Coast Guard captain. He studied wildlife biology at the University of New Hampshire and began his professional career in 1985 working for The Trustees of Reservations at the nearby Crane Reservation (Crane Beach) and the Crane Wildlife Refuge.

Mary Rimmer

Mary Rimmer founded Rimmer Environmental Consulting in 1994, where she is principal and sole proprietor, providing independent consulting services specializing in wetland delineation, restoration, permitting and management. In addition to representing public and private and non-profit clients, she provides peer review services to a number of municipalities in the North Shore area. Mary previously worked as an Environmental Planner at the BSC Group and served as the first Conservation Administrator for the Town of Manchester, MA from 1990-1994. Mary Rimmer is graduate of University of NH having majored in Environmental Conservation and obtained a Masters from Boston University in Energy and Environmental Sciences. She is a certified Professional Wetland Scientist by the Society of Wetland Scientists.

Jeff Ritterson

Jeff Ritterson is a Field Ornithologist at Mass Audubon, where his focus is on working landscapes and forest management, including the coordination of the Foresters for the Birds program. Originally hailing from Delaware, Jeff attended graduate school at UMass Amherst, and remained in Massachusetts for the vibrant conservation community and magnificent forests.

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. He currently serves as the Vice President of Education for MACC. Matt is well versed in all aspects of alternative dispute resolution. He received his degree in Wildlife Management from the University of Maine.

Pete Westover

Pete Westover founded Conservation Works with Terry Blunt in 2005. In addition to his work for Conservation Works, Pete is a frequent adjunct professor of ecology at Hampshire College, a contractor for the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, and formerly long-time Conservation Director for the Town of Amherst. He has over 40 years of experience in trail protecting, designing, and building. He serves on the Mass Board of the Conservation Law Foundation, is a long-time board member and contractor to the Hitchcock Center for the Environment, and is a founder of Whately Land Preservation. He is a co-founder of Valley Land Fund and the Massachusetts Society of Municipal Conservation Professionals, and was a long-time advisor to the Kestrel Land Trust. Pete has a Bachelor of Science from Oberlin College and Master of Science from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. He has taught forest management at Antioch Graduate School, is the author of *Managing Conservation Land*, and is co-editor of *Bird Finding Guide to Western Massachusetts* and the recent *Harvesting History*, a history of farming in Amherst. He is also a marathon runner and a recipient of numerous awards for conservation work in the Pioneer Valley.



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