



**EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA  
GREENWAYS & TRAILS SUMMIT**

A TWO-DAY SUMMIT FOCUSING ON  
**PLANNING, BUILDING,  
MARKETING, &  
SUSTAINING**

LOCAL AND REGIONAL TRAILS

**& MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2018  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2018**

ARTSQEST CENTER AT STEELSTACKS, BETHLEHEM, PA





## WELCOME

Our planning committee welcomes all who are involved in planning, designing, constructing, maintaining, using, and promoting trails and greenways in eastern Pennsylvania.

\* Keynote speaker Laura Johnston \* Mobile workshops \* Networking \*

\* Accessibility \* Best practices \* Case studies \*

\* Mobile Technology \* Regional Trail Planning \* Utilities \* Trails and MS4 \*

\* Trail network updates \* Tracking trail use \* Grants and funding \*

The D&L Trail Alliance wishes to thank the 2018 Summit's enthusiastic planning committee members who represent eastern Pennsylvania's greenways and trails community:

*Claire Sadler (Chair), Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor*

*John Boyle, Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia*

*Bryan Cope, Northampton County*

*Christine Dettore, PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources*

*Tim Fenchel, Schuylkill River Greenways National Heritage Area*

*Dawn Gorham, Wildlands Conservancy*

*Andy Hamilton, September 11th National Memorial Trail*

*Fallon Horan, Monroe County Planning Commission*

*Chris Linn, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission*

*Jean Lynch, PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources*

*Teresa Mackey, Lehigh Valley Planning Commission*

*Frank Maguire, Pennsylvania Environmental Council*

*Patricia McCloskey, Appalachian Mountain Club*

*Stephanie Milewski, Barry Isett & Associates*

*Daniel Paschall, East Coast Greenway Alliance*

*Lance Prator, Portland Borough/Liberty Water Gap PA*

*Janet Sweeney, Pennsylvania Environmental Council*

*Owen Worozbyt, Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority*





# THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

## SUMMIT FUNDERS



*This summit is funded in part by the Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Pennsylvania Recreation Trails Program funded through the Federal Highway Administration.*

## EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA TRAIL LEADERS — \$1,000 +



## MOBILE WORKSHOP SPONSOR — \$750



## REGIONAL TRAIL PARTNERS — \$500



## LOCAL TRAIL PARTNERS — \$250

WILDLANDS CONSERVANCY ♦ BARRY ISETT & ASSOCIATES

## IN-KIND SUPPORT



## October 1, 2018 Monday

**7:30-8:30AM**      **REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST** (*Creativity Commons, 1st Floor*)

**PLENARY SESSIONS** (*Blast Furnace Room, 2nd Floor*)

**8:30-8:40AM**      **OPENING REMARKS**  
*Lamont McClure, Northampton County Executive*

**8:40-9:30AM**      **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**  
*Laura Johnston, conservation, outdoor, and creative professional, AT & PCT Hiker*

**9:30-9:45AM**      **BREAK** - Visit the exhibitors on the 2nd Floor

### **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

**9:45-10:45AM**      **ADAPTATIONS LARGE AND SMALL FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION** (*Blast Furnace Room, 2nd Floor*)  
> If you have ever wondered. "Is my trail accessible?" "How can I adapt areas I currently have for recreation to make them accessible?" Or any questions on accessibility, disability, or the ADA? Find out the answers to these questions and more in a relaxed and informative atmosphere with accessible outdoor recreation specialists. Bring pictures or a flash drive of areas you have questions on, and we'll discuss solutions to accessibility.  
*Brian Rogers, ADA Accessibility Coordinator, LVCIL*  
*Bob Amelio, ADA Accessibility Coordinator, LVCIL*



**HOW TRAILS CAN HELP THEIR LOCAL MS4** (*Red Cinema, 1st Floor*)

> What is MS4? Why should a trail group care about a municipal stormwater permit? How can trail groups and other non-profit organizations help their local MS4 achieve permit compliance? Learn about the MS4 permit and how your trail organization can assist your local municipality with their MS4 permit.  
*Paul Grella, MS4/CAFO Coordinator, PA Department of Environmental Protection*  
*Stephanie Milewski, Project Manager, Barry Isett & Associates*

**MOTORIZED TRAIL DEVELOPMENT** (*Blue Cinema, 1st Floor*)

> The motorized recreation community is a growing, yet typically misunderstood and underrepresented user group. This session will provide a view into the world of motorized recreation by discussing wants and needs, reviewing potential economic impacts and investigating what a motorized trail system looks like using the growing network in the Anthracite Coal Region as an example.  
*Kyle Buchter, Owner, Off Road Consulting*  
*Alex MacDonald, Chief of Greenways, Trails, and Planning Division, PA DCNR Bureau of Recreation & Conservation*

**PUTTING FAT ROADS ON A DIET: SAFELY NARROWING ROADS AND BRIDGES FOR WALKING AND BICYCLING TRAILS**

(*Musikfest Café, 3rd Floor*)

> Why are our roads and bridges so fat? How do we change this public space to create safe areas for walking and bicycling? This session will present several case studies where PennDOT roadways/bridges and Philadelphia roadways were modified to allow construction of shared use paths and sidewalks. Examples include a road diet in Washington Crossing to construct sidewalks/trails, eliminating accel/decel lanes for a shared use path, and narrowing a bridge to close a gap in the Schuylkill River Trail.  
*Chris Stanford, Project Manager, Michael Baker International, Inc.*

**10:45-11:00AM**      **BREAK** - Visit the exhibitors on the 2nd Floor

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

11:00-12:00PM

### TRAIL APP: TECHNOLOGY AND TRAILS *(Blast Furnace Room, 2nd Floor)*

> Many organizations are interested in creating an app, but don't know where to start. This session will walk through the design, development, and functionality of Wildlands Conservancy's mobile app and then take users on a guided walk to experience how mobile apps can enhance a wide variety of trail experiences. Prior to attending the session, all attendees are asked to download the "Wildlands Conservancy" app.

*Michael Hock, GIS Specialist, Wildlands Conservancy*

*Nic Ziegler, Conservation Associate, Wildlands Conservancy*

### CONNECT THE DOTS (DESIGN OF THE STREET) FOR STRONGER MULTIMODAL COMMUNITIES *(Red Cinema, 1st Floor)*

> This session will place emphasis on coordinated planning and design in small, urbanized towns to accommodate future trail connectivity. The presentation will feature a case study of Bath Borough in the Lehigh Valley to convey how communities can be planning in sync to adapt to growth, revitalization, and increased multimodalism. Implementation strategies and urban design ideas will be shared as part of the LVPC Connect the DOTS Program which periodically selects one community for tailored research and analysis in tackling issues of transportation connectivity and community development.

*Whitney Burdge, Urban Design Planner, Lehigh Valley Planning Commission*

*Brian Hite, Senior Planning Technician, Lehigh Valley Planning Commission*

### NATURE-BASED PLACEMAKING: HOW DO COMMUNITIES AND BUSINESSES PREPARE FOR ECO-TOURISTS

*(Blue Cinema, 1st Floor)*

> This session looks at how to revitalize communities through utilizing natural assets as economic generators – Nature-Based Placemaking. Discuss the importance of understanding the demographics and psychographics of your existing customer and your potential customer. Learn how the community and the business district can be prepared for the growing customer demands and become a Nature-Based Place.

*Julie Fitzpatrick, Assistant Director, PA Downtown Center*

## PLENARY SESSIONS *(Musikfest Café, 3rd Floor)*

12:00-1:00PM

### LUNCH & PLENARY SPEAKER

*Cindy Adams Dunn, Secretary, PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources*

1:15-2:15PM

### WALKING BREAK

*Briefly stretch your legs on the Hoover Mason Trestle or South Bethlehem Greenway before afternoon sessions!*

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

2:15-3:15PM

### THE "JUST RIGHT" TRAIL USER COUNTING AND SURVEYING PROGRAM

*(Blast Furnace Room, 2nd Floor)*

> Do you want to count or survey trail users? How do you start and maintain a counting or survey program that's right for you? With whom can you collaborate? Government agencies, trail groups, and others have different needs and motivations as well as resources available for collecting trail user data. This panel will explore local, regional, state, and national counting and survey programs, the needs and motivations behind them, and the experience of those administering them.

*Torsha Bhattacharya, Director of Research, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy*

*Brian Greene, Trail Programs Manager, Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor*

*Ray Bieak, Secretary/Treasurer/Administrator of Trail Projects, Ironton Rail-Trail Commission*

*Shawn Megill Legendre, Senior Research Analyst, Delaware Valley Reg. Planning Commission*



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## Monday, Oct. 1 continued from previous page

2:15-3:15PM

### **TREES AND TRAILS: INTEGRATING RIPARIAN BUFFER RESTORATION INTO TRAIL DEVELOPMENT** *(Red Cinema, 1st Floor)*

> Wildlands Conservancy is developing a riparian buffer gap analysis for Lehigh Valley streams. Using 1-meter landcover data, we located gaps in buffer coverage and identified restoration needs, including the riparian zone along trails and greenways in the Lehigh Valley. Wildlands will present the results of the analysis, including opportunities for restoring and enhancing buffers along Lehigh Valley trails, and strategies for enhancing wildlife habitat and recreation simultaneously.

*Kate Ebel, Senior Environmental Specialist, Wildlands Conservancy*  
*Michael Hock, GIS Specialist, Wildlands Conservancy*

### **CONNECTING PEOPLE AND PLACES: BRANDING AND MARKETING TRAIL NETWORKS TO MAXIMIZE OUTCOMES**

*(Blue Cinema, 1st Floor)*

> As trail networks grow, they have the potential to deliver far-reaching ROI. How we package the promise and tell the stories of these systems has a direct effect on how people perceive and use them—are they tools for tourism and economic development, local amenities, vital community assets, active transportation systems, or all of the above? This session will explore the intricacies of place branding and content marketing strategies to maximize the brand and the potential of trail networks.

*Anya Saretzky, Project Manager of Trail Development, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy*  
*Christine Reimert, Executive VP, Devine + Partners*

3:15-3:30PM

**BREAK - Visit the exhibitors on the 2nd Floor**

### **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

3:30-4:30PM

### **CLOSING STUBBORN GAPS** *(Blast Furnace Room, 2nd Floor)*

> Pennsylvania's vision is to develop a statewide trail network for recreation, transportation and healthy lifestyles but there are over 250 gaps hindering our progress. DCNR has formed an interagency team to evaluate our current gap collection process and identify ways to accelerate our ability to close challenging gaps. Learn about the NEW gap collection process, how trail developers are closing costly, complex gaps, and engage in a sharing of lessons learned.

*Diane Kripas, Division Chief, PA DCNR Bureau of Recreation and Conservation*  
*Frank Maguire, Program Director of Trails & Recreation, PA Environmental Council*

### **WALK/BIKE LV: A NEW REGIONAL VISION FOR TRAILS AS TRANSPORTATION**

*(Red Cinema, 1st Floor)*

> For decades trail, road, and transit planning were isolated activities. But, as the Lehigh Valley added hundreds of thousands of new residents the need to provide a coordinated and connected strategy for the transportation system has emerged. Learn and contribute to the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission's and Lehigh Valley Greenways' merging effort to explore the creation of a seamless trail, sidewalk, transit and roadway system through the creation of an active transportation plan.

*Becky Bradley, Executive Director, Lehigh Valley Planning Commission*  
*Geoff Reese, Director of Environmental Planning, Lehigh Valley Planning Commission*



### **GREENING THE GREENWAY: ASSESSING AND PRIORITIZING ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION OPPORTUNITIES**

*(Blue Cinema, 1st Floor)*

> Greenway trail developers, particularly those building trails in more developed urban/suburban areas, should leverage opportunities to connect with and restore natural resources. By doing so, trail users will have more opportunities to see and experience aquatic and terrestrial resources as they bike, walk, or otherwise enjoy the greenway. This presentation will summarize how trail developers can assess and prioritize ecological restoration opportunities along and close by the trail.

*Paul Racette, Watershed Program Manager, PA Environmental Council*

4:30PM

**DEPART FOR EVENING SOCIAL EVENT (SEE EVENTS and MOBILE WORKSHOPS PAGE)**

**Tuesday, Oct. 2, 2018**

**7:30-8:30AM**      **REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST**      (*Musikfest Café, 3rd Floor*)

**8:30-9:00AM**      **PLENARY SPEAKER**      (*Musikfest Café, 3rd Floor*)  
*Lincoln Steward, Long-distance cyclist and trail advocate*

**9:00-9:15AM**      **BREAK - Visit the exhibitors on the 2nd Floor**



**BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

**9:15-10:15AM**      **TALE OF TWO TRAILS: GAINING PUBLIC SUPPORT** (*Blast Furnace Room, 2nd Floor*)

> Learn successful strategies to gain public support for trail planning in the best of times and the worst of times. This session will present a comparison of two recently completed trail feasibility studies from suburban communities in Chester County. Through these real world examples, find out ways to inspire community support and advance implementation on trail projects, including securing grant funding for design and construction.

*Natasha Manbeck, Senior Project Manager, McMahan Associates, Inc.*

*Jason Lang, Director of Parks and Recreation, East Goshen Township*

*Mark Gordon, Director of Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer, East Goshen Township*

**EVALUATING PROPERTY RIGHTS AND COMPENSATORY VALUE BEFORE THE UTILITY TAKES PART OF YOUR TRAIL**

(*Red Cinema, 1st Floor*)

> This session will review property rights and utility use objectives from the perspective of the trail owner whose goal is to improve compensatory and restoration outcomes. Participants will learn about land and trail title, including surface, subsurface and aerial rights; temporary vs. permanent utility easements; valuation and takings compensation.

*Andrew Strauss, Principal, Strauss and Associates / Planners*

**ROYERSFORD RIVERFRONT PARK AND TRAIL** (*Blue Cinema, 1st Floor*)

> This presentation will showcase the evolution of Royersford's urban waterfront from an industrial area to an emerging ribbon of green along the banks of the Schuylkill River. From a past where there was no public access to the river, the Borough's vision for the Royersford Riverfront Park and Trail has been steadily implemented and is a driving force in revitalize the banks of the Schuylkill River and the town.

*Drew Sonntag, Vice President, Urban Research and Development Corporation*

**10:15-10:30AM**      **BREAK - Final opportunity to visit exhibitors on the 2nd Floor**

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

**10:30-11:30AM**      **RAILROADS, TRAIL CROSSINGS, AND THE PUC** (*Blast Furnace Room, 2nd Floor*)

> Pennsylvania leads the nation in the number of operating railroads and the most rail trail projects. It's not surprising that to close a critical trail gap may require acquiring railroad property or crossing a railroad. Learn how to approach railroad operators, the role of PA Utility Commission, and process to develop trail crossing agreements.

*Michael Sorbo, Bureau Director, PennDOT Bureau of Rail Freight, Ports, and Waterways*

*Rodney Bender, Manager of Transportation Division, PA Public Utility Commission*

**THE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES OF URBAN WATERFRONT TRAILS** (*Blue Cinema, 1st Floor*)

> This session lays out the challenges and the opportunities for urban communities planning or trying to develop waterfront greenways. Many waterfronts have been developed directly to the shoreline, thus posing constraints and obstacles to greenway development. Given the benefits of offering waterfront access to communities, the challenges are many times worth the fight.

*Michael Connor, Director, NV5 Philadelphia*

*Robert Armstrong, Mgr. of Preservation and Capital Projects, Philadelphia Parks & Recreation*

*Lindsay Breedlove, Senior Associate, Pepper Hamilton LLP*

**Tuesday, Oct. 2** continued from previous page

11:30AM-5:00PM

MOBILE WORKSHOPS

***Pick up your boxed lunch from the tent outside and board buses.***

***Buses depart promptly at 12:00PM.***

## EVENTS AND MOBILE WORKSHOPS



**Monday, Oct. 1, 2018**



**SOCIAL EVENT: RECEPTION AT NATIONAL MUSEUM OF INDUSTRIAL HISTORY**  
*(Directions available at registration)* Enjoy an evening reception of networking and socializing at the National Museum of Industrial History with dinner from Green Harvest Emporium. The Museum will be open for touring during the event and Molly's Irish Grille will be on site with beer and wine cash bar.

**Tuesday, Oct. 2, 2018**

**BUS TOUR 1: LEHIGH VALLEY TRAIL GAPS** *(Bus will pick up /drop off outside ArtsQuest Center)* Participants will learn about successful techniques to deal with common trail gap challenges, suggested partnerships to leverage funding and expertise, and ways to incorporate riparian buffer projects into trail projects. The bus will take folks to the D&L trailhead in North Catasauqua for a one mile round trip walk led by D&L staff to the new pedestrian bridge over Dry Run in Northampton. Then participants will ride the bus to Jordan Park in Whitehall and be provided bikes to ride six miles roundtrip on Jordan Creek Greenway led by Wildlands Conservancy staff who will highlight the recent trail gap closure and adjoining riparian buffer projects.

**BUS TOUR 2: CHERRY VALLEY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE** *(Bus will pick up /drop off outside ArtsQuest Center)* On the drive to Cherry Valley, participants will enjoy a bus tour that follows the alignment of the Stroud Bike2 Nature Trail, Bike Route V, and the emerging September 11th National Memorial Trail. Upon arrival at the Refuge, the group will eat lunch during a presentation by US Fish & Wildlife Service on restoration of a former golf course recently added to the Refuge followed by a 45 minute walking tour of the property. To conclude, there will be a presentation highlighting the Stroud Region Trail Gap Analysis and how the Stroud Greenway will connect into the emerging county wide trail system in Monroe County.



# THE SPEAKERS

**Bob Amelio** has 28 years life experience with a mobility disability which gives a unique perspective. He has been performing accessibility surveys and ADA trainings for the past 14 years. He is a founding member of the Lehigh Valley Freewheelers adaptive sports program. He is an accessibility advisor for the DCNR, Northampton County Open Space Committee, Allentown Parks and Recreation, Wildlife for Everyone, Friends of Minsi Lake, Friends of Leaser Lake, and Hawk Mountain (2017 National Trails Award).

**Rob Armstrong** is the Preservation and Capital Projects Manager for Philadelphia Parks and Recreation. His projects include several trail projects, including trails which make up the Circuit Trail system in Philadelphia, including several Schuylkill River Trail and East Coast Greenway projects. Rob also works on several historic preservation and capital projects for Parks & Recreation. In his free time, he enjoys hiking and bicycling on the many trails in Philadelphia and the surrounding region.

**Rodney Bender** is the manager of the Transportation Division with the PA Public Utility Commission. Mr. Bender has a Civil Engineering degree from the University of Pittsburgh, Johnstown and is a licensed Professional Engineer. Mr. Bender began his career as an engineer with the Department of Environmental Protection and has spent the last 20 years with the PUC in Rail Safety. In 2011 he became manager of the Transportation Division which oversees the Commission's Rail Safety Section.

**Torsha Bhattacharya, PhD** joined the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy in 2017 and heads the organization's data collection and analysis efforts as Director of Research. In this role, she oversees the national effort to quantify the numerous benefits of trails to communities. She previously was an assistant professor of transportation management at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Her interests include active transportation, healthy/resilient communities, and transportation accessibility, sustainability, and equity.

**Ray Bieak** is a member of the Ironton Rail-Trail Commission, serving as Secretary/Treasurer and as Administrator for Trail Projects. In this role, he oversees charity events, pursues grants for trail construction and amenities, leads volunteer work days, and hosts historic walks. Ray served in the Air Force and worked for over thirty years at Western Electric/ATT MicroElectronics/Lucent Technologies. He has a B.S. in Business Administration from Lehigh University.

**Becky Bradley** has 20 years of experience in city, regional, economic development, historic preservation, and transportation planning, including significant implementation experience in small town revitalization, roadway re-design, and trail construction. She has been the Executive Director of the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC) since August 2013 and is leading a \$3.3 billion regional transportation planning program, and balancing the needs of the rapidly evolving Lehigh Valley.

**Lindsay Breedlove** is a senior associate in the Trial and Dispute Resolution Group and Health Sciences Department at Pepper Hamilton in Philadelphia. She works with clients of all sizes – from Fortune 100 multinational corporations to privately held companies – to find practical solutions to legal problems, manage risk, and litigate by-the-company cases. She is also an avid cyclist and represents the City of Philadelphia on a pro bono basis in litigation related to the City's efforts to build a linear park and trail along the former K&T Railroad path.

**Kyle Buchter** is owner of Off Road Consulting, a local company dedicated to off road education and exploration. Kyle is a certified trainer in multiple vehicle platforms and has been involved in the off road industry for over 20 years.

**Whitney Burdge** is an urban design planner in the Lehigh Valley with experience as a city planner in London, UK, and with place-making/ community development experience in struggling countries in the global south. She holds two Master's degrees from the UK with focus on the inter-relationship between urban-planning, architecture, cultural identity and globalization, and volunteers with several organizations in her community.

**Michael Connor, PE, LEED AP BD+C** oversees NV5's Philadelphia office which is composed civil engineers, landscape architects, and trail & greenway planners. Michael draws from his interdisciplinary experience collaborating as a civil engineer with landscape architects, and other technical specialists on projects ranging from active transportation, to green stormwater infrastructure, public art, and waterfront redevelopment.



**Cindy Adams Dunn** was appointed by Governor Tom Wolf to be the sixth secretary of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) in 2015, returning to the agency where she worked under three governors over the last two decades. As DCNR Secretary, Cindy promotes forested buffers along the state's streams and rivers, green infrastructure to protect water quality, green buildings to reduce energy costs and hedge against climate change impacts, and more opportunities for children of all ages and socioeconomic backgrounds to spend more time in nature. From 2013 to 2015, Dunn had served as the president and chief executive officer of PennFuture, a statewide environmental advocacy organization. Prior to her time at PennFuture, Dunn served in numerous leadership posts at DCNR including Deputy Secretary of Conservation and Technical Services from 2007-2013, where she led DCNR's conservation landscape program and oversaw the community conservation partnerships grant program, which provides \$30-\$60 million annually for conservation and recreation throughout the commonwealth. Dunn's other leadership roles include serving as the executive director of Audubon Pennsylvania from 1997-2003 and as the Pennsylvania program director for the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay for 10 years. When not championing the efforts of DCNR, Dunn enjoys the natural and recreation resources the agency works hard to protect and promote through hobbies that include birding, canoeing, fishing, and hiking. Cindy believes her best contribution to the environment is "introducing others to nature."

**Kate Ebel** is the Senior Environmental Scientist at Wildlands Conservancy where she works on such projects as large-scale stream and floodplain restoration, dam removal, riparian buffer restoration, invasive species management, and naturalization of open space. She has been working for the last four years to build partnerships and restore stream health throughout the Lehigh River watershed and surrounding areas.

**Julie S. Fitzpatrick** has been with the Pennsylvania Downtown Center since 2005. She has an MS degree in Community and Regional Planning, a BA degree in Art History and Anthropology from Temple University, and has done coursework in their landscape architecture program. She serves on the Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape Leadership Committee, the Pennsylvania Pedestrian & Pedacycle Advisory Committee, the Marietta Restoration Assoc. board, and lives in a 200 year old home along the Susquehanna River & trail.

**Mark Gordon** is the Director of Code Enforcement / Zoning Officer for East Goshen Township in Chester County PA. Mark has a B.S. in Environmental Engineering Technology from The Pennsylvania State University. In addition to Mark's duties as the Director of Code Enforcement he is the project manager for the Paoli Pike Trail project, which is currently in in the design phase. Mark is currently working with all the property owners along the Paoli Pike Trail to secure the required trail easements.

**Brian Greene** is a Lehigh Valley resident who enjoys the local trails and rivers. He joined the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor staff in 2017 as Trail Programs Manager and oversees the Trail Tenders and Trail Patrol volunteer programs along with the Trail Town program. Brian has a B.S. in Biology from Wofford College and a M.S. in Natural Resources from Cornell University, and has conducted research on amphibians, invasive plants and water across the United States and abroad.

**Paul Grella** has a broad perspective on Pennsylvania's government services and environmental regulatory responsibilities from his experience as a construction inspector for the Department of Transportation and through various positions with the Department of Environmental Protection. Grella has also worked in the private sector to maintain a balanced approach to his current position as a regulator. For the past eight years Grella has coordinated the MS4 program in the Northeast Region.

**Brian Hite** is the Senior Planning Technician at the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC). Prior to the LVPC, Mr. Hite spent 25 years in the heavy truck industry as a mechanic and supervisor and attended Penn State University for Business Logistics and Supply Chain management. Mr. Hite has spent his entire life as a resident of the Lehigh Valley, serving as the Public Information officer for the Lehigh Valley County Animal Response Team for the past 7 years as well as serving as a Commissioner on the South Whitehall Township Planning Commission for the past 9 years.

**Mike Hock** joined Wildlands in 2017 as a Geographic Information System (GIS) Specialist. He holds a M.S. in ecology from Binghamton University where he spent time as a teaching assistant. Prior to coming on board, he completed an internship with Lehigh Gap Nature Center. A Lehigh Valley native, Michael is enthusiastic about the outdoor opportunities the area provides. His hobbies include hiking, fishing, travel and photography.

**Laura Johnston** is a conservation and creative professional. She worked with the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) and Conservation International (CI) for a decade on a variety of conservation projects around the world; as a trail correspondent for "Sounds of the Trail Podcast" while thru-hiking the Appalachian Trail (AT) and Pacific Crest Trail (PCT); as a trail steward for the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and a brand and marketing ambassador for Salazon Chocolate creating partnerships to benefit the AT, PCT and Continental Divide Trail (CDT) and now as a writer and podcast contributor for conservation, trail and outdoor organizations. Laura earned a MALS on human values and environmental ethics focus from Georgetown University, a BA in International Relations and a BA in Political Science from Virginia Tech. Currently Laura writes for conservation and outdoor organizations including The Trek, Patagonia, Osprey, "Backpacker Radio Podcast," "Outdoor Biz Podcast" and "Dear Nature Podcast." Laura is from Northern Virginia just outside of Washington, D.C. She has also lived in Germany, Kenya, Switzerland and Peru. She loves spending time with family, hiking, swimming, skiing, doing yoga, and volunteering with the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC) as a trail maintainer and Washington to Washington, bringing young kids from Washington DC, Michigan and New Orleans for annual camping trips. You can read more about her, her hikes and her writing here: [www.heygirlhikes.com](http://www.heygirlhikes.com)



**Diane Kripas** serves as the Division Chief of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Conservation Partnerships Division. She leads a division dedicated to fostering partnerships between nonpublic and public agencies to encourage the protection of Pennsylvania's outstanding natural resources, developing a statewide network of greenways and trails, and expanding community recreation opportunities. For over 14 years, she has served as the DCNR lead of Lehigh Valley Greenways.

**Jason Lang** is the Parks and Recreation Director for East Goshen Township. Since 2015, he has helped secure \$4.6M in grants for four capital park projects. He is a Certified Park and Recreation Executive, one of four in Pennsylvania, and recently created NRPA's National Summer Camp Dance initiative. Active in PRPS, he is also the chair of the Opioid Task Force and Program Chair for the 2018 and 2019 annual conferences.

**Shawn Megill Legendre, AICP** started with the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, the federally-designated metropolitan planning organization for Greater Philadelphia, in 2011. Shawn helps administer DVRPC's Regional Trails Program, a capital grant and technical assistance program for trail planning, design, and construction. This included overseeing acquisition and installation of 16 permanent trail user counters. Shawn has a Masters in City Planning from the University of Pennsylvania.

**Alex MacDonald** serves as the Chief of the Trails, Greenways and Statewide Planning Section in the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation. His work guides DCNR's implementation of the State's Land and Water Trail Network Strategic Plan by providing support and resources to plan and implement trail and greenway projects with the principal goal of having a trail within 15 minutes of every Pennsylvania citizen. Alex has been with DCNR since 2008 working to advance trails and greenways. Prior to his time at DCNR, he worked as an Environmental Planner with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and also a Historic Preservation/Environmental Planner in southwest Georgia.

**Natasha Manbeck P.E., AICP** has over fifteen years of experience in the fields of transportation planning and engineering with a focus on coordinating land use and transportation systems. She is currently a Senior Project Manager for McMahon Associates, Inc., in Exton, PA, where she oversees a broad range of transportation planning and conceptual engineering projects for government clients. As a mother of two and an avid walker and runner, Natasha has a passion for trail planning projects.

**Frank Maguire** is the Pennsylvania Environmental Council's Program Director of Trails and Recreation. Frank has over a decade of trail work experience across the Mid Atlantic having served as the Regional Director for IMBA and founding a trail consulting firm that focused on trail training and development. Since joining PEC in 2015, Frank's efforts have focused on several large trail initiatives, including the Industrial Heartlands Trails Coalition and the Circuit Trails Coalition.

**Stephanie Milewski** is a registered landscape architect with 20+ years of experience in outdoor recreation and trails. As the former Trail Manager for Lackawanna Heritage Valley and member of the planning committee for NEPA Trails Forum, Ms. Milewski was approached by DEP to encourage nonprofits to engage with local municipalities to help them achieve permit compliance. In her new role at Barry Isett & Associates, Ms. Milewski works with local municipalities to help them achieve MS4 permit compliance.

**Paul Racette** has over 30 years of environmental science experience with federal agencies, consulting groups, and educational/nonprofit organizations. Over the last 10 years he has focused on stormwater management and watershed restoration programs. At PEC he has managed stormwater control measure projects and educational programming, and facilitated water trail and ecological restoration studies. He holds Biology (BS) and Environmental Science (MS) degrees.

**Geoffrey Reese, PE** has thirty-eight years experience in stormwater management engineering and a wide variety of planning including water supply and sewage facilities, ground water protection, hazard mitigation, stream quality impairment mitigation, climate change, housing, natural heritage inventory, natural resources protection, and park, recreation and open space. He has recently worked on the Lehigh Valley Return on Environmental Study and updates to both Counties' Livable Landscape Plans.

**Christine Reimert** has provided communications counsel to the Circuit Trails for nearly a decade as part of her agency practice at Devine + Partners that includes more than 25 years of experience in public relations, issues management, media/spokesperson training and content management for a variety of industries and nonprofit organizations. For the Circuit, she has been at the center of designing and implementing its brand refresh, website development, and content management strategies.



**Brian Rogers** has a B.S. in both civil engineering and teaching. 25 years of experience in the ADA, and over 15 years of experience teaching children with disabilities. Conducted hundreds of accessibility site surveys, ADA trainings and presentations. Organizer of Award winning "Fishing in The Park" outdoor recreation program, and Technical Advisory Committee member for the PA Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

**Anya Saretzky** joined Rails-to-Trails Conservancy in 2015 as a project manager for the Greater Philadelphia area, focusing on the Circuit regional trail network. Before coming to RTC, she worked with a variety of nonprofit organizations whose missions reflect her passion for promoting sustainable communities. She holds a Masters in Environmental Studies and a Certificate in Nonprofit Administration from the University of Pennsylvania, as well as bachelor's degree in sociology from the College of New Jersey.

**Michael Sorbo, PE** has over twenty-five years of experience in engineering. Currently, Michael is PennDOT's Bureau Director in the Bureau of Rail Freight, Ports and Waterways. Since joining the Department in 1996 he has served as railroad engineer and chief railroad engineer and in 2014 received the Department's Star of Excellence award. Michael has a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering and is a US Army veteran. Michael is a registered professional engineer and is an active member of the American Railway Engineering and Maintenance-of-Way Association.

**Drew P. Sonntag** is a partner at URDC and has been involved in the design and planning for communities for over 30 years. His background in landscape architecture and experience with trail, greenway and open space planning along and community revitalization planning provides him with unique insight into how trails can foster economic revitalization of a community.



**Lincoln Steward** is a long-distance cyclist and trail advocate from Nazareth, PA. He developed an appreciation for endurance cycling in Colorado before moving back to the Lehigh Valley. In 2016, Lincoln decided to bike 284 miles in 24 hours on the D&L Trail to challenge himself and to raise awareness of the trail as an important regional resource.

**Chris Stanford** is a professional civil engineer, professional traffic operations engineer and project management professional with 24 years of experience designing/managing trail and transportation projects in eastern PA. He has managed a wide range of projects with a value up to \$32 million dollars through the entire planning, design and construction process. He holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Lafayette College and a Master's Degree in Civil Engineering from Villanova University.

**Andy Strauss, AICP/PP** is a principal of Strauss and Associates/Planners out of Trenton, NJ. Mr. Strauss is a licensed professional planner and member of the American Institute of Certified Planners. Mr. Strauss' professional practice covers two fields: 1) general land use planning and zoning; and 2) management of land acquisition projects for parks, habitat preservation and public access. Clients include government, nonprofit organizations and private entities. Mr. Strauss divides his time between Pennsylvania and New Jersey projects. Mr. Strauss holds a Masters of City and Regional Planning from the University of Pennsylvania (1986) and a B.A. from Grinnell College (1982). Since 2008 he has been an adjunct professor of City Planning at the University of Pennsylvania teaching a graduate seminar in land conservation finance. Prior to initiating his practice in April 1995, Mr. Strauss served as project manager for the Trust for Public Land and as a policy advisor to New Jersey Governor Tom Kean.

**Nic Ziegler** joined Wildlands in 2014 as a naturalist, sharing the wonder of the natural world with tomorrow's environmentalists and the greater community. In 2016, he joined the conservation department as associate. He holds a B.S. in science and literacy from Wright State University. As a transplant from the flat lands of western Ohio, Nic enjoys exploring and protecting the mountainous backdrop of his adopted home.

**During breaks, please visit our exhibitors on the 2nd floor:**

- **PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources**
- **Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor**
- **Northampton County**
- **September 11 National Memorial Trail Alliance**
- **Urban Research & Development Corporation**
- **Schuylkill River Greenways National Heritage Area**
- **East Coast Greenway Alliance**
- **Monroe County Planning Commission**
- **Traffic Planning & Design**
- **Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission**



**NOTES**

# NOTES



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