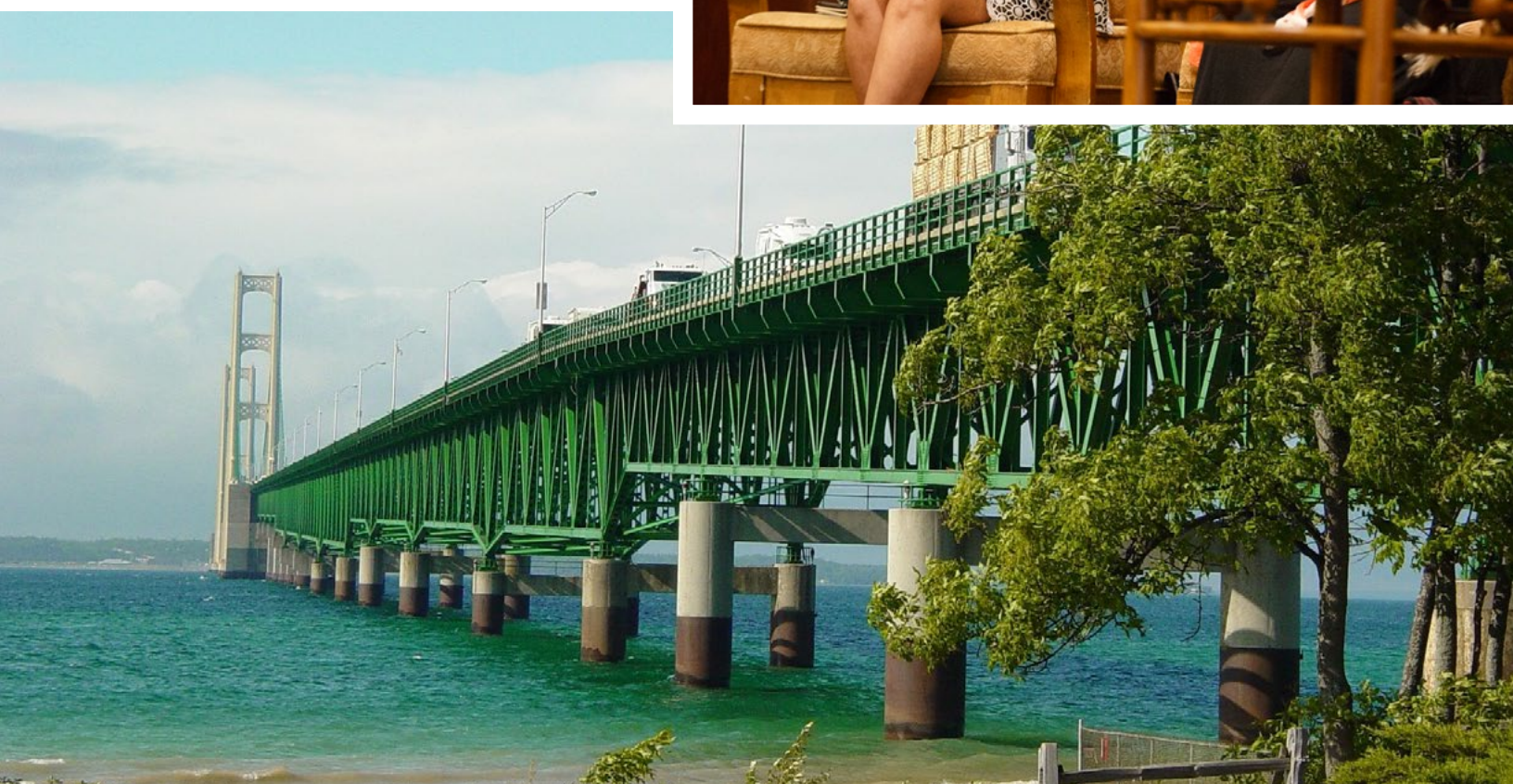




river RALLY

education • inspiration • celebration

June 21–24, 2019
Cleveland, Ohio



A PRODUCTION OF RIVER NETWORK
www.riverrally.org

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS!

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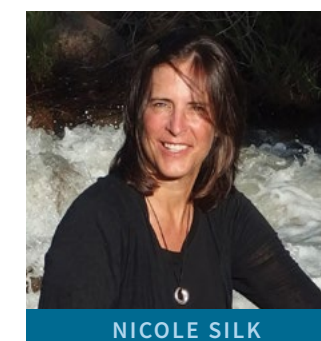
Natural Resources
Defense Council
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WELCOME TO RIVER RALLY 2019

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As we gather along the banks of the Cuyahoga River, we mark the last time this river caught fire from unregulated pollution 50 years ago, a pivotal event that sparked the environmental movement that led to the establishment of the Clean Water Act. This year, our program features speakers who will illuminate how far we have come over the past 50 years, candidly reflect on where we stand today, and deliver game-changing insight for ensuring everyone has access to clean water and healthy rivers, both urban and rural, for the next 50 years.



NICOLE SILK

Each day of River Rally, you'll be kept busy with plenaries, keynotes, workshops, and field trips designed to build your toolbox and confidence. This year's themes all intersect with considerations of equity, diversity, and inclusion—we are intentional about building this into our entire program as we continue to build a more inclusive movement for the waters of our country. You will find the atmosphere at River Rally warm and welcoming, inclusive of all perspectives, and exceptionally interactive.

This year, River Rally will include Idea Exchanges (see pages 8–9) on key issues and other topics to help identify progress and challenges on important issues at the local and state level around the country and identify opportunities to work together to achieve a bigger result. Idea Exchanges on Saturday and Sunday will be followed by commitments shared at the end of the conference on Monday.

As with all River Rally programs, we begin with an opening reception the evening of the first day (June 21st). We will celebrate this year's River Heroes and present the new Emerging Leader Award on June 22nd. The agenda offers social time with your peers, movies about connecting people and saving rivers, and opportunities to connect over conversation. River Rally is a community—*your* community.

We hope that you'll leave River Rally 2019 feeling empowered to build a more sustainable and equitable water future, with elevated hope and promise for a future where healthy rivers and clean water are paramount. We are glad that you are here!

Nicole Silk, President
River Network

IMPORTANT INFO

River Rally App

Access up-to-date schedules and create a personal itinerary, download materials shared by workshop presenters, find maps to conference areas and local points of interest, and read through background information for speakers. Find the River Rally mobile app by searching for “River Network” in your Android or Apple app store, and download the River Rally 2019 app. The app is connected to your conference registration for your convenience.

Rise and Shine

Breakfast will start at 7:00am every morning, with substantive content beginning at 7:45am. You don’t want to miss a minute of announcements, keynotes, or plenaries!

Registration

Conference registration and check-in is located on the 6th floor, just off the grand foyer near the Orchid Ballroom. Open hours:

Friday: 8:00am–6:00pm

Saturday: 7:00am–7:00pm

Sunday: 7:00am–4:00pm, 7:00pm–9:00pm

Monday: 7:00am–2:00pm

Q&A

Pick up your 2019 River Rally t-shirt and find answers to all your conference-related questions! Our crew will be guarding the lost-and-found here, helping presenters load workshop materials into the conference app, and pointing you in the right direction. Open hours:

Friday: 8:00am–6:00pm

Saturday: 7:00am–4:00pm

Sunday: 7:00am–4:00pm

Monday: 7:00am–1:00pm

Mentoring

Did you make an appointment with a mentor this year? Connect at the bottom of the stairs on the 6th floor at your scheduled time.

Workshop Evaluations

Your feedback matters! Your reflections help us to assess the effectiveness of River Rally learning opportunities and make improvements for next year. After each session, please complete a short survey in the conference app, or find a paper evaluation in the workshop room that can be left with any Rally staff member or volunteer.

Wi-Fi

Attendees staying at the Westin have access to free wireless internet throughout the hotel. Presenters will have dedicated internet access in the workshop rooms.

Exhibitors

Make sure to take time during breaks and receptions to visit the exhibit tables set up on the 6th floor. Learn more about the nonprofit organizations, public agencies, businesses, foundations, professionals, and academic programs who are showcasing their products, services, and resources that can help you and your team succeed.

Posters

This year, a select number of posters will be available to view, which will highlight a variety of programs and projects based out of educational institutions, agencies, and nonprofit organizations. These are intended to encourage discussion and facilitate the exchange of current best practices pertaining to river monitoring, restoration, protection, conservation policy, and education. Be sure to stop by and take a look!

Scholarship Recipients

If you’ve received a scholarship, we ask that you fill out a thank you postcard to our generous supporters. Please stop by registration to get your postcard. Thank you!

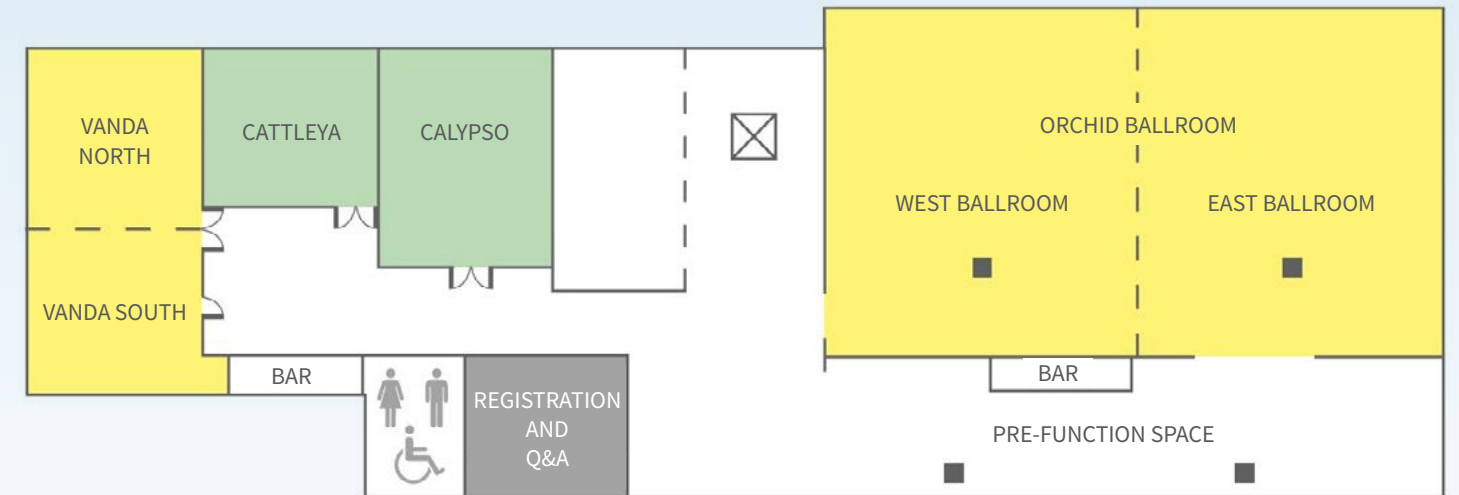
Media at River Rally

By entering Rally, you agree that your voice, name, and image may be recorded by various media, and you authorize use of these materials by River Network. Please notify one of our staff members if you wish to be excluded.

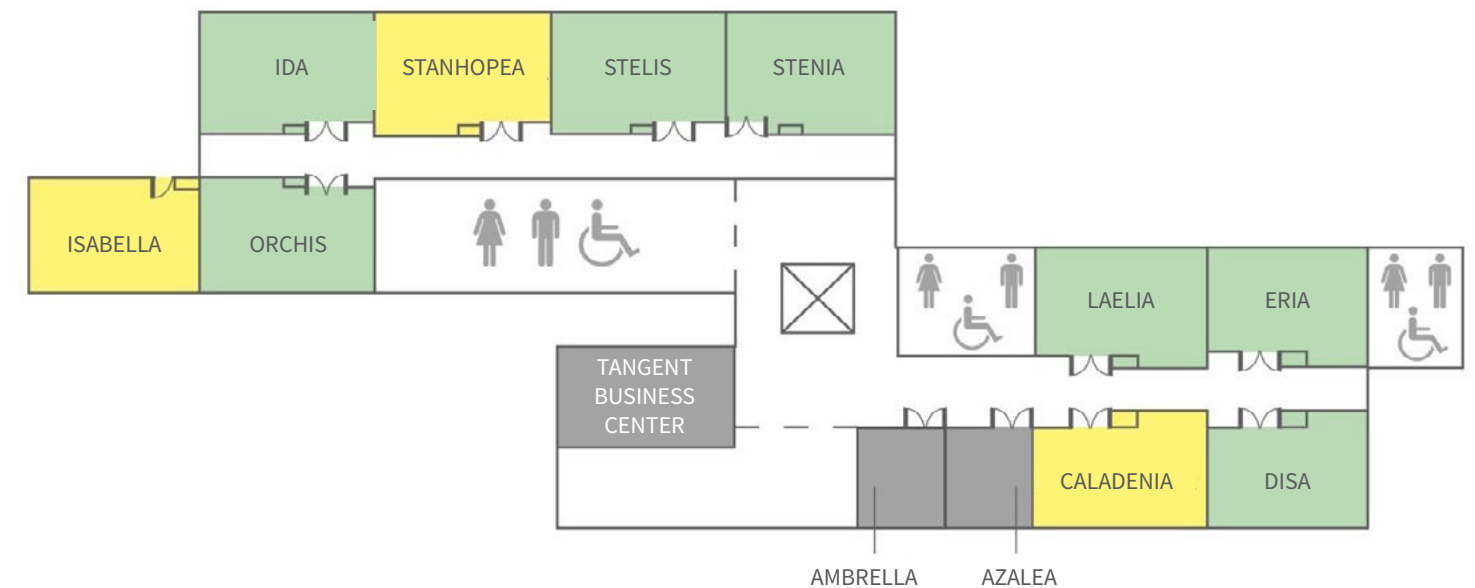
River Rally is an interactive space for anyone interested in river and water issues to engage in a variety of topics. We recognize and honor the value of diverse perspectives and strive to create a safe place for all participants to connect, converse, and share their knowledge with each other. We do not, however, tolerate behavior that threatens, harasses, or otherwise jeopardizes this community and any individuals in it. Please share in our collective responsibility to create and hold a space for the benefit of all who attend River Rally.

HOTEL MAPS

6th FLOOR



7th FLOOR



2019 AGENDA

FRIDAY, JUNE 21 ST	
4:30pm	Welcome Reception
5:30pm	Opening Remarks and Cuyahoga–From Flame to Fame, an American River
7:00pm	Dinner On Your Own
SATURDAY, JUNE 22 ND	
7:00am–9:00am	Breakfast + Keynote–Water & Democracy
9:30am–11:00am	Workshops
11:30am–12:45pm	Idea Exchanges
12:45pm–1:45pm	Lunch + Networking
2:00pm–3:30pm	Workshops
4:00pm–5:30pm	Workshops
5:30pm–7:00pm	Awards Reception & Celebration
7:00pm	Dinner On Your Own
SUNDAY, JUNE 23 RD	
7:00am–9:00am	Breakfast + Plenary Panel–Water Equity, Security, & Climate Risk
9:30am–11:00am	Workshops
11:30am–12:45pm	Idea Exchanges
12:45pm–1:45pm	Lunch + Networking
2:00pm–3:30pm	Workshops
4:00pm–5:30pm	Workshops
5:30pm–7:30pm	Dinner On Your Own
7:30pm–11:00pm	Evening Program–Film Screenings, Discussion, & Open Mic
MONDAY, JUNE 24 TH	
7:00am–9:00am	Breakfast + Plenary Panel–The Changing Face of Agriculture
9:30am–11:00am	Workshops
11:30am–1:00pm	Lunch + Idea Exchange Commitment & Closing Remarks
1:00pm–6:30pm	Field Trips and Intensive Workshops

STAY CONNECTED

Official hashtag: **#RiverRally2019**
Facebook: **facebook.com/rivernetwork**
Twitter: **twitter.com/rivernetwork**
Instagram: **river_network**

Join the buzz, and share your thoughts, photos, and River Rally highlights!

WORKSHOP TRACKS

Working with Farmers and Ranchers

We all need food and fiber, but what does it take to have agriculture and healthy rivers exist side-by-side? Workshops under this theme show what is possible in collaboration with farmers and ranchers, how considerations of equity and justice relate in rural landscapes, how communities have stood-up against bad actors, and how to build thriving partnerships that result in improvements to water contamination and river flows.

Building Resilient Cities and Communities

With increasing numbers of cities and communities vulnerable to floods and droughts, we are seeking your insights for how to build resiliency into plans for the future. Are you working to build a future for your community where the river contributes to its economic and social vitality? Are you working to reduce harm to the most vulnerable members of your community? Workshops under this theme connect to these and related considerations.

Pursuing Safe, Clean and Affordable Drinking Water

Everyone needs safe, clean and affordable water to drink. However, drinking water may not be as safe as generations of Americans have come to expect and a growing number of people in our country face unaffordable water bills while water utilities struggle to fund maintenance or replace aging pipes. How do we address these challenges in both urban and rural areas?

Advancing Robust and Effective Water Laws and Policies

Does your work include empowering citizens, organizations, and governments to protect, strengthen, and implement water laws and policies? Does your work include new water law and policy innovations that support conservation or address concerns of those who are more vulnerable due to income, influence, or discrimination?

Expanding Impact through Science, Technology, and Monitoring

Workshops in this track will share innovations, best practices, and success stories about scientific and technical approaches, highlighting tools and resources river champions and water advocates can use to expand their impact on the ground and in their organization.

Sustaining Strong Leaders, Organizations and Coalitions

Workshops under this theme will offer information and skill-building opportunities on leadership and professional development, organizational and financial health, EDI (equity, diversity and inclusion), and topics in management, fundraising and communications to help nonprofit board and staff members be more effective in their river and watershed work.

Civic Engagement for Our Water Future

The cornerstone of a vibrant democracy is an engaged and empowered electorate, one that is informed, shows up at public meetings, votes in elections, and demands accountability. These workshops help demystify civic engagement and participation and understand how that engagement can be activated to achieve goals related to clean water and healthy rivers.

Innovative Solutions from the Great Lakes Region

We believe that the unique challenges and opportunities in the Great Lakes Region offer important examples for other regions to learn from and potentially emulate. These workshops give additional special attention to effective efforts and innovative solutions within this region.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

River Network seeks to promote equity, diversity, and inclusion in our work and in the work of organizations across our network. Workshops that intersect water and equity, diversity, inclusion, or climate justice are noted with a ▲ next to their titles.

LIGHTNING ROUNDS

Sunday morning's workshop session will be dedicated to our short format rapid-fire presentations. In one 90-minute session, each workshop room will host three back-to-back 20-minute presentations related to the same workshop track. It is sure to be an exciting, information-packed experience!

IDEA EXCHANGES

River Network is excited to launch **IDEA EXCHANGES**, unique opportunities to connect during River Rally and beyond, to build your knowledge and network related to specific issues in your community. With support from skilled facilitators, you have two opportunities to participate in structured conversations designed to:

1. Build peer connection and support on key challenges faced by your community.
2. Explore collaboration opportunities, peer support, and training needed for progress; uncover opportunities for greater collective impact across the nationwide network.
3. Envision new peer support networks needed to address key issues.
4. Identify connection opportunities for continued discussion to build knowledge following River Rally.
5. Explore with peers the need for creating a more diverse, powerful, inclusive, and connected network of leaders and advocates.

SATURDAY, 11:30-12:45 – Choose from 12 IDEA EXCHANGE topics including:

Clean, Safe and Affordable Drinking Water

- **Drinking Water Sustainability** – Provide adequate availability of drinking water to all people at affordable rates while also ensuring healthy waterways including approaches like water conservation, efficiency, and water reuse to ensure sustainable and reliable water supplies *Disa*
- **Addressing Specific Drinking Water Contaminants** – Help members of your community know if there are contaminants (e.g. lead, PFAS, etc.) in their tap water and find ways to tackle drinking water contamination through approaches including policy, law, and source water protection *Eria*
- **Equitable Water Infrastructure Policy and Approaches** – Use existing or new sources of water infrastructure funding in ways that create investment with more equitable results for our communities or focus on innovative policies and funding mechanisms that can scale up practices with multiple community benefits (e.g. source water protection, green infrastructure) *Laelia*

Robust and Effective Water Laws and Policies

- **Analyzing and Sharing State Policies** – Create, defend and implement successful state policies and share such policies across states *Stenia*

- **Applying Federal Policy Tools for your River and Community** – Implement federal laws like the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act at the local level to protect local waterways and communities *Stelis*
- **Influencing Federal Policy from the Ground Up** – Connect on how organizations can work together on policies such as water infrastructure funding, Wild and Scenic Rivers, the Farm Bill, and defending the Clean Water Act *Stanhopea*

Resilient Cities and Communities

- **Climate Adaptation and Resilience Planning** – Advocate for or participate in the development of local climate adaptation and resilience plans and framing your work in stormwater management or watershed restoration as community resilience strategies *Caladenia*
- **Community Engagement and Leadership Development for Climate Resilience** – Build community engagement and grassroots leadership for locally-generated climate solutions that build both resilience and equity *Vanda South*

- **On-the-Ground Initiatives and Projects that Promote both Resilience and Equity** – Implement on-the-ground projects that increase environmental resilience or that take a triple-bottom line approach by increasing social and economic resilience (e.g. youth development, workforce development, etc.) *Vanda North*

Healthy Rivers in Agricultural Landscapes

- **Agriculture and Clean Water** – Leverage funding, partnerships, and/or policies to influence or fund farming practices—including sustainable,

regenerative approaches—that will protect drinking water sources and downstream waters *Ida*

- **Reducing Agricultural Consumptive Water Use** – Use policy, legal and on-the-ground innovations and partnerships to reduce consumptive water use by agriculture *Orchis*
- **Holding Bad Agricultural Actors Accountable** – Consider legal strategies or consumer campaigns to stop polluting practices from farm operations, when voluntary options aren't enough *Isabella*

SUNDAY, 11:30-12:45 – Choose from IDEA EXCHANGE topics including:

Civic Engagement

- **Strengthening our Democratic Institutions** – Rebuild and strengthen the democratic institutions that are foundational to our goals of clean water and healthy, resilient communities (e.g. Get Out The Vote, Census 2020) *Stenia*
- **Strengthen Civic Engagement Around Water Issues** – Increase civic engagement around water issues, moving more people to take specific actions on behalf of water—as volunteers, donors, advocates, engaged citizens and voters *Stelis*
- **Raise the Visibility and Importance of Water Issues in Local, State and National Elections** – Ensure priority water issues are part of the conversation during local, state or national elections *Stanhopea*

Our Vision for the Network of the Future *Orchid Ballroom*

- The demographics of our country are rapidly changing, and the water issues our communities face are increasingly complex. These factors create an urgent opportunity for today's water leaders to be intentional about how we must evolve to secure water protection and water equity in the future. How can we engage difference—including racial and ethnic, generational and political—and cultivate a culture of inclusion to build the water movement of tomorrow? Join this exchange to engage in this conversation.

DURING MONDAY LUNCH, WE WILL REPORT OUT A SYNTHESIS OF IDEAS ON KEY ISSUES, PLUS HOW TO MOVE FORWARD.



Urban Waters Learning Forum: Addressing Racial Equity in Environmental Spaces 8:30AM–12:30PM

This half-day workshop is designed to help participants develop an awareness and understanding of institutionalized racism and ways they can begin undoing racism. The focus will be on opening up a deeper conversation about racial equity and will be facilitated by Darryl Haddock (West Atlanta Watershed Alliance) and Jennifer Arnold (Reciprocity Consulting, LLC). [Vanda South](#)

Urban Waters Learning Forum 1:00PM–5:00PM

This in-person networking opportunity is sponsored by EPA and hosted by River Network and Groundwork USA. The Urban Waters Learning Forum is open by invitation to all EPA Urban Waters Small Grant recipients, Urban Waters Federal Partners, and other urban waters practitioners. Our goal is to foster networking, mentoring and learning among peers. [Vanda North/South](#)

Opening Remarks: Cuyahoga: From Flame to Fame—The Story of an American River

The Cuyahoga River is known worldwide as the river that caught fire. The story of this river is one of recovery—recovery of an ecosystem, of a connection to flowing water and its importance to humans. Join us on a journey into Cuyahoga River history, the life and times of an American river. [Orchid Ballroom](#)



Bill Zawiski

BILL ZAWISKI has been employed by the Ohio EPA since 1989 and is currently the Water Quality Group Supervisor in Ohio EPA's Northeast District. Bill received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Biology from the University of Akron. The Division of Surface Water ensures compliance with the federal Clean Water Act and works to increase the number of water bodies that can be safely used for swimming and fishing, and he develops comprehensive watershed plans aimed at improving polluted streams. Trained as a biologist, Zawiski has worked for years with the Ohio EPA. He has taken an active role in the movement in this area to remove dams to improve the quality of rivers. He has coauthored several professional publications on dams and water quality. He has also worked on numerous TMDLs in the district office. Bill also taught Environmental Regulation and Water Resources at the University of Akron.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING URBAN WATERS LEARNING NETWORK AWARDEES!

Paulina Lopez for *Water Quality & Monitoring*
Bronx River Alliance for *Environmental Education*
San Juan Bay Estuary Program for *Environmental Justice & Equity*
Gail Heffner and Dave Warners (Plaster Creek Stewards) for *Learning Network Signature Award*



SATURDAY KEYNOTE: WATER AND DEMOCRACY IN THE UNITED STATES



Keesha Gaskins-Nathan

KEYNOTE SPEAKER KEESHA GASKINS-NATHAN is the director for the Democratic Practice–United States program at the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. Ms. Gaskins-Nathan is dedicated to advancing measures and ideas that improve democratic systems and engage democratic culture in the United States to support full and fair democratic and economic opportunity for all residents. Ms. Gaskins-Nathan is a long-time organizer, lobbyist, and trial attorney. Prior to joining the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, she was senior counsel with the Brennan Center for Justice, serving as the director of the Redistricting and Representation program. Her portfolio included redistricting reform, voting rights, and elections, with a focus on voter suppression issues. She is a published author and frequent lecturer, as well as a commentator on voting rights and redistricting reform and regularly appears on numerous news and public affairs programming, including past appearances on PBS's NewsHour, MSNBC, and Bill Moyers.

SATURDAY JUNE 22ND WORKSHOPS

9:30AM–11:00AM

Food & Water: Stronger Together! ▲

This session will offer tips and resources for leveraging USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) partnership program opportunities to implement conservation and management practices that protect both surface and groundwater drinking water sources. NRCS, state, conservation district, and water utility leaders will share collaborative approaches for working with agricultural partners. *Karen Wirth, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Deirdre Mason, Association of State Drinking Water Administrators (ASDWA); Steve Via, American Water Works Association (AWWA); Martin Lowenfish & Dee Carlson, United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), Eric Hansen, National Association of Conservation Districts*
Pursuing Safe, Clean and Affordable Drinking Water, Room: Stenia

Reaching New Audiences in Rural Communities ▲

Across many rural landscapes, water quality is dependent on the actions of private landowners who are often among the most difficult audiences to engage. This session introduces strategies for more effective engagement of rural audiences and delves into a case study showing how to amplify these strategies with tracking and collaboration for landscape-scale impacts. *Monica Zachay, St. Croix River Association; Nicole Butler, Forestry Program Coordinator, St. Croix River Association*
Working with Farmers and Ranchers, Room: Vanda South

Creative Engagement for Controversial Projects ▲

Making change on the ground or at the policy level is often controversial, but creative public engagement tools explored in this workshop can equip river advocates for success. *Lisa Hollingsworth-Segedy, American Rivers; Peter Raabe, American Rivers*
Civic Engagement, Room: Stanhopea

Engagement with Hispanic Stakeholders ▲

Strategic and deliberate engagement combats environmental racism and builds a more inclusive movement. This workshop will interactively walk participants through several engagement models, and a series of exercises will show how to elevate the voices of under-served communities. Learn best practices

that grassroots organizers have used to effectively overcome recurring engagement challenges. *Paco Ollervides, Green Leadership Trust*
Building Resilient Cities and Communities, Room: Caladenia

EnviroDIY: A Hands-On Monitoring Workshop

The EnviroDIY.org community is a group of do-it-yourself enthusiasts interested in environmental science and monitoring. Attendees will interact with open-source electronics and sensors using laptops provided by the presenters to learn about building low-cost monitoring systems that send realtime data to an online data repository (data.wikiwatershed.org/). *David Arscott, Stroud Water Research Center; David Bressler, Stroud Water Research Center*
Expanding Impact through Science, Technology, and Monitoring, Room: Stelis

Nutrient Pollution: Dead Zones and Other Messes ▲

This workshop provides an overview of nutrient pollution from policy and scientific perspectives, with a particular focus on the Great Lakes. We will address the current regulatory atmosphere, the Gulf of Mexico Dead Zone, and how the nutrient pollution has harmed drinking water supplies, injured sport fishing, and created dead zones in Lake Erie. *Albert Ettinger, Albert Ettinger and no Associate; Matt Rota, Gulf Restoration Network; Dr. Jeff Reutter, Ohio State and Ohio Sea Grant*
Great Lakes, Room: Laelia

PFAS, PFAS, Everywhere: Problems and Solutions ▲

PFAS are persistent, bioaccumulative, toxic, and seemingly everywhere. First, learn how PFAS impact humans and wildlife. Second, get an overview of legal tools available to manage PFAS risk. This workshop will also offer small-group work to brainstorm solutions to tricky hypothetical instances of PFAS contamination. *Oday Salim, National Wildlife Federation and University of Michigan Law School's Environmental Law & Sustainability Clinic; Michael Murray, National Wildlife Federation*
Advancing Robust and Effective Water Laws and Policies, Room: Vanda North

Tools for Collaborative Decisions ▲

What can make or break your collaboration? Answer: Clear and timely decision making that supports forward progress while being able to work with disagreements and agreements. Join this workshop and learn about tools to support productive decision making within any collaborative setting. *Sarah Clark, Institute for Conservation Leadership; Dianne Russell, Institute for Conservation Leadership*
Sustaining Strong Leaders, Organizations and Coalitions, Room: Disa

SATURDAY JUNE 22ND WORKSHOPS

2:00PM – 3:30PM

Art, Water, and Social Justice ▲

Art is a powerful and underutilized tool for communicating the importance of our shared waterways and for creating alternative avenues to participation at the intersection of water and justice. We will discuss projects that use artistic expression to increase access, inclusion, and participation in water protection and management efforts and engage in creative techniques as we collectively consider how art can weave together social justice and water work in our respective communities. *Sarah Davidson, Southeast Alaska Conservation Council; Erin O'Grady, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay; Kevin Jeffery, University of Texas, Austin School of Architecture*
Civic Engagement, Room: Eria

Finding Common Cause for Clean Drinking Water

Well water contamination in Northeast Wisconsin brought an array of stakeholders together to develop rules to address it. Lessons from this effort by diverse stakeholders (citizens, farmers, nonprofit organizations, agricultural interest groups, and government officials), the necessary compromises, and communication and engagement efforts can serve as a blueprint for addressing agricultural water pollution elsewhere. *Scott Laeser, Clean Wisconsin*
Great Lakes, Room: Vanda South

Keeping Our Water Safe and Public: A Case Study ▲

The Our Water Campaign is a coalition of ten environmental and community groups fighting for safe, affordable, and publicly controlled water in Pittsburgh during a well-funded privatization effort. Learn what has made them so effective in achieving several key wins for low-income ratepayers and how they build leadership. *Aly Shaw, Pittsburgh United; Brenda Lynn Smith, Exec. Director, Nine Mile Run Watershed Association*
Pursuing Safe, Clean and Affordable Drinking Water, Room: Vanda North

PWSR Toolkit Benefits River Management and Coalitions ▲

Come use the Partnership Wild and Scenic River (PWSR) Toolkit for rivers that are already designated or are new to WSR designation. Learn about the PWSR model, study process, and effective management plans. Suggest Toolkit content and leave with access and insight into the Toolkit, technical resources and national contacts to help protect, monitor, and manage your river. *Shana Deeds, Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers (PWSR); Jamie Fosburgh, Acting Manager, Northeast Region Rivers Program, NPS*
Advancing Robust and Effective Water Laws and Policies, Room: Disa





The Fair Farms Approach ▲

This session will provide attendees with a deeper understanding of the Fair Farms approach with an emphasis on shifting the “farmer vs. environmentalist” narrative via positive messaging, coalition building, and consumer engagement.

Betsy Nicholas, Waterkeepers Chesapeake

Working with Farmers and Ranchers, Room: Stanhopea

Urban Forestry: Key to Community Resilience ▲

Across the country, discussion of large-scale tree planting programs has generated a lot of buzz. This workshop will tell the story of two successful programs in the Groundwork network. Participants will learn how to successfully launch their own tree-planting program.

Tennis Lilly, Groundwork Lawrence; Sherman Dean, Groundwork Richmond

Building Resilient Cities and Communities, Room: Stenia

Using Trees to Protect and Restore Your Waterways

Trees are a key component of a healthy river and an important factor in creating ecosystem resilience to floods, droughts, and pollution. Come explore several new and established tools to help evaluate your tree canopy and incorporate trees into your river protection and restoration efforts.

David Rutter, Ohio Kentucky Indiana Regional Council of Governments; Jennifer Gulick, Urban Canopy Works, LLC; Daniel Meaney, GISP, Cuyahoga County Planning Commission

Expanding Impact through Science, Technology, and Monitoring, Room: Laelia

Outreach to Non-Traditional Audiences to Achieve Watershed Conservation Goals

Often improving water quality across a watershed requires outreach to atypical audiences. Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay’s work in Pennsylvania involves reaching Plain Sect farmers with a conservation message. Wood County Soil and Water Conservation District and Cornell Cooperative Extension efforts in Ohio and New York engage women non-operating landowners to spur conservation on rented cropland. Hear about outreach strategies to reach these farm owners from project leaders.

Beth Landers, Wood Soil and Water Conservation District; Leslie Weller, Pennsylvania Program Manager, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay;

Joan Petzen, Cornell Cooperative Extension

Working with Farmers and Ranchers, Room: Stelis

**SATURDAY JUNE 22ND
WORKSHOPS
4:00PM–5:30PM**

Creating Local Government “Change Makers”

Local government decisions have major impacts on watershed quality. This workshop will describe Huron River Watershed Council’s “Change Makers” program, which trains local residents to become involved with local government, either through commenting on land-use decisions, becoming planning commissioners, or getting elected to local boards or councils.

Kris Olsson, Huron River Watershed Council

Civic Engagement, Room: Stanhopea

Emerging Industrial Toxins In Our Drinking Water ▲

In June 2017, media revealed that industry released GenX and other toxic per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) into North Carolina drinking water sources for four decades. In this session, North Carolina water advocates share lessons from the resulting fight and discuss the challenges and solutions for tackling PFAS pollution in your state.

Jean Zhuang, Southern Environmental Law Center; Emily Sutton, Haw River Assembly;

Dana Sargent, Cape Fear River Watch

Pursuing Safe, Clean and Affordable Drinking Water, Room: Vanda North

Fundraising Metrics and How to Use Them

Metrics matter. Period. And that includes fundraising metrics. They should be used to change our behavior, to adapt to our changing environment, and to help predict what may happen in the future. In this workshop, we’ll explore the world of what you should be measuring in fundraising and how to use the data you get back.

David Allen, Development for Conservation

Sustaining Strong Leaders, Organizations and Coalitions, Room: Vanda South

Resilience Lessons from North Carolina’s Floods ▲

Climate change threatens more intense rains and frequent floods. In 2016 and 2018, North Carolina experienced extreme floods. This session will share lessons from water advocates’ work to secure a smart recovery and will prepare you to advocate more effectively after flooding in your state.

Grady McCallie, NC Conservation Network;

Peter Raabe, American Rivers

Building Resilient Cities and Communities, Room: Disa

Utilizing Landscape Based Green Infrastructure ▲

This presentation will provide a background on the principles of landscape-based green infrastructure planning and implementation, discuss applying these techniques at multiple scales, and look at how successful case studies can be replicated in other communities. We will also discuss techniques for engaging diverse communities and incorporating climate change resiliency.

Karen Firehock, Green Infrastructure Center;

Chris French, Green Infrastructure Center

Expanding Impact through Science, Technology, and Monitoring, Room: Stelis

Water Unites Us and Moves Community Development ▲

Our Junction Community reinvestment began with green infrastructure installations to manage stormwater issues and blossomed into meeting many other community needs. Because a small river forms the boundary of our neighborhood, we are weaving its aesthetic and recreational uses into the fabric of our social and environmental justice framework.

Alicia Smith, Junction Coalition; Elizabeth

Ellis, Toledo Design Center; Erkin Ozay,

University of Buffalo/Cleveland Urban Design

Collaborative; David Ross, Art Commission

Great Lakes, Room: Laelia

Working with Farmers to Achieve Innovative Policy ▲

Environmental and agricultural NGOs are working together in Iowa, Illinois, and Ohio to leverage the immense popularity of federal crop insurance to incentivize cover crops—which simultaneously improve water quality outcomes and reduce the risk of crop loss. Join our discussion about working with agricultural partners to achieve common goals.

Claire O’Connor, Natural Resources Defense Council;

Lara Bryant, Natural Resources Defense Council; Tony

Logan, The Renewables Space, LLC; Dr. Lee Tesdell, Iowa

Farmers Union; Minnesota State University, Mankato

Working with Farmers and Ranchers, Room: Caladenia

WOTUS: What Does the Clean Water Act Rollback Mean

Learn what the Clean Water Act rollback means for our nation’s waters and receive knowledge and tools to activate your own networks to defend the Clean Water Act.

Glenn Watkins, National Wildlife Federation

Advancing Robust and Effective Water

Laws and Policies, Room: Stenia



SUNDAY PLENARY: WATER EQUITY, SECURITY, AND CLIMATE RISK—CHANGING EXPECTATIONS OF FAIRNESS AND EQUALITY

Where is change happening to reduce exposure to flood risk, increase climate resilience, and improve access to both clean, safe, affordable drinking water and healthy rivers? Can we guarantee healthy rivers and clean water to everyone? Don't miss these passionate stories and perspectives of experiences from across our nation about the determination of our community to get it right.



Jalonne L. White-Newsome

(MODERATOR) JALONNE L. WHITE-NEWSOME is senior program officer at The Kresge Foundation, responsible for the Environment Program's grant portfolio on Climate Resilient & Equitable Water Systems. Jalonne also leads the foundation's work addressing the intersection of climate change and public health. Before joining Kresge in early 2016, Jalonne served as director of federal policy at West Harlem Environmental Action Inc., where she was involved with leading national campaigns and a coalition of environmental justice organizations. She is an adjunct professor at The George Washington University, and was recently appointed to be a member of the National Academy of Sciences Board on Environmental Change and Society. A native of Detroit, Jalonne earned a Ph.D. in environmental health sciences from the University of Michigan School of Public Health, a Master's degree in environmental engineering from Southern Methodist University, and a Bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Northwestern University.



Kyle Dreyfuss-Wells

KYLE DREYFUSS-WELLS The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District provides sanitary and stormwater management services to Cleveland and 61 communities in Northeast Ohio. As CEO, Ms. Dreyfuss-Wells works to ensure efficient management of hundreds of miles of sewer and stream networks, a multi-billion-dollar Project Clean Lake program, and a regional wet-weather strategy for the health of Lake Erie. Before becoming CEO, Ms. Dreyfuss-Wells coordinated the District's watershed management, including the Regional Stormwater Management Program. She is past chair of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) Stormwater Management Committee and the One Water Council of the US Water Alliance. In 2012, Ms. Dreyfuss-Wells received the Stormwater Professional of the Year award from the Ohio Stormwater Association and the NACWA President's Award.

Ms. Dreyfuss-Wells graduated summa cum laude from The Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. She earned Master's degrees with honors in both Public Affairs and Environmental Science at Indiana University's School of Public and Environmental Affairs, and served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Samoa.



Katherine Baer

KATHERINE BAER As an environmental advocate for over 15 years, Katherine has worked for American Rivers, Triangle Land Conservancy, Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper, the Center for Progressive Reform, and the School for Field Studies. She has led efforts to improve policies for clean and reliable water at the local, state and national levels, including testifying before Congressional Committees, serving on state and national working groups, and working with watershed groups. While at American Rivers, Katherine led a team of policy and technical experts working to advance green infrastructure through successful advocacy for increased funding and stronger permits and policies, working with a diverse array of partners. She currently serves on the Water Environment Federation's Stormwater Institute Advisory Committee. She holds a J.D. from the University of Maryland, an M.S. in Conservation Ecology and Sustainable Development from the University of Georgia, and a B.A. in environmental studies from Stanford University.



Brenda Coley

BRENDA COLEY is the Co-Executive Director of Milwaukee Water Commons. Over the years she has served in various positions in the non-profit and academic sectors and brings a long-standing commitment to social justice and community organizing. She has been a non-profit director, research coordinator and project manager with expertise in leadership development and organizational capacity building. Before joining Milwaukee Water Commons, Coley was sole proprietor of Brenda Coley & Associates, helping local and national organizations build the cultural competence to approach marginalized populations around health, leadership development and social justice issues. In addition, she has served on many community engagement boards and public health initiatives, specifically focused on equality and health disparities within the LGBTQ and other minority communities in Milwaukee.



Alicia Smith

ALICIA SMITH Alicia Smith is the Community Liaison for Junction Coalition, in Toledo, Ohio. Alicia's passion flows from her belief that all citizens need information to thrive. As such, she works to build the capacity of each family. She is a co-author of the Junction Coalition Community Greening Plan, a federally funded published document for the Urban Waters Project produced by the urban water initiative with Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Government. Alicia currently serves as the Associate Policy Director of the Great Lakes Network for Freshwater Future, a binational non-governmental organization focused on environmental policy education and capacity building. She has also served as the City of Toledo Executive Director of Youth Commission & Manager of Youth & Recreation. As a graduate student at the University of Toledo, her doctoral studies focused on the educational development for disenfranchised communities. She has served over fifteen years as a Restorative Justice Facilitator working with inner-city youth, as well as working with the Lucas County Juvenile Court and Toledo School District to provide community network services to families. She serves on several boards from Healing our Waters Coalition/Equity Committee to Ohio Energy Table.

SUNDAY JUNE 23RD WORKSHOPS

9:30AM–11:00AM – LIGHTNING ROUND

Building a Grassroots Urban Waters Partnership
Learn how the Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association turned a vision to restore Durham, North Carolina's most degraded urban stream into the city's first Creek Smart® nature preserve, city-owned wetland park, and LID school playground retrofit. Learn about how these projects were possible through advocacy for municipal code, ordinance changes, and a stormwater cost-share program. *Chris Dreps, Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association Building Resilient Cities and Communities, Room: Stelis*

Business for Water Stewardship Project Bank
Are you planning, designing, or implementing on-the-ground restoration projects to restore river flows and/or recharge ground water? Would you like the opportunity to share your projects with businesses who may be interested in funding projects? If the answer is "yes!" be sure to attend this session to learn about the Business for Water Stewardship Project Bank, a new opportunity for River Network paid members to share restoration projects with businesses. *April Ingle, River Network Building Resilient Cities and Communities, Room: Stelis*

Digital Storytelling in a Divided World ▲
Join us for a screening of River Alliance of Wisconsin's "Water Unites Us" short film series. Enjoy three new 2-minute films featuring very different water heroes: a farmer, a scientist, and a faith-based community organizer. Learn about the strategy behind this digital storytelling campaign and how your organization could replicate this successful approach to engage your audience. *Danika Laine, River Alliance of Wisconsin Sustaining Strong Leaders, Organizations and Coalitions, Room: Vanda North*

Latino Conservation Week: A Stepping Stone ▲
Hispanic Access Foundation will discuss the importance of engaging Latino communities in river stewardship and conservation efforts. This workshop will give participants the tools necessary to organize river events for Latino Conservation Week as a stepping stone for consistent and long-

term engagement of Latino communities. *Jennifer Brandt, Hispanic Access Foundation Sustaining Strong Leaders, Organizations and Coalitions, Room: Vanda North*

Ruined by Community Organizing ▲
The water needs us. How can we lead change for water at the depth and intensity needed? Using principles from community organizing we can influentially lead and communicate. Come ready for fast-moving learning that combines a "This I Believe" presentation with interactive activities. *Dianne Russell, Institute for Conservation Leadership Sustaining Strong Leaders, Organizations and Coalitions, Room: Vanda North*

Engaging Communities in Protecting Urban Waters
Learn how to foster "smart conservation" that strategically redirects conservation practices to include non-traditional populations, especially as these groups are most vulnerable to climate variation and often have limited access to natural resources. Increasing community engagement provides solutions that ensure environmental restoration and a higher quality of life for vulnerable communities. *Darryl Haddock, West Atlanta Watershed Alliance; Ruby Mitchell-Harrison, West Atlanta Watershed Alliance; Juanita Wallace, West Atlanta Watershed Alliance; Donna Stephens, Proctor Creek Stewardship Council Civic Engagement, Room: Vanda South*

Healing Waters: Connecting Community to Watersheds ▲
Journey along the Susquehanna River in the remote Pennsylvania Wilds with Middle Susquehanna Riverkeeper Carol Parenzan and six prisoners as they discover how to become future watershed stewards. Learn how to create a similar program for underserved community members residing in your own watershed. *Carol Parenzan, Middle Susquehanna Riverkeeper Association, Inc. Civic Engagement, Room: Vanda South*

The Indigenous Observation Network
Over 14 years, the Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council has provided Yukon First Nations and Alaska Tribes in the Yukon watershed

with technical assistance, such as facilitating the development and exchange of information, conducting training, education and awareness programs to promote human and ecosystem health, along with developing research projects using an Indigenous Research Paradigm, social and physical science. This presentation will discuss the Indigenous Observation Network as a case study to highlight the benefits and challenges of forming a sustainable citizen-science monitoring program. *Edda Mutter, Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council; Maryann Fidel, Environmental Scientist Civic Engagement, Room: Vanda South*

Clear Water Farms: Use the Market to Protect Water ▲
This workshop will focus on the benefits and opportunities of using the Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS) certification for agriculture. Our pilot project will show how focusing on a process-based water standard can allow farmers to position themselves within a competitive market while improving the public perception of their operations. *Falon French, River Alliance of Wisconsin Working with Farmers and Ranchers, Room: Disa*

The Yakima Basin Integrated Plan ▲
The Yakima River Basin in Washington State is a huge agricultural production region and also once supported huge numbers of salmon and steelhead. Learn about the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan, a long term, common-sense approach to solving the complex and diverse needs of stakeholders in this unique basin. *Kelsey Green, American Rivers Working with Farmers and Ranchers, Room: Disa*

Great Lakes to Gulf: Visualizing Water Quality
The Great Lakes to Gulf Observatory is an interactive map-based web application that integrates water quality and contextual data to support the understanding of nutrient pollution in the Mississippi River watershed. Participants in this workshop will see a demo of the observatory's capabilities and can follow along on their own. *Ted Kratschmer, National Great Rivers Research and Education Center Expanding Impact through Science, Technology, and Monitoring, Room: Laelia*

Lessons Learned in Stormwater Monitoring
The San Antonio River Authority is among the many agencies pushing for the implementation of Low-Impact Development (LID) and Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce the impacts of urban stormwater runoff on

receiving watersheds. Hear about lessons learned within San Antonio River Authority's experience developing a monitoring program with recommendations for finding solutions. *Mick Bartlett, San Antonio River Authority Expanding Impact through Science, Technology, and Monitoring, Room: Laelia*

Guardians of the Grande
See the evolution of a water quality sampling event convened by a New Mexico Tribal Water Quality Working Group focused on data quality, standardization, and sharing. *Alex Heppner, AWQMS / Gold Systems Pursuing Safe, Clean and Affordable Drinking Water, Room: Stenia*

Land Prioritization and Watershed Based Planning
Upstate Forever is partnering with drinking water utilities and other stakeholders to protect critical drinking water sources across Upstate South Carolina by combining the traditional watershed-based planning process with a GIS-based land prioritization analysis to identify where implementation would be most effective for protecting against or reducing pollutants of concern. *Megan Chase, Upstate Forever; Erika Hollis, Upstate Forever Pursuing Safe, Clean and Affordable Drinking Water, Room: Stenia*

Secrets of Successful Outreach to Rural Landowners
What do the best do differently from the rest? To answer that question, presenters of this session surveyed and interviewed more than 100 ace field staff in four states. Hear about their findings and receive tips to help you reach more landowners more successfully. *Eric Eckl, Water Words That Work, LLC; Working with Farmers and Ranchers, Room: Caladenia*

Using Media as a Policy Tool ▲
Media is an essential advocacy tool for many environmental organizations. This workshop examines Alabama Rivers Alliance and others' use of media relations for policy and advocacy. Traditional print media, social media, and multimedia such as documentary films are powerful yet cost-effective tactics for most strategic campaigns. *Curt Chaffin, Alabama Rivers Alliance Advancing Robust and Effective Water Laws and Policies, Room: Caladenia*

SUNDAY JUNE 23RD WORKSHOPS 2:00PM–3:30PM

Great Lakes Agenda 2020: A Clear Vision

The Healing Our Waters–Great Lakes Coalition has made important gains that have had incredible impact on the conservation and health of the Great Lakes. But there is still much more work to do. Next year will be critically important to protect, sustain, and restore the Great Lakes. Most importantly, the 2020 elections present the potential for more shifts at the state and federal levels and offer the opportunity to advance a comprehensive Great Lakes Agenda. *Laura Rubin, Healing Our Waters–Great Lakes Coalition*
Great Lakes, Room: Eria

Creating an Alternative TMDL for Wissahickon Creek

This session will provide information on the value of integrated and collaborative planning among multiple and diverse communities. Although the ultimate goal is regulatory compliance, the planning process, which includes gaining the commitment of many diverse municipalities, is integral in setting the framework for long-term environmental outcomes. *Patrick Starr, Pennsylvania Environmental Council; Susan Myerov, Pennsylvania Environmental Council*
Advancing Robust and Effective Water Laws and Policies, Room: Caladenia

Developing Comprehensive Youth Engagement Programs ▲

In this workshop, learn about Groundwork USA's holistic place-based, youth-centered development model. Groundwork's youth programs engage youth primarily in urban areas affected by environmental justice concerns and provide employment, leadership training, and exposure to career pathways through local and national partnerships. A case study of Groundwork Mill Creek Alliance will be highlighted. *Curt Collier, Groundwork USA; Tanner Yess, Deputy Director, Groundwork Mill Creek Alliance; Alan Edwards, Education Director, Groundwork Mill Creek Alliance*
Building Resilient Cities and Communities, Room: Stelis

Equitable Urban Planning for Resilient Communities ▲

Everyone desires a safe and healthy environment, but low-income communities often lack the tools and resources to achieve this vision. This workshop explores how 'outsiders' can synergize with community-based efforts to strengthen neighborhood

climate resiliency, restore local streams, and improve quality of life for disadvantaged communities. *Yomi Noibi, EcoAction; Merri Sheffield, Atlanta Watershed Learning Network; Jason Dozier, Atlanta Watershed Learning Network; Columbus Ward, Atlanta Watershed Learning Network*
Civic Engagement, Room: Vanda South

Reaching Beyond the Choir: Influencing Agriculture

Behavior change is not as simple as relaying data and facts. However, there are simple tactics you can use to reach beyond "the choir." This workshop will present strategies based on real-world agricultural examples and discuss how to relate them to your work. *Jessica Espenshade, National Wildlife Federation; Elizabeth Lillard, National Wildlife Federation*
Working with Farmers and Ranchers, Room: Laelia

The New Frontier of Water Affordability ▲

Water affordability is a challenging issue impacting communities across the country. This expert panel will discuss how a revised and updated water affordability methodology—one that does not rely solely on MHI—will usher in a new frontier for individual household affordability and a utility's financial capacity. *Kyle Dreyfuss-Wells, Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District; John Mastracchio, CFA, Vice President, Raftelis; Steve Via, President, American Water Works Association; Matt Bond, Chief Engineering Officer, KC Water*
Pursuing Safe, Clean and Affordable Drinking Water, Room: Vanda North

Water and Environmental Justice Mapping Tools ▲

Online mapping tools bring spatial decision-making tools to the public. Participants will learn to use several free online tools to examine the potential impact priority projects may have on different demographics, including environmental justice communities. *Matt Rota, Gulf Restoration Network*
Expanding Impact through Science, Technology, and Monitoring, Room: Ida

Equity Diversity and Inclusivity: Measuring up! ▲

This workshop will put participants on a path to designing and measuring progress of an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity (EDI) strategy. Participants will learn the benefits and components of an EDI strategy and how to monitor and evaluate progress. The presenters are former or current River Network board members and are skilled in design and measurement of EDI initiatives. *Baljit (Bava) Wadhwa, Global Environment Facility; Jumana Vasi, River Network and Jvasi Consulting*
Sustaining Strong Leaders, Organizations and Coalitions, Room: Stanhopea

SUNDAY JUNE 23RD WORKSHOPS 4:00PM–5:30PM

Creative Green Infrastructure Funding Solutions ▲

Explore two innovations in stormwater funding and financing that add to community resilience with privately-funded green infrastructure. *Jeff Odefey, American Rivers; Janet Clements, Corona Environmental Associates; Katie Rousseau, American Rivers*
Building Resilient Cities and Communities, Room: Disa

Leveraging Water Recreationists for Water Protection

Learn about a new strategy that highlights recreational uses of the Delaware River Watershed to elevate water quality protections to achieve the lofty goals of the Clean Water Act to make our waters fishable and swimmable. *Alice Baker, PennFuture; Nathan Boon, William Penn Foundation*
Advancing Robust and Effective Water Laws and Policies, Room: Caladenia

Mobilizing for Change: GOTC, GOTV, and 501(c)(3) Organizations

Census 2020 results will influence public funding decisions and allocations for the next decade. Learn how to grow your organization's civic capacity and influence by participation in the census and in get-out-the-vote efforts associated with the next national election. This informative workshop will share rules for 501(c)(3) engagement and what you'll gain by getting involved. *Aryeh Alex, Ohio Environmental Council*
Civic Engagement, Room: Laelia

River Network's Safe Drinking Water Guide ▲

The time is now for our community to engage more deeply on drinking water issues. River Network, its partners and an advisory group, have developed a layperson-oriented drinking water guide that covers water treatment, safety, funding, equity, community engagement, and policy. This session will introduce the guide, explain how to use it locally, and seek further input. *Katherine Baer, River Network; Jumana Vasi, Board member, River Network; Oday Salim, National Wildlife Federation; Paco Ollervides, Green Leadership Trust*
Pursuing Safe, Clean and Affordable Drinking Water, Room: Vanda South

Sharing Water to Save Working Lands

Across the West, water users are turning to voluntary, market-based water transfers as new demands stretch the West's limited water resources, but without proper planning, certain water transfers can have unintended socio-economic and ecological impacts on rural communities. This session will provide an overview of case studies from Western states where stakeholders are working collaboratively with agricultural producers to structure alternative water transactions with the goals of maintaining agricultural viability, enhancing drought resiliency, promoting rural economic development, and addressing the needs of river systems. Come prepared to share your own ideas on how to employ innovative ideas with farmers and ranchers that result in positive outcomes for people and the environment. *Alexander Funk, Colorado Water Conservation Board; Bailey Kennett, Arizona Land and Water Trust; Nicole Seltzer, River Network*
Working with Farmers and Ranchers, Room: Stanhopea

Strategies for Recruiting the Board You Need ▲

In this workshop, we will examine the board experience and explore succession planning and leadership development. Learn the qualities of a good board member, how to find them, and a generalized job description. We'll share tools for approaching this important work objectively and systematically, including strategies for recruiting a diverse board that represents the community in which you work. *David Allen, Development for Conservation*
Sustaining Strong Leaders, Organizations and Coalitions, Room: Vanda North

Streamflow, Water-Quality Monitoring, and Loads

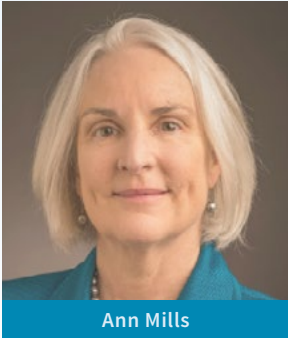
The U.S. Geological Survey describes how streamflow gages operate and the types of data they collect, stream water quality monitoring and sampling networks, and methods used to compute daily mean concentrations and loads of sediment and nutrients in streams draining into Lake Erie. *Kimberly Shaffer, U.S. Geological Survey, OKI Water Science Center; Donna Runkle, U.S. Geological Survey*
Expanding Impact through Science, Technology, and Monitoring, Room: Stelis

Water Walkers: Why Water Matters! ▲

Hear what Native people have been doing for 14 years to protect the Great Lakes, rivers, and waterways across the U.S. and Canada. This will be an opportunity to learn the history of the Mother Earth Water Walkers and their 19,000-mile walk to draw attention to the condition of water. *Carol Trembath, Lakeside Publishing MI*
Great Lakes Room: Stenia

MONDAY PLENARY: THE CHANGING FACES OF AGRICULTURE—SOIL HEALTH, WATER SECURITY, AND THE NEXT GENERATION

The agricultural sector in the United States is undergoing a transformation. New science related to soil health can help us increase food production, capture carbon and increase water security or mitigate the impacts of storms. This sector is also shifting demographically, with a new generation of diverse farmers dedicated to social and environmental justice, economic well-being and environmental values. Now is the time to set aside old paradigms that pit environmentalists and producers against one another and instead move forward together.

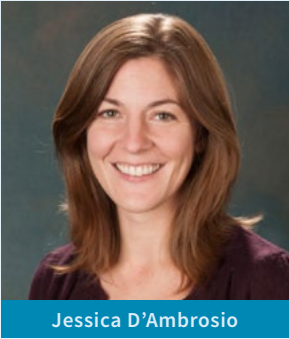


(MODERATOR) ANN MILLS is Executive Director of the Agua Fund, which supports work to protect the environment, boost civic engagement and help the disadvantaged and underserved. She previously served as USDA Deputy Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment from 2009 to 2017, where she had responsibility for the Natural Resources Conservation Service. She co-chaired of the National Drought Resilience Partnership and represented USDA on the Administration’s ecosystem restoration initiatives including those in the Chesapeake Bay Basin, Great Lakes, Mississippi River Basin, and California Bay-Delta.

Ann held senior positions at American Rivers and served as chief of staff to Senator Tom Daschle and California Lt. Governor Leo McCarthy, and as legislative assistant to then-Representative Richard Durbin. She earned a BA in Political Science from Tufts University and an MPA from the LBJ School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin.



ERIN FOSTER WEST Erin joined National Young Farmers Coalition with broad experience across food, agriculture, and conservation. Before starting at NYFC, Erin worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture on conservation programs and supported USDA’s beginning farmer team. Erin has also worked for a number of nonprofits addressing conservation, local food and food insecurity. She holds an M.S. in agriculture policy from Tufts University and a B.A. from Macalester College.



JESSICA D’AMBROSIO Prior to joining The Nature Conservancy as the Ohio Agriculture Project Director, Jessica was an Assistant Professor of Cooperative Education at Antioch College, and conducted outreach education and research on alternative designs for agricultural channels and the geomorphology and ecology of stream systems at The Ohio State University. She brings a broad range of experience in wildlife and fisheries management, hydrology, storm water management, and soil and water resources to The Conservancy’s focus of nonpoint source nutrient reduction strategies. Jessica has a Master’s degree in Environmental Science and a PhD in agriculture engineering from The Ohio State University. She has acted as a technical advisor to many groups involved in both urban and agricultural water resources management in the U.S., Canada, China, and South Africa. Jessica serves on the Board of Supervisors for the Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District.



MARTHA WINTERS Martha received her BS in Agronomy (2013) from Purdue University. She obtained her MS (2015) under Dr. Tony Vyn at Purdue, studying phosphorus timing and placement in strip-till corn systems. She now farms corn and soybeans with her grandfather and husband in Fremont, Ohio. The family farm utilizes cover crops, strip-tillage, and deep placement of phosphorus fertilizer. She currently serves on the Board of Ohio No-Till Council and Sandusky County Restores of Antique Power. She and her husband Andrew have been married since 2014 and have one child.



NICOLE SELTZER Nicole leads River Network’s efforts to strengthen the influence and effectiveness of local coalitions in Colorado and the Western U.S. through knowledge sharing, mentorship and breaking down silos. Prior to joining River Network, Nicole was Executive Director of the Colorado Foundation for Water Education and handled public affairs for the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District. Nicole oversaw production of Colorado’s premiere publication on water, *Headwaters* magazine, and her guidance of a leadership development program with over 125 alumni from Colorado’s water community is a source of pride. She’s served on both sides of a Board of Directors for several watershed coalitions, including the Colorado Watershed Assembly, and has led multi-day tours for elected officials, planned week-long professional conferences, chaired a year-long statewide celebration of water and helped produce a feature length documentary. Nicole has a Bachelor’s degree in Environmental Studies from the University of Kansas, and a Master’s degree in Water Resources from the University of Vermont.

MONDAY JUNE 24TH WORKSHOPS

9:30AM–11:00AM

Mobilizing for Change: GOTC, GOTV, and 501(c)(3) Organizations

Census 2020 results will influence public funding decisions and allocations for the next decade. Learn how to grow your organization's civic capacity and influence by participation in the census and in get-out-the-vote efforts associated with the next national election. This informative workshop will share rules for 501(c)(3) engagement and what you'll gain by getting involved. *Aryeh Alex, Ohio Environmental Council*
Civic Engagement, Room: Stenia

Bioassessment and Biological Indicators in Streams ▲

This workshop reviews the concepts of biological assessment, biological indicators, and biological criteria through lecture and hands-on learning. Attendees will leave understanding biological assessment and biological indicators and will feel empowered to use and interpret biological data from their own state or tribal waterbodies to take informed action. *Michael Paul, Tetra Tech Inc.*

Expanding Impact through Science, Technology, and Monitoring, Room: Stanhopea

Creating Common Ground on Drinking Water Affordability

Panelists will discuss water affordability from the point of view of utilities, local governments, and residents using case studies from Philadelphia, Flint, Dearborn and Gary, Indiana. Attendees will then break out into teams to create a water affordability policy or organizing plan for a fictional city. *Jen McGraw, Center for Neighborhood Technology; Stacey Isaac Berahzer, IB Environmental; Anna Wolf, Center for Neighborhood Technology; Matthew Braunginn, COWS*
Pursuing Safe, Clean and Affordable Drinking Water, Room: Disa

Drink Up Policy Lovers ▲

Drinking water policies in the Great Lakes states vary considerably. In this workshop, attendees will see a comprehensive comparison of how these states are implementing the Safe Drinking Water Act and other key regional issues. Attendees will participate in evaluating these policies and creating an action plan for the region. *Katie Rousseau, American Rivers; Elin Betanzo,*

Safe Water Engineering; Nick Leonard, Great Lakes Environmental Law Center
Advancing Robust and Effective Water Laws and Policies, Room: Vanda North

Regeneration: Young Farmers, Conservation, and Equity ▲

This workshop will discuss the people and priorities within the young farmer movement. We'll look at structures that prevent young farmers from achieving their conservation values and discuss how to strategically reduce those barriers, including barriers faced by indigenous communities and communities of color. *Erin Foster West, National Young Farmers Coalition; Adrienne Nelson, National Young Farmers Coalition*
Working with Farmers and Ranchers, Room: Vanda South

Solving Phosphate Eutrophication in Lake Erie

Lead presenter John Blakeman will illustrate the benefits of Upland Prairie Grasses Nutrient Retention STRIPS to end runoff damage to water quality in Lake Erie and discuss how they can be used in other parts of the country. Judy Shaw and Wil Hemker will add focus on economic and social benefits. *Judith Auer Shaw, University of Akron Research Foundation; John Blakeman, Prairie Scientist and President of Meadow Environments, LLC; Wil Hemker, University of Akron Research Foundation (UARF) and R3: River Bend Great Lakes, Room: Laelia*

Southwest Urban Rivers: L.A., Phoenix, San Antonio ▲

As populations grow in the American Southwest and along urban rivers, cities must balance access, healthy ecosystems, economic opportunity, and flood risk. Three river revitalization projects in Los Angeles, Phoenix, and San Antonio will catalyze a discussion about building resilient cities and communities around ecosystems, sustainable development, and visionary planning. *Michael Affeldt, City of Los Angeles; Melissa McCann, Arizona State University, Rio Salado; Suzanne Scott, San Antonio River Authority; Sarah Rascon, Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority (JPA), Los Angeles River*
Building Resilient Cities and Communities, Room: Stelis

FIELD TRIPS & INTENSIVE WORKSHOPS

After three days packed with education, collaboration, and networking inside, we will put aside our laptops and notebooks and head outside. Field trips are an opportunity to dive deeply into the practical application of a specific topic, explore solutions being implemented successfully, and enjoy the natural beauty of the Great Lakes region. Trips will leave after lunch on Monday and are scheduled to return to the Westin no later than 6:30pm.

Extended Workshop: Sustainable Water Affordability in Action

Experts from CNT, Mayors Innovation Project and IB Environmental, working on water affordability, including efficiency, alternative rate setting, and customer assistance programs will lead this hands-on workshop where participants will look at real-world data for their communities, identify affordability factors, and develop near-term actions and strategies to address water affordability. **Vanda South**

The Urban Watershed Venture: History, Infrastructure, People, and Trails

We'll explore the region's urban watershed through one of the cleanest and most efficient modes of transportation—biking. Step back in time to discover a pre-industrial Cleveland, visit sites of civil unrest, see combined sewers and water-quality monitoring, and experience the rebirth of trails connecting culture across the city. **Caladenia**

The Renewal of a River

By 2021, we envision the Cuyahoga River Watershed, its communities, and Cuyahoga Valley National Park as international symbols of human and ecosystem renewal. Enjoy a park ranger-narrated bus tour of the Cuyahoga River Valley, stroll to a marsh, shop at a farmer's market, and catch a glimpse of local wildlife on this river adventure. **Disa**

Dam Removals on the Cuyahoga River

Dam removals have a vital role in restoration. See dam removal projects which are completed, in process, and just beginning, including stops at Cuyahoga Falls, the Gorge Dam, and the Canal Diversion Dam in the National Park. **Eria**

Upper Cuyahoga Canoe Float Trip and Biological Stream Quality Monitoring

Experience the Upper Cuyahoga State Scenic River on a beautiful 4.7-mile canoe float. Learn from Ohio Scenic Rivers staff how canoe floats and biological stream quality monitoring can be tools to grow conservation in streamside communities. **Ida**

Extended Workshop: Closing the Deal with Rural Landowners

This is a unique three-part training course to help conservation practitioners successfully recruit

and negotiate landowners' participation in CREP, conservation easements, agricultural best practices, manure and forest management plans, and habitat restoration projects to improve water quality. **Vanda North**

Smart Lake Erie: Enjoying and Protecting Our Gem

By stand-up paddle board or sailboat, enjoy Lake Erie and the mouth of the Cuyahoga River during a waterfront tour with Cleveland Metroparks. Visit one of Cleveland's drinking water intakes and text a "smart" buoy. Enjoy refreshments afterwards at the beach house while meeting key players on the water quality scene. **Orchis**

Sustainability in Action: West Creek Watershed Tour

Spend the afternoon exploring West Creek Watershed, including a glimpse of the Cuyahoga River. Through outdoor hiking and indoor touring, test various technologies that restore our urban watersheds while engaging the public. This trip will expand your knowledge about stormwater practices, innovative teaching tools, stream restoration, and public-private partnerships. **Laelia**

Boat Tour of Lower Cuyahoga River and Infamous 1969 Fire

Board Cleveland Metroparks Water Taxi, the ElCee2, for an exploration of the lower Cuyahoga River, traveling to the infamous 1969 river fire location. Via walking tour, learn about river improvements and stewardship opportunities. End the afternoon sharing refreshments with local leaders who are advancing the development of both downtown Cleveland and the river. **Stanhopea**

Lower Cuyahoga River Dragon Boat Tour

Explore the lower Cuyahoga River via dragon boat—a 20-person canoe—and experience the dynamic interplay between industry, recreation, and conservation. Learn how Cleveland Metroparks is improving the river through stormwater management and stewardship opportunities. End the afternoon meeting local leaders who are advancing the development of both downtown Cleveland and the river. **Stelis**

NEORSO Stormwater Management and Wastewater Infrastructure Tour

The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District will showcase facilities and project sites that have been fundamental to wastewater treatment and stormwater management programs. Participants will tour innovative wastewater facilities and stream restoration sites that have been instrumental in the rebirth of the Cuyahoga River and other Northeast Ohio watersheds. **Stenia**

COMPTON & EMERGING LEADER AWARDEES

COMPTON AWARD



MARK VAN PUTTEN, PRESIDENT AND CEO, WEGE FOUNDATION (GRAND RAPIDS, MI)

Prior to his current position at the Wege Foundation, Van Putten served for over 20 years in various roles at the National Wildlife Federation, including President and CEO. Van Putten’s advocacy and litigation career focused on water-related issues at all levels of decision making—international, national, regional, and local. On the 30th anniversary of the Clean Water Act, he was named one of 30 nationwide “Clean Water Heroes.” Van Putten is a founding director of the Environmental Law Clinic at the University of Michigan School of Law, where he graduated magna cum laude in 1982. Van Putten has also served as a Visiting Scholar in the Energy and Climate Program of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

The Compton Award is a special recognition from River Network’s Board of Directors of one individual whose admirable and noteworthy achievements have benefited multiple communities and rivers over many decades.

EMERGING LEADER AWARD

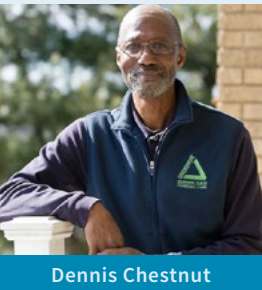


KEVIN JEFFERY, GRADUATE STUDENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE (AUSTIN, TX)

A student of landscape architecture, Jeffery is the creator of the Blue Index project and a burgeoning force in the water world. Blue Index, a participatory research project, strives to measure emotional responses to water in the community and will be used to inform Planet Texas 2050’s DataX project. Before returning to school, Jeffery worked in water management in Washington, D.C. for public, private and commercial entities. He plans to return to the public sector upon graduation.

The new Emerging Leader Award recognizes someone early in their professional career who deserves our attention for their work at the intersection of water and equity. This award was inspired by former River Network board member Leslie Lowe, who was a strident supporter of investing in and recognizing new and younger voices and perspectives in the water arena.

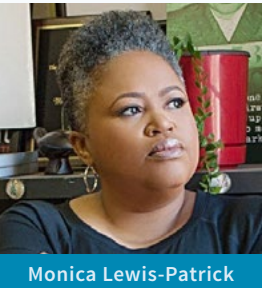
RIVER HEROES



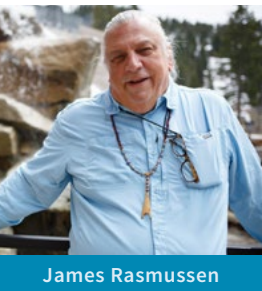
DENNIS CHESTNUT, FOUNDING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF GROUNDWORK ANACOSTIA RIVER D.C. (WASHINGTON, D.C.) A lifelong resident of Ward 7 in the far-northeast section of Washington, D.C., Chestnut is a master carpenter and vocational educator, but his dedication to youth development, community improvement, and civic duty has led to his involvement in many conservation projects. Chestnut is the co-founder of the Center for Green Urbanism and chairman of the Friends of Watts Branch. He is a board member of the East of the River Steel Band, SEED D.C. Public Charter School, and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay.



SAN JUANA “JUANI” OLIVARES, PRESIDENT AND CEO, GENESEE COUNTY HISPANIC AND LATINO COLLABORATIVE (FLINT, MI) At the time of the Flint water crisis, Olivares was a volunteer educator at GCHLC, teaching the Spanish-speaking residents of Flint how to navigate the crisis and find clean and safe water. Today, as President and CEO, Olivares uses her knowledge of the needs of her community and her resolve to make a difference to host a range of activities, including educational programming, social services, a water and filter pick up location, a food pantry, and health fairs.



MONICA LEWIS-PATRICK, CO-FOUNDER & PRESIDENT OF WE THE PEOPLE OF DETROIT (DETROIT, MI) Lewis-Patrick is actively engaged in almost every struggle on behalf of Detroit residents. As a former lead legislative policy analyst for Detroit City Council, Lewis-Patrick has authored legislation, conducted research, and delivered constituency services to thousands of city residents. She is a graduate of East Tennessee State University with a bachelor’s degree in social work and sociology and a Master of Arts of Liberal Studies degree with a concentration in criminal justice/sociology and public management. She is currently one of the leaders at the forefront of the water rights struggle in Detroit.



JAMES RASMUSSEN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DUWAMISH TRIBE ADVISORY COUNCIL (SEATTLE, WA) Rasmussen has been an active voice in environmental, habitat, and community issues along the Duwamish River and in the Seattle region for over 30 years. Rasmussen has played a fundamental role in the EPA’s formation of the Duwamish Superfund Roundtable, which will inform the next phase of the Cleanup Plan. His primary focus in his current role is elevating those most in need of climate justice, including low-income community members, POC, youth, and elders.

Also being recognized in the spirit of the River Heroes Award:



MIKE FREMONT, CO-FOUNDER OF AMERICAN RIVERS AND THE MILL CREEK ALLIANCE (CINCINNATI, OH) Fremont is being recognized in the spirit of the River Hero award, having made a tremendous impact on the health and protections for America’s waterways since the 1970s. At the age of 96, Fremont continues to run and canoe competitively in his home state of Ohio. Fremont was a key figure in starting what are now known as American Rivers and the Mill Creek Alliance, formerly Rivers Unlimited and the Mill Creek Watershed Council. Fremont continues to take an active role in many local projects advocating for healthy waterways.

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\$100/year for individuals. Group rates starting at \$150, based on annual budget.

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 - ◆ Priority access to materials for community events
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 - ◆ For groups: Free inclusion on our searchable, interactive water-protector map
- ◆ 25% discount on River Rally registration
 - ◆ Peer learning opportunities
 - ◆ Access to our library of resources and tools
 - ◆ Subscription to our newsletter for essential news and tips
 - ◆ Supplies to host a rain barrel workshop
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“River Network has been the single most important resource for our local nonprofit organization. They exist exclusively to help organizations like ours do a better job achieving their missions.”

–Michael Byrd, Prescott Creeks Preservation Association

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& BOARD



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The Westin Riverwalk,
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*Call for workshops
will open August 1st*

**river
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education · inspiration · celebration



*Stay lit, Cuyahoga River.
(No actual fire needed this time.)*



 **Northeast Ohio
Regional Sewer District**

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IS A HERITAGE PASSED ON.**

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bigger picture

The Cleveland Foundation is proud to support River Rally 2019 in celebrating how far we have come, while recognizing how much remains to be done to preserve our region's and our nation's waterways.

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TIRES4WARD

PUTTING OLD TIRES TO GOOD USE





OUR MISSION & VISION

River Network empowers and unites people and communities to protect and restore rivers and other waters that sustain all life. We envision a future with clean and ample water for people and nature, where local caretakers are well-equipped, effective and courageous champions for our rivers. We believe that everyone should have access to affordable, clean water and healthy rivers.



RIVER RALLY IS A PRODUCTION OF RIVER NETWORK
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