

• **Hudson River
Watershed Alliance**



- **Protecting, restoring and conserving the water resources of the Hudson River Basin**

• www.hudsonwatershed.org

• **Hudson River Watershed Alliance Digest**

• **February 2015**

• **Hudson River Comprehensive Restoration Plan**



- Thank you to everyone who participated in the recent **Hudson River Comprehensive Restoration Plan**
 - **information sessions!**

- Despite January's frigid temperatures, we had strong attendance with nearly 200 people participating in the nine workshops. If you were unable to participate in the sessions, a recording of the January 21st webinar is available on the website at thehudsonweshare.org. You can also listen to the recording [here](#).

- In the coming weeks, we encourage you to share your knowledge of existing plans along with habitat restoration and resiliency opportunities in your community. Contact for each Hudson Valley county is listed below:

Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland and Westchester Counties, contact:

- **Jerry Faiella** - gjfaiella@aol.com

- Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer and Ulster Counties, contact:
 - **Maureen Cunningham** - mcunningham@hudsonwatershed.org

In the next few weeks, discussions will continue at the county level and plans are underway to schedule community workshops in March. Information about these workshops will be circulated as soon as it becomes available. To keep informed about the Hudson River Comprehensive Restoration Plan, you can also sign up for email updates at thehudsonweshare.org

• **Watershed of the Month: Casperkill Watershed**

- This month, we highlight the Casperkill Watershed which flows through Poughkeepsie in Dutchess County. We focus on the efforts of the **Casperkill Watershed Alliance** and their monitoring in the Casperkill and Fonteynkill streams beginning in 2006 with support from Vassar College's Environmental Research Institute, measuring the amount of road salt present, dissolved oxygen, pH, heavy metals, bacteria, and the levels of different nutrients, including ammonium and calcium, among others. [READ MORE>>](#)



- **Save the Date:**
- **Hudson River Summit,**
- **April 16, 2015**

- The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Hudson River Estuary Program will host a Hudson River Summit on Thursday, April 16, from 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at the Grandview Hotel in Poughkeepsie, New York. The conference is co-sponsored by Historic Hudson River Towns. NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Joe Martens will deliver opening remarks.
- The Hudson River Summit will focus on building successful collaborations to implement the *2015 - 2020 Hudson River Estuary Program Action Agenda*, a conservation and restoration plan that guides the work of the Estuary Program and its partners. The *Action Agenda* charts a course to provide six key benefits: clean water; resilient communities; vital estuary ecosystem; estuary fish, wildlife, & habitats; natural scenery; and education, river access, recreation, and inspiration. Registration for the conference which includes a continental breakfast and lunch, is \$35. Student registration is \$20. Online registration will be available soon on the Historic Hudson River Towns website: www.hudsonriver.com

• **Local Events and News**

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• Events

- **February 3, 2015: 9:00 AM-1:00 PM**
- **Workshop: Wild for Waterfowl with Naturalist-in-Residence Tait Johansson**
- Tait will first lead a classroom session at Bylane Farm on waterfowl biology and identification, and then put your new skills to work. Family-friendly for kids 12 and older, but all children must be accompanied by a participating adult. Cost: \$15 for Bedford Audubon members, or \$30 for non-members and we'll credit the workshop fee towards your membership if you join that day. Level of difficulty: Easy. Dress warm. Please register with Ms. Jeanne Pollock at jpollock@bedfordaudubon.org or 914.519.7801. Location: Edith Read Sanctuary in Rye
- **February 7, 2015: 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM**
- **Intro to Organic Beekeeping: Planning a New Hive for Spring**
- HoneybeeLives' hands-on beekeeping workshop for beginners and others transitioning to natural beekeeping, taught by Chris Harp and Grai Rice. Advance registration required.

\$200 for full weekend or \$110 for one day. Other dates available.

Visit www.HoneybeeLives.org, email HoneybeeLives@Yahoo.com, or call 845-255-6113. Location: Sustainable Living Resource Center, Cottekill Rosendale, NY.

- **February 8, 2015: 2:00 PM**
- **All About the Great Swamp**
- Learn about the Great Swamp on the eastern edge of the watershed and the work Friends of the Great Swamp does to take care of the second largest freshwater wetland in the state. Presentation by Dr. Jim Utter. Location: Patterson Library, Route 311, Patterson.

- **February 11, 2015: 7:00 PM**
- **Lecture: The Gotham Coyote Project with Dr. Mark Weckel**
- Coyotes in New York City! Why are they here? Where do they live? How many are there? What do they eat? Mark Weckel of the American Museum of Natural History will explain how the Gotham Coyote Project is trying to answer these questions and others. Please bring a reusable mug to help us reduce our ecological footprint. Cost: Free. No registration required. We'll see you at 7 PM for refreshments. The lecture begins at 7:30. Location: Katonah Village Library.

- **February 13-16, 2015**
- **Science in Action: The Great Backyard Bird Count!**
- Launched in 1998 by the National Audubon and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, the Great Backyard Bird Count was the first online citizen science project to collect data on wild birds and display results in near real-time. Since then, more than 100,000 people of all ages have contributed observations to create this annual snapshot of the distribution and abundance of birds. All you need to do is tally the numbers and species of birds you see for at least 15 minutes on one or more days during the count period, at any location anywhere in the world! Register at <http://gbbc.birdcount.org/get-started/>.

- **February 14, 2015: 10:00 AM- 1:00 PM**
- **Citizen Science in the Hudson Valley**
- Riverkeeper will be among the organizations represented at a citizen science fair hosted by the Greene County Cornell Cooperative Extension and Greene Land Trust. For more information, please visit: www.riverkeeper.org/news-events/events/rvk-events/citizen-science-in-the-hudson-valley Location: Willows at Brandow Point, 480 NYS Route 385, Athens, NY

- **February 17, 2015: 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM**
- **Pulse of the Valley: STEM educators Workshop**
- In a 3-hour workshop, you will make comparisons and observe trends related to the health of the Hudson River watershed using classroom-friendly data sets. Build confidence in your data graphing, interpretation, and analysis skills and learn tips and tricks for introducing real (sometimes messy!) data to students. Participants will leave with a better understanding of ecological changes in the watershed and classroom resources for addressing this question with students using real data. Data sets are available that can be used in biology, earth science, chemistry, and environmental science classes. A particular focus will be on incorporating STEAM techniques for encouraging students to share what they've learned about the Hudson watershed in a creative way. Participants will learn how their students can enter this year's Hudson

Data Jam competition--a challenge for students to use their creativity and artistic talents to tell a data-based story about the Hudson River. Cash incentives are available for teachers participating in the Data Jam and for the student winners. The workshop is free and open to middle school and high school math, science, and art educators. Space is limited. Participants should bring a laptop computer. **Snow Date:** March 3, 2015
Registration deadline: February 10, 2015 **For more information:** Cornelia Harris at 845 677-7600 X321, caryeducation@caryinstitute.org Location: Beacon's Howland Public Library, 313 Main St. Beacon NY

- **February 19, 2015: 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM**
- **Hudson River Watershed Alliance - Mid-Hudson Omelet Speaker Series**
- **Topic: A New Streamflow Estimator Tool - helping us plan ahead**
- **Featured Speakers: George Schuler, The Nature Conservancy and Chris L. Gazoorian, USGS Hydrologist**
- For streams without streamgages, streamflow understanding is often still needed for well-informed water-management decisions. To address this need, the USGS, The Nature Conservancy, and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, developed the New York Streamflow Estimation tool (NYSET). Our February speakers from USGS and TNC will outline how this new tool can help users estimate daily-mean streamflow statistics at ungaged locations and evaluate hydrologic impacts of withdrawals for various water-uses. This tool can help communities consider permitting water withdrawals, identify areas needing habitat protection, or estimate contaminant loads or impact from chemical spills. Kindly please RSVP (attendance only) to Russell Urban-Mead, rum@chazencompanies.com. There is a \$4 minimum food/beverage purchase. Location: Plaza Diner (Stop & Shop Plaza), New Paltz. Winter Bad Weather Policy: Omelets are cancelled only if the New Paltz Central School District (the nearest school district to the diner) has either a weather delay or cancellation. Please listen to the radio, call the school district, or visit <http://www.newpaltz.k12.ny.us/Page/1> to learn of delays or cancellations. You are also always welcome to call Russell Urban-Mead at 914.456.1095 (cell).
- **February 21, 2015: 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM**
- **Attracting Pollinators to our Yards**
- Sponsored by the Marbletown Environmental Conservation Commission. Free Film, panel, and Q&A. Learn about the decline of bees & pollinators and what you can do to help. [Bit.ly/MarbletownECC](http://bit.ly/MarbletownECC) or contact Halliehallieschwab@gmail.com for more info. Location: Marbletown Community Center
- **February 21, 2015: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**
- **Learn & Serve: Open House with Scenic Hudson**
- Enjoy a light brunch while getting acquainted with Scenic Hudson's education and volunteer programs. It's a great opportunity to sign up your class or group for field trips, collaborative events or hands-on workdays. Our parks are excellent "outdoor classrooms"-exciting places to connect with nature-and with more than a dozen of them to maintain, we're always looking for a few extra hands. QUESTIONS OR TO RSVP? Contact Scenic Hudson Parks Event and Volunteer Coordinator Anthony Coneski: aconeski@scenichudson.org, 845-473-4440, ext. 273. Location: The River Center at Scenic Hudson's Long Dock Park. 8 Long Dock Road, Beacon, NY 12508
- **February 22, 2015: 3:00 PM**
- **How's the Water in the Hudson River and its Tributaries?**
- Join us for this presentation by Riverkeeper to the Mid Hudson Chapter of the

Adirondack Mountain Club. For more information please visit:

- www.riverkeeper.org/news-events/events/rvk-events/how-the-water-in-the-hudson-and-its-tributaries/
- Location: Stonehedge Restaurant, Route 9W, West Park
- **February 26, 2015: 11:00 AM**
- **Cary Institute Scientific Seminar with Sarah Hamer, Texas A&M**
- Chagas Disease Ecology at the Intersection of Human, Animal, and Vector Populations. Location: Cary Institute Auditorium, 2801 Sharon Turnpike (Route 44), Millbrook, NY
- **February 27, 2015: 7:00 PM**
- **Our River on Drugs**
- Emma Rosi-Marshall, a freshwater ecologist at the Cary Institute, will discuss her research on how pharmaceutical drugs and personal care products are polluting our nation's rivers and streams-with consequences for sensitive aquatic life and drinking water supplies. Location: Cary Institute Auditorium, 2801 Sharon Turnpike (Route 44), Millbrook, NY
- **February 28, 2015: 12:00 PM**
- **Winter Walk**
- An easy to moderate naturalist-led interpretive walk to enjoy the beauty of winter. Call Beth (845) 228-5635 or Judy (845) 878-7740 to reserve your spot. Location: Lakeside Park in Pawling. Meet at the Pawling Recreation Center parking lot.
- **March 4, 2015: 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM**
- **Pulse of the Valley: STEM educators Workshop**
- In a 3-hour workshop, you will make comparisons and observe trends related to the health of the Hudson River watershed using classroom-friendly data sets. Build confidence in your data graphing, interpretation, and analysis skills and learn tips and tricks for introducing real (sometimes messy!) data to students. Participants will leave with a better understanding of ecological changes in the watershed and classroom resources for addressing this question with students using real data. Data sets are available that can be used in biology, earth science, chemistry, and environmental science classes. A particular focus will be on incorporating STEAM techniques for encouraging students to share what they've learned about the Hudson watershed in a creative way. Participants will learn how their students can enter this year's Hudson Data Jam competition--a challenge for students to use their creativity and artistic talents to tell a data-based story about the Hudson River. Cash incentives are available for teachers participating in the Data Jam and for the student winners. The workshop is free and open to middle school and high school math, science, and art educators. Space is limited. Participants should bring a laptop computer. **Snow Date:** March 9, 2015
Registration deadline: February 25, 2015 **For more information:** Cornelia Harris at 845 677-7600 X321, caryeducation@caryinstitute.org Location: Poughkeepsie Adriaance Library, 93 Market St, Poughkeepsie NY
- **April 16, 2015 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM**
- See above feature for details. Registration for the conference which includes a continental breakfast and lunch, is \$35. Student registration is \$20. Online registration

will be available soon on the Historic Hudson River Towns website:

- www.hudsonriver.com
- **April 23, 2015: 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM**
- **Save the Date! Future of the Wallkill River**
- Future of the Wallkill River event to focus on defining a vision for a restored Wallkill and steps that can be taken to achieve that vision. For more information, please visit:
- www.riverkeeper.org/news-events/events/rvk-events/future-of-the-walkill-river/ Location: SUNY New Paltz

- **May 9, 2015**

- **SAVE THE DATE: Riverkeeper Sweep 2015**

- Save the date for the 2015 Riverkeeper Sweep, our fourth annual day of service for the Hudson River. In 2014, a record of 1,900 volunteers turned out in 82 locations to remove more than 31 tons of trash. Check back for details. If you want to build a team and organize your own service project in your community, please contact Dana Gulley at dgulley@riverkeeper.org. See more at: <http://www.riverkeeper.org/news-events/events/rvk-events/riverkeeper-sweep-2015/#sthash.8tNbXLDw.dpuf> Location: Throughout NYC and the Hudson Valley.

- **June 20 and 21, 2015**

- **The Clearwater Festival**

- **The Great Hudson River Revival** (The Clearwater Festival) takes place on along the banks of the Hudson River at Croton Point Park in Croton-on-Hudson, NY. The special weekend pass and weekend + camping pre-sale has begun. This special pre-sale lasts only through December 22. Saturday and Sunday passes will be available in January. Ticket prices are low - and in some cases lower than they've ever been - so, make sure to purchase your weekend passes now and save! **To purchase your Revival tickets, please visit the festival website at ClearwaterFestival.org or call (877) 435-9849.**

- **[Funding Opportunities](#)**

- **Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area**

- **2015 Heritage Development Grant Program:**

- **DEADLINE:** 4:00 PM, Friday, February 6, 2015. The HRVNHA has established this grant program to fund projects that further the goals and mission of the HRVNHA. These grants are intended to provide seed money to organizations for the purposes of: programming, interpretation and marketing that support the mutual goals of the HRVNHA and applicants. A total of \$50,000 is available through this grant program. A 1 to 1 local match is required, and may be provided in the form of in-kind or monetary contributions. The Hudson River Valley Greenway is the management entity for the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area. While fulfilling the goals of this grant program, proposed projects should reflect the mission of the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area and be consistent with the goals of its Management Plan. Highest priority will be given to projects or programs that feature a designated Hudson River

Valley National Heritage Area Heritage Site. List of Designated Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area Sites (PDF). Applications may also be requested by calling (518) 473-3835, or by emailing the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area at [hrvg@hudsongreenway.ny.gov](mailto:hrvq@hudsongreenway.ny.gov) or go to <http://hudsonrivervalley.com/Grants.aspx>

- **2015 Hudson Data Jam Competition**
- Make data "sing" through creative expression! Now in its second year, the Hudson Data Jam Competition challenges students to creatively tell stories for a general audience using data from the Hudson River watershed. The Hudson River Valley is one of the most inspirational and influential regions in our country. The National Park Service called it "the landscape that defined America." This vital environmental and cultural resource has also been intensely studied for decades by scientists. Yet despite the tremendous insight gained and great discoveries made about the Hudson, many of the river's stories are not well known by the people who call the Hudson River Valley home. That's why we've begun the Hudson Data Jam Competition. We are looking for new, creative ways to present data-based stories about this 'defining' river and its watershed. Students will use at least one data set to create a graphic, rap song, sculptures, puppet shows, children's book - your imagination is the limit! Cash prizes of \$500, \$300, and \$100 will be awarded to the top projects at both the middle-school and high-school levels. <http://www.caryinstitute.org/students/hudson-data-jam-competition>
- **Trees for Tribs: Now accepting applications for free native trees and shrubs**
- The Hudson River Estuary Program's Trees for Tribs initiative offers free native trees and shrubs for streamside buffer planting/restoration projects in the Hudson River estuary watershed. Since 2007, the program has been responsible for planting more than 38,000 native trees and shrubs along 16 miles of stream with the help of thousands of local volunteers. For further information about the program, including project applications and fact sheets, please visit the DEC website, www.dec.ny.gov/lands/43668.html or contact the Hudson River Estuary Program's Stream Buffer Coordinator, Beth Roessler at 845-256-2253 or beth.roessler@dec.ny.gov

• **[Job Opportunities and Internships](#)**

- **Cornell Cooperative Extension Columbia & Greene Counties - 4-H Natural Environment Educator**
- CCE of Columbia & Greene is seeking a full-time educator responsible for implementing and marketing a comprehensive youth program for the residents of Columbia and Greene Counties in the areas of garden-based learning and environmental awareness. For this and other CCE jobs in other counties, please see [website](#) for details.
- **Join Riverkeeper's Volunteer Team!**
- At Riverkeeper, we appreciate and depend on the ongoing support our volunteers provide us with. We believe in the necessity and the right of citizens to play a primary role in the protection of their local environment. To put that belief into action, we offer the following volunteer positions in which you can help Riverkeeper and act on your passion for a clean Hudson River free of pollution and protecting the quality of drinking water for over 9 million New Yorkers! Please review the below opportunities and fill out

our required [volunteer form](#) and make sure to note if you are interested in a particular volunteer opportunity. We have several volunteer opportunities available from public education to service projects to citizen science. Click the opportunity of your choosing below for a complete listing. Please contact our Riverkeeper Fellow, Jeremy Cherson at 914.478.4501 ext. 243 or at outreach@riverkeeper.org with any questions. Please join our [facebook group](#) for Riverkeeper Volunteers. See more at:

<http://www.riverkeeper.org/get-involved/volunteer/#sthash.S4tx6Hfw.dpuf>

- **Hudson River Sloop Clearwater has ongoing internships in Environmental Action and Green Cities.** Want to help close Indian Point and transition the Hudson Valley to a green energy economy, work on environmental justice, get environmental law experience? Will tailor to your needs. Contact mannajo@clearwater.org or victor@clearwater.org or call 845-265-8080 x7113.
- **Research Assistantships for High School Students (RAHSS):**
- Funding to Broaden Participation in the Biological Sciences. For more information go to:
- http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2012/nsf12078/nsf12078.jsp?WT.mc_id=USNSF_25&WT.mc_ev=click

• [News](#)

- **Pace University's New Masters of Environmental Policy, Fall 2015**
Pace University's new MA in Environmental Policy trains recent graduates, returning students and working professionals to be "practice ready" for a full range of environmental policy careers. The forty-five credit curriculum emphasizes classroom-based skill development, training in the practical policy arts, and experiential learning taught by recognized experts and practitioners in the field. It emphasizes robust academics that lay the foundation for success. It challenges you to use your newly acquired skills in a chosen area of policy research and analysis. The MEP prepares you for positions in government, non-profit and corporate institutions. Most importantly, it teaches you how to make a difference in a complex world. For more information, visit the [MEP website](#) or contact Dr. E. Melanie DuPuis, edupuis@pace.edu.
- **Master of Science in Engineering Management Program at Clarkson University**
- Clarkson University's Master of Science in Engineering Management program is expanding this fall. The two-year, 30-credit hybrid program, designed for rising at-work professionals, focuses on building expertise in project management, financial management, quality management, and operations management. Students meet with faculty in-person at the start of each semester and continue interactions online, building a sophisticated learning community with Web-conferencing, email, social media, and other innovative technologies. For more information, visit the [program webpage](#).

• [Do you have an event or PHOTO to share?](#)

- **We would love to include your event, photo announcement or opportunity in the Hudson River Watershed Alliance Digest. Please send your one-paragraph summary to hrwadigest@gmail.com. When possible, follow regular Digest format as shown in the newsletter - include date, location, fee and contact**

details.

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- Thank you for supporting the Hudson River Watershed Alliance!
Together, we can create healthier Hudson River watersheds!
 - Please **PLEDGE YOUR SUPPORT TODAY!**

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- To learn more about the Alliance, please visit us at:
 - www.hudsonwatershed.org

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