

Meet the Presenters

Plenary and session panelists are listed alphabetically by last name below.

Mustafa Santiago Ali serves as senior advisor to EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy for Environmental Justice and Community Revitalization and serves as Associate Assistant Administrator for Environmental Justice and Community Revitalization. He has worked with over 500 communities on both the domestic and international front to secure environmental, health and economic justice. Mustafa is a founding member of the Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) and has played a major role in the design and implementation of many of EPA's most successful programs focused on environmental justice and community revitalization. In this role, Mustafa helps to elevate EJ issues to the highest levels of the Agency and works across programs to integrate and strengthen all of EPA's EJ initiatives. He also leads the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJIWG) which is made up of 17 federal agencies and White House Offices. The IWG is focused on breaking down silos and implementing holistic community-based collaborative strategies to address the impacts and opportunities that exist in our most vulnerable, overburdened, and under-resourced communities. Mustafa's work promotes meaningful, working relationships with EJ communities, as well as builds strong partnerships to address some of the country's most persistent environmental challenges.

Carol Armstrong directs LA Mayor Eric Garcetti's LARiverWorks team, which implements the LA River Revitalization Master Plan, adopted by the LA City Council in 2007. The Plan is a result of the collaboration of federal, state, and local government agencies and many nonprofit organizations, community groups, and individuals. The Plan envisions an extensive network of parks, trails, wildlife habitat, recreation, and community revitalization amenities along 64 miles of the river (both banks of its first 32 miles, which flow through LA). On a daily basis, Carol's job involves intergovernmental collaboration, constituency response, and facilitation of cross-sector projects. She helps coordinate the City's efforts as local sponsor of the US Army Corps of Engineers' LA River Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study and works to foster new partnerships. She has a PhD in planning from the University of Southern California, an MPP from Georgetown University, and a BA from Purdue University. She considers her time as a US Peace Corps volunteer in rural Thailand one of her most rewarding experiences. She may be reached at: Carol.Armstrong@lacity.org or (213) 978-2173. Please visit: www.lamayor.org and www.lariver.org.

Jamie Baxter serves as Chesapeake Bay Funders Network's (CBFN's) Program Director, applying his unique blend of experience to assist members in the development of effective and practical solutions to the vexing challenges facing the regional conservation community. Before joining CBFN, Jamie held leadership positions with Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Cahaba River Society and Maryland Department of Natural Resources. His extensive experience leading development of youth, advocacy and public policy programs built a diverse skill set in effective non-profit management and a keen understanding of the natural, social and political systems key to the success of any conservation initiative. Most recently, as Program Director with the Chesapeake Bay Trust, Jamie facilitated efforts among federal, state and local education agencies, grantees and funders to implement education reform designed to graduate environmental literate students and led CBFN's highly successful [6 year, \$4.8 Million] multi-faceted Capacity Building Initiative to help dozens of local watershed organizations increase their effectiveness to achieve clean water and healthy community goals. This work reflects Jamie's collaborative spirit and drive to engage the funding community to help craft strategies for community level impacts and systems level change.

David Beckman is president of the Pisces Foundation. In that role, David is responsible for the Foundation's strategic direction, grantmaking, and overall management. David previously was director of the national water program at the Natural Resources Defense Council, one of the nation's largest environmental advocacy organizations, where he was also a senior attorney. David co-founded and managed the launch of the water program in 2008. Under his leadership the water program became one of NRDC's six national strategic priorities; substantially expanded its staff; and tripled its financial support. Over seventeen years at NRDC David litigated a number of precedent-setting water quality cases; drafted legislation that led to implementation of groundwater monitoring and water quality programs in California; and researched and wrote reports on a variety of environmental policy matters. David began his career at Heller Ehrman White and McAuliffe in San Francisco.

Benita Best-Wong has worked in the environmental field for over 26 years and has been at EPA for 23 years. In 2011 Benita was selected as the Deputy Director of the Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds (OWOW). OWOW promotes a watershed approach to manage, protect and restore the water resources and aquatic ecosystems of the nation's marine and fresh waters. OWOW's programs include wetlands regulation and restoration, regulation of ocean dumping and vessel discharges, monitoring and assessment, including the National Aquatic Resource Surveys, nonpoint source pollution management, TMDL oversight, and building capacity of State and local governments and watershed organizations. In December 2013 Benita was selected to be Director of the Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds. As the Director, Benita leads the development of policies, regulation and guidance to ensure effective management and protection of our nation's wetlands, coasts, oceans and watersheds and she advises the Assistant Administrator for Water on a broad area of policy issues related to wetland, marine, watershed, and estuary protection.

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Sharon Bradley founded Bradley Site Design in 1994 and has been designing spaces for communities, prominent public places and institutions of cultural and historic significance in the Washington DC area for over thirty years. She is committed to creating sustainable landscapes that seamlessly mesh sound engineering with inspiring design to give character and vitality to urban spaces. Sharon serves on several sustainability-focused boards, co-chaired the 2015 DCBIA Community Improvement Day efforts, and has been the recipient of the DC Mayor's Environmental Excellence Award, a Wintergreen Award for sustainable educational projects, and two of the seven design awards for her teams' Green Infrastructure Challenge projects for DC Water. At BSD Sharon has developed a unique business model that addresses social, economic and environmental issues for a more comprehensive and quantified approach to design.

Michael Brady is the Director of Special Projects & Governmental Relations at the South Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation (SoBRO). In his capacity at SoBRO, Brady oversees the agency's environmental and land use program implementation including three (3) NYS Brownfield Opportunity Areas (BOA) – Port Morris, Harlem River; Port Morris, East River; and Eastchester, the EPA Area-Wide Study for the Bronx River - Sheridan Expressway, partnerships with the NYS Department of Environmental Protection, NYC Economic Development Corporation, and the Real Estate Advisory Services Program with the City of New York Mayor's Office of Environmental Remediation working with Brownfield clients in Brooklyn and Staten Island. Brady manages inter-agency environmental programs including green roof installation, eco-friendly social entrepreneurship programs, and ReFIT for existing industrial businesses. Mr. Brady works in conjunction with SoBRO senior leadership to pursue and achieve strategic objectives pertaining to community and economic development strategies including industrial business zone development, small business services, and youth and adult education programming. Brady leans on his experience in governmental relations to provide the leadership and expertise to forge and sustain relationships with City, State, and Federal policy makers and influencers while also implementing the agency-wide legislative agenda and budgetary goals.

Elise Bruner is the Community Organizer at Blue Water Baltimore. She seeks to better understand the issues that urban communities face and how stormwater remediation strategies can address them. By building relationships, offering training, and connecting community partners to resources, she hopes to incorporate water quality as an important component of quality of life for Baltimore City residents. Elise holds a Masters of Public Policy, focusing on Urban Policy, from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC).

Dennis Chestnut is a native Washingtonian, and is a lifetime resident of Ward 7 located in the far-northeast section of the city. Dennis is a master carpenter and educator by profession, but his dedication to youth development, community improvement and civic duty has led to his involvement with many conservation projects and enriching experiences. He is also a lover of the outdoors, has a passion for conservation and the environment, and has advised many community, business and government leaders on civic ecology and civic engagement issues. Growing up in the far-northeast section of Washington, DC, Dennis became connected to the many green spaces, parks, streams, and the Anacostia River. Dennis is founding executive director of Groundwork Anacostia River DC, co-founder of the Center for Green Urbanism (a green business incubator), and chairman of the Friends of Watts Branch (a sub-watershed organization).

Carrie Clingan is the Program Director for Community Stewardship and Youth at the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF). She has a bachelor's degree in fine art, a master's of public policy and 9 years' experience in working on national and local conservation issues with a focus on stewardship and urban conservation. Carrie directs the Five Star and Urban Waters program and partnership at NFWF, where she manages the federal and corporate relationships, develops grant slates and awards funds, creates and monitors budgets, supports partnership development, tracks funding and reports on program priorities and outcomes. In addition to the Five Star and Urban Waters program, Carrie also directs NFWF's youth programs and partnership with Wells Fargo to support the Foundation's priority of engaging people in conservation.

Dana Coelho is the Urban & Community Forestry Program Manager at US Forest Service.

Chante Coleman is the Deputy Director for the Choose Clean Water Coalition. The Coalition is an organization of over 215 non-profits advocating for the restoration of the thousands of the Chesapeake Bay. Chante coordinates policy and serves as the on-the-ground leader for the Coalition's public campaigns. Chante spearheads the Coalition's environmental justice and diversity, equity, and inclusion work. Previously, Chante worked as a Field Organizer for the California Democratic Party in an effort to re-elect Congressman Scott Peters. Prior to that, she attended California Western School of Law where she graduated Cum Laude and completed a one year internship in the legal clinic at San Diego Coastkeeper focusing on public health harms; the Clean Water Act/water pollution; threats to species in San Diego; expanding enforcement in marine protected areas; and water recycling/drought

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initiatives. Chante has her bachelor's degree in Sociology from Princeton University. A San Diego native, Chante enjoys surfing, scuba diving, and traveling.

Leslie Cox is the Environmental Stewardship Program Manager for Southern Company. Leslie is responsible for managing environmental stewardship and stakeholder engagement activities to advance her Company's environmental reputation and brand – nationally and regionally. Southern Company is America's premier energy company with electric utilities in four states, natural gas distribution utilities in seven states, a competitive generation company serving wholesale customers across America, as well as fiber optics and wireless communications. With over 25 years of experience collaborating on community-based environmental issues on both the regulatory and business side, she has successfully developed and led public-private partnerships widely recognized as models for similar efforts. Prior to joining Southern Company in 2001 to develop its strategic stewardship program, she worked on air regulatory and policy issues for Region 4 EPA. She received a B.S. from Vanderbilt University for her interdisciplinary work in environmental studies, is a 2006 National Conservation Leadership Institute alumnae, and has served in several leadership roles for professional and business associations.

Lance Davisson has served on the National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council (Council) since January 2012 and was appointed as Council Chair in November 2015. Lance is owner and principal consultant at *The Keystone Concept (TKC), LLC* in Boise, Idaho. As a natural resource professional for the past 16 years, he has worked in both public and private sectors, serving clients with an emphasis on developing sustainable projects and programs that have a positive impact on community and the environment. Lance has been fortunate to work with Urban Waters partners and projects at a variety of scales. Through *TKC, LLC*, Lance is currently Project Manager for the South Platte Natural Capital Assessment in Denver, CO. As Council Chair, he works together with USDA and the US Forest Service to further coordination of Federal Programs and the Urban Waters Partnership is one of the greatest success stories from these collaborative efforts.

Lois DeBacker is a Managing Director at The Kresge Foundation where she leads the Foundation's Environment Program, which is focused on helping communities build their resilience in the face of climate change. Lois joined Kresge in February 2008. Lois' prior experience includes more than 16 years at the C.S. Mott Foundation in a series of Program Department positions of progressive responsibility. Before joining Mott, Lois worked for ten years in Michigan state government in policy development and program management capacities. Lois received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Michigan and a Master of Public Affairs degree from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. Her graduate work focused on urban and domestic policy. Lois is the recipient of the 2015 Nicholas P. Bollman Award from the Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities. She has served on a variety of nonprofit boards.

Richard Dolesh serves as the Vice President for Conservation and Parks. He is responsible for development and implementation of national policy and initiatives related to conservation, environmental stewardship, and parks. Rich worked 30 years in parks, outdoor recreation, and natural resource management at the local and state level in Maryland prior to coming to NRPA. His recent work includes participating on the steering committee for the national Guidelines for Nature Play and Learning Places and exploring methods to implement green infrastructure solutions for stormwater management. Rich represents NRPA on a number of coalitions and advisory groups and is a frequent contributor to NRPA's *Parks and Recreation Magazine*. He has written numerous articles on parks and natural resources in a number of publications including *The Washington Post* and *National Geographic Magazine*.

Dave Evans is currently (since Fall 2013) been Deputy Director of the Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds at EPA Headquarters. In this position, he provides primary attention to internal office management functions for the office of 110+ staff. Prior to becoming OWOW's Deputy, for eight years he was Director of the Wetlands Division, where he led EPA's Section 404 regulatory program as well as the Agency's efforts to build wetland partnerships and enhance State/Tribal wetlands programs. Dave has been with EPA since 1983, when he moved from his initial Presidential Management Intern program assignment with the Dept. of Army to EPA's wastewater treatment grants program. In 1987 he shifted to the Budget Division, as the Agency's water quality budget analyst following enactment of the 1987 Water Quality Act amendments of the Clean Water Act. In 1989 he began a series of leadership positions in the Superfund and Oil Spills programs, where he worked until his 2005 move to the Wetlands Division.

Derrick Evans is the Director of Turkey Creek Community Initiatives and Managing Advisor to the Gulf Coast Fund for Community Renewal and Ecological Health. Since 2001, Derrick has worked to help protect and revitalize his coastal Mississippi community and sister communities throughout the region. Derrick is a direct descendant of the former slaves who were the first to settle Turkey Creek, and left his life as a history professor in Boston when his ancestors' graves back home were bulldozed for development. He

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founded Turkey Creek Community Initiatives in 2003 with a mission to “conserve, restore, and utilize the endangered cultural, historical and ecological assets” of his native community and watershed. When Hurricane Katrina, and then Rita, came along, Derrick put his entire life on hold to help his community in Gulfport, Miss. recover. When the BP disaster struck, Derrick was again at the forefront of the support efforts, traveling from town to town across the Gulf to meet with the people in impacted communities. He was appointed administrator of the Gulf Cost Fund, where he helped direct millions of dollars to the small groups impacted most by Katrina and the BP Disaster. A critically acclaimed documentary film called *Come Hell or High Water: The Battle for Turkey Creek*, chronicles Derrick’s struggle for justice in his coastal Mississippi community.

Sheila E. Frace is Deputy Director of EPA’s Office of Wastewater Management. Her Office has broad responsibility for: Water Infrastructure finance, Wastewater permitting under the Clean Water Act, EPA’s WaterSense program, and various other partnership and technical assistance programs supporting state and local water programs, including green infrastructure. Ms. Frace has worked on water issues at EPA for 32 years, managing the development of technology-based regulations for industrial wastewater, implementing regulations through permitting and enforcement, managing environmental funding programs, and encouraging the adoption of non-regulatory solutions through partnership programs and technical assistance. Notable accomplishments include launching the WaterSense program (which has saved 1.5 trillion gallons of water and an estimated 212 billion kWh of energy,) leading implementation of EPA’s largest funding program under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, and promulgating regulations that have reduced annual water pollutant loadings by 100’s of millions of pounds each year. Ms. Frace holds a bachelor’s degree in Environmental Engineering from Penn State, and received the Presidential Rank of Meritorious Executive in the Senior Executive Service in 2004.

Naomi Friedman works in the Office of Economic Resilience at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. At HUD, Naomi manages a portfolio of regional planning and community challenge grants, coordinates sustainability work on the regional and field level, and helps lead communications activities for the office. Prior to coming to HUD, Naomi worked at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, the National Association of Regional Councils, NACo (the National Association of Counties), and some energy and environmental groups. Naomi has a masters degree in Urban and Environmental Policy from Tufts University.

Florence Fulk, PhD, is a Task Lead in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA’s) Sustainable and Healthy Communities Research Program, where she promotes the use of HIA in both policy and community decision-making. She is co-lead of four EPA-led HIAs; is facilitating several initiatives within EPA on the use of HIA in NEPA reviews, environmental justice, and cumulative risk assessment; and is supporting HIA efforts through the National Prevention Council. Florence has worked with EPA since 1990 and prior to her work with HIA she gained extensive experience with the application of experimental design and statistical analysis of data across numerous scientific disciplines, including ecology, biology, microbiology, engineering, chemistry, and quality assurance. Dr. Fulk received her B.S. in Mathematics from Xavier University, M.S. in Statistics from Miami University, and a Ph.D. in Epidemiology from the University of Cincinnati.

Robert García engages, educates, and empowers communities for equal access to public resources. He is the Founding Director and Counsel of The City Project, a non-profit civil rights and environmental justice team based in L.A. The City Project has led community efforts to green communities of color and low income communities, improve public health, promote climate justice, create green jobs - and avoid displacement as communities become greener, more desirable and more expensive. The City Project’s chapter on “The Children of the L.A. River” is forthcoming in the Smithsonian book *Reclaiming the Edge: Urban Waters and Civic Engagement*. Hispanic Business Magazine named him one of the 100 most influential Latinos in the U.S., and PODER one of the top 100 Latino green leaders.

Jacqueline Goodall has served as mayor of the Town of Forest Heights since 2011 and served as councilperson from 2007 - 2011. Under her leadership the town has moved to the forefront of sustainable practices and established itself as a “green” municipality. She works locally and nationally to bring awareness, to communicate, and to educate elected officials and the community of environmental requirements and responsibilities that they have, as well as highlighting environmental injustice. A graduate of Indiana State University (Gary) School of SPEA with a degree in Urban Development and Planning, received her Watershed Steward Certification from the Anacostia Watershed Society and most recently received her certification in Public Administration from Prince Georges Community College. Goodall was the 2011 recipient of the Chesapeake Bay Trust’s Ellen Frites Wagner (Steward of the Year) Award. She is currently a board member for the Forest Heights-Oxon Hill Community Development Corp., a member of the EPA Local Government Advisory Council, President of the Maryland Black Mayors Inc., and a Trustee member of the African American Mayors Association.

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Judson Greif is Deputy Director of the US Water Alliance. Judson has almost two decades of experience in managing policy advocacy campaigns on issues including health care, education, and infrastructure. Prior to the US Water Alliance, Judson managed the infrastructure financing policy group at K&L Gates, LLP, an international law firm in Washington, DC. In this role Judson successfully advocated for the legislation of multiple innovative infrastructure proposals and worked closely with stakeholders on the implementation of tax and finance incentives for public infrastructure projects. He has authored legislative proposals to increase capital flow for infrastructure financing and development, and works regularly with myriad stakeholders on the development and implementation of new strategies. Judson holds a Master's in Business Administration from the University of Washington and a BA from the University of Puget Sound.

Peter Grevatt is the Director of the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water. The Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water in collaboration with states, tribes and its many stakeholders, is responsible for safeguarding America's drinking water. He is responsible for the development and implementation of national drinking water standards, oversight and funding of state drinking water programs and the implementation of source water protection and underground injection control programs to protect public health nationwide. Prior to joining the OGWDW in October of 2012, Peter Grevatt served as the Director of the Office of Children's Health Protection and served as the Senior Advisor to EPA's Administrator for Children's Environmental Health. Peter has held leadership roles in EPA's national hazardous waste and water quality programs.

Dr. Erica L. Holloman earned a B.S. in Marine and Environmental Science and a M.S. in Biology with a concentration in Environmental Science from Hampton University. She earned her Ph.D. from the School of Marine Science at the College of William & Mary, Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS). Dr. Holloman's area of expertise lies in the field of marine science, environmental risk assessments (human and ecological), community-based participatory research (CBPR), and environmental justice. She currently volunteers as Coalition Coordinator for the Southeast CARE Coalition, a broad, grassroots, community-based alliance created to address environmental concerns in the Southeast Community of Newport News, Virginia. Dr. Holloman is also the founder and CEO of Ayika Solutions, Inc, an environmental consulting firm focused on providing scientifically sound, community-specific, and socially relevant environmental information. Her interest in Urban Waters issues lies in those sacred spaces where science and authentic community engagement merge into implementable solutions.

David R. Ives serves as the Planning/Sustainability Coordinator for the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) within the U.S. Department of Commerce. David coordinates EDA's Planning Program, with a particular focus on helping communities and regions develop effective long-term economic development strategies. In addition, as the principal connection point for EDA's role in environmentally-sustainable development, David crafts sustainability policy and oversees "green" program implementation, technical assistance, information tracking and dissemination, outreach/coordination, and program evaluation. David is a founding member of the Urban Waters Federal Partnership, and strongly believes that healthy and accessible urban waterways are an important asset in many regional economic ecosystems – and can serve a catalytic role in local economic revitalization.

Dan Jirón, a long time USDA Forest Service employee, assumed the position of acting Associate Chief of Forest Service in Washington, DC on June 13. Prior to this assignment he most recently served as the Regional Forester for the Rocky Mountain Region since 2012 where he oversaw 22 million acres of national forests and national grasslands throughout Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming.

Natalie Johnson is the Urban Waters Ambassador to the Northwest Indiana Urban Waters Federal Partnership location. Funded by the U.S. Forest Service, her position is housed at Purdue University Northwest, Calumet Campus, where she coordinates federal, state and community partners involved in the local Urban Waters Partnership, as well as engages college students in regional water quality, quantity, and access efforts. Natalie has been working on water quality efforts and environmental community outreach for the last twelve years. Natalie holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology and a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education, emphasis Biology, from the University of Missouri—St. Louis. She also holds a Master of Science in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Sabrina Johnson leads US EPA Office of Transportation & Air Quality's (OTAQ's) Near- port Community Capacity Building Project and played a principal role in planning the *National Conversation on Ports* webinar listening sessions and the *National Port Stakeholders Summit*. She also participates on the Environmental Justice Interagency Workgroup Goods Movement Committee. In addition, Sabrina has served as policy staff lead for airport air quality issues including research efforts to characterize aviation emissions. Her community-focused work includes projects associated with the Partnership for Sustainable Communities, the America's Great Outdoors Initiative, and the Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) program. Sabrina joined EPA

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after working on environmental issues in the electronics manufacturing sector where she held positions including Manufacturing Development Engineer and Corporate Environmental, Health and Safety Program Manager, earning distinctions for environmental leadership. Sabrina earned a B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering from The Johns Hopkins University, and is certified in Alternative Dispute Resolution.

Dr. Cassandra Johnson Gaither is a Research Social Scientist with the Integrating Human and Natural Systems research group in Athens, GA. Dr. Gaither's research focuses on socially vulnerable populations and their engagement with natural resources such as wildland recreation areas, human community exposure to wildfire, climate change, and heirs' property across the U.S. South. She is currently examining the environmental justice implications of tree distribution in the City of Atlanta and is conducting a baseline assessment of social stressors in two communities comprising Atlanta's Proctor Creek Watershed.

Dwane Jones, Ph.D., is the Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at the University of the District of Columbia, a division of the College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability, and Environmental Sciences (CAUSES). Dwane and his colleagues conduct research and teach courses in Urban Sustainability, Urban Design, Urban Planning, Public Policy and Health, Research and Ethics and Low Impact Development. He has degrees in Urban Planning, Environmental Planning, and Urban Design. Dwane's interests in Urban Waters issues includes water quality, community health, and economic enhancement through transformations in the built environment.

Leslie Jones has worked in conservation for more than two decades. Prior to joining the Obama Administration at the Department of Agriculture, she was General Counsel for The Wilderness Society. She is a graduate of Vermont Law School. She grew up on both coasts, in California and Maine, and now lives in Virginia.

Sven-Erik Kaiser leads the water, pesticides and toxics team in EPA's congressional affairs office. Before working on congressional affairs, Mr. Kaiser coordinated policy and research for the EPA Brownfields Program. Mr. Kaiser also worked at EPA in the Superfund Revitalization Office, the Superfund Enforcement Office, and the Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office. He has also worked at the U.S. Department of Justice, in a Congressional office, and for the State of New York. Mr. Kaiser earned J.D. and B.A. degrees from Syracuse University and an M.P.A. from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs.

Adam Kent is a Program Officer in the Washington, DC office of the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC). There, he is the lead Program Officer responsible for LISC's \$50 million Elevating Equity Initiative, a commitment LISC has made to help foster equity, inclusiveness, and an improved quality of life in the neighborhoods surrounding the future 11th Street Bridge Park. He also provides technical assistance, such as project management and data analysis, as well as grant management for LISC partners, helping these local nonprofits grow their capacity. Past and current partners include the 11th Street Bridge Park and its Equitable Development Plan, Martha's Table, and the Skyland Workforce Center. Adam is also responsible for expanding LISC's corridor-specific investment strategies to include a more intentional approach to economic and small business development. Adam analyzes budget and legislative changes that affect community development in the District, and conducts data analysis and mapping to further inform LISC's investment decisions. Prior to joining LISC, Adam worked as a high school math teacher in DC Public Schools and as a researcher at the Urban Institute. He holds a BA in Economics from Macalester College, a MA in Teaching from American University, and a MPA from Princeton University.

Hannah Kett is the Development and Communications Manager for the Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition / Technical Advisory Group. In this role, she coordinates external communications and outreach events, collaborates with the community and staff to seek funding, and provides support to ensure the success of DRCC/TAG's programs and work. Hannah has worked in sustainability and neighborhoods since her college days. Living in a urbanized city surrounded by water and working on a river heavily impacted by urbanization, the subject of urban waters is close to her heart – specifically how we can push for cleaner waters for everyone and how we can better ensure that those living around these waters have equitable access for their enjoyment and health.

Dr. Marva King is the Senior Policy Advisor to the Director of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ), and, to the Assistant Associate Administrator and Senior Advisor for EJ and Community Revitalization to the EPA Administrator. Dr. King worked in the Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) as their EJ Coordinator and served as the main point of contact for the Agency's Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) Program. Historically, she worked in OEJ managing the first EJ Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Program and the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council. Her connections include stakeholders from community groups, business/industry, state/local/tribal government, academia, non-governmental organizations, and federal agencies. Awards include the 2010 Child Health Advocate Award, the EPA 2010 Gold Medal

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for the CARE Program, and the EPA 2015 Bronze Medal for the Community Involvement Conference. She holds a Masters in Public Administration from the University of Delaware and a Ph.D. in Public Policy from George Mason University.

Michelle Kondo, Ph.D., is a social scientist with the USDA-Forest Service, Philadelphia Field Station. She completed doctoral training in urban design and planning at the University of Washington, and postdoctoral training in environmental health and epidemiology at the University of Pennsylvania. Her research focuses on environmental strategies for disease, violence, and injury prevention in the context of legacy cities and low-resource communities in urban areas. She has conducted evaluations of nature-based strategies, such as green stormwater infrastructure, vacant lot greening, and tree plantings, on human health and safety outcomes. All of these strategies are important components of Urban Waters projects and partnerships.

Katrina Lashley has served as Project Coordinator of *Urban Waterways* at Smithsonian's Anacostia Community Museum for the past four and a half years. Additionally, she works with Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street (MoMS) program to document water-based initiatives and programming at the Smithsonian and highlight the efforts of communities in the MoMS network to engage their residents in issues pertaining to their local waterways. Katrina received her B.A. in English Literature and Italian at Rutgers University and completed a Master's in History (Public History track) at American University with a focus on the British Caribbean. She has worked on projects for the National Museum of American History and Arlington House. In addition to her public history work, Ms. Lashley was a teacher of English Literature and Language for twelve years.

Dr. Javier Laureano, MPA, Ph.D., is the Executive Director of the San Juan Bay Estuary Program. Dr. Laureano embraced a career in the environmental field 21 years ago when he began working as the Executive Director of Industry and Commerce pro Recycling. During his 10-years tenure in this organization, he was the co-founder of the Latin American Federation of Business Associations to Promote Recycling in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Laureano also developed several initiatives with top government and corporate executives from the Caribbean and Puerto Rico to strengthen recycling markets, education and communications in the region. Since 2005 Laureano is the Executive Director of the San Juan Bay Estuary Program, located in the Caribbean island of Puerto Rico. In the Academia, Laureano has published several papers in peer-reviewed Journals, participated as speaker on national and local conferences and taught an undergraduate course named "Environmental Thought" at the University of Puerto Rico. In July 2016 Laureano published the first gay history of Puerto Rico with his book "San Juan Gay".

Ian Leahy is Director of Urban Forest Programs at American Forests.

Jeff Lerner has worked on partnerships involving habitat conservation for several conservation organizations over the past 20 years including The Nature Conservancy, Defenders of Wildlife and the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. He has recently led several climate adaptation planning efforts with The Conservation Fund including the development of a green infrastructure resilience strategy for the Greater Baltimore Wilderness Coalition. He holds a Master's of Science in Conservation Biology and Sustainable Development as well as a Bachelor's degree in Zoology. Jeff currently serves as Vice President for Conservation Programs for American Forests focusing on restoring forest ecosystems, forested watersheds and urban forests. He is also helping to manage the Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grants Program, a new collaboration between the EPA and the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities.

David Lloyd is the Director of the Office of Brownfields & Land Revitalization in the EPA Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response. David assumed this position in January of 2006 after holding a variety of positions in the areas of private and Government legal practice, real estate development and operations. David received his undergraduate degree in English Literature from the George Washington University in 1985, and a law degree from Washington and Lee University in 1988. David is a proud citizen of the Cherokee Nation and lives with assorted large, hungry pets in Lexington, Virginia and Washington, DC.

Pauline Louie as the Urban Waters Los Angeles River Watershed Ambassador, coordinates a federal partnership that works to facilitate revitalization projects on the Los Angeles River. Currently supported by the USEPA, she comes to the role from the US Department of HUD, where for over 15 years she was a liaison on sustainability, housing, community and economic development. As a disaster specialist, Pauline led the FEMA housing recovery team following Florida's 2004 hurricanes. Over 250 community and tribal organizations across the country have also benefited from her grant writing and non-profit management training. Prior to federal service, Pauline consulted on redevelopment and BRAC reuse for Keyser Marston Associates, Inc., and was a Contracts and Grants Administrator for the University of California. She attended UCLA for a BA in Political Science, BA in Geography/Environmental Studies, and her MA in Urban Planning, with a focus on environmental and transportation planning. Pauline has also completed an executive program in Community Building at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

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Carl Lucero is the Director of Landscape Restoration and Ecosystem Services Research in the R&D branch of the Forest Service where he guides a team of national program leads in Urban Sustainability, Wildlife, Aquatics, Ecosystem Services, Wilderness, Nano Technology, Economics, and Social Science research. He came to the Forest Service from USDA's Office of Environmental Markets (OEM) where he led the development of a national environmental infrastructure for emerging carbon, water, wetlands and biodiversity markets. Carl believes a stronger presence in urban settings will enable the Forest Service to help reach our urban populations and inspire a 21st century land ethic that extends along the urban to rural gradient. Bringing Forest Service knowledge and expertise to urban places will help create vibrant, resilient communities and improve people's lives.

Michelle Luebke is the Ecology Director for the Bronx River Alliance. Michelle has been working in the field of Citizen Science for over ten years, leading adults and school groups through creeks and natural areas, managing ecological monitoring programs, and teaching about environmental science and sustainability. She holds advanced degrees from the University of Georgia in Geography (emphasis in fluvial geomorphology) and Conservation Ecology & Sustainable Development and from New York University in Environmental Conservation Education. The Bronx River is considered the only freshwater river in NYC and is on the 303(d) list for floatables, fecal pathogens, and low Dissolved Oxygen. Michelle's work at the Alliance includes developing Citizen Science programs to engage local communities in environmental monitoring, mitigate stormwater and urban pollutants, promote civic advocacy, and challenge Environmental Justice issues in a highly urbanized and historically vulnerable community.

Cynthia Martinez is the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Chief of the National Wildlife Refuge System. Martinez, a 22-year veteran of the agency, served as the Service's deputy chief for the Refuge System since 2012 until moving into her current position in 2015. As Chief, Martinez leads the management of the world's premier system of public lands and waters set aside to conserve America's fish, wildlife, and plants. The Refuge System comprises more than 150 million acres and 565 units. There is a national wildlife refuge in every state and U.S. territory. Martinez previously managed the [Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex](#) in Nevada – one of the largest wildlife refuge complexes in the contiguous United States. She has also served as an Assistant Field Supervisor working on endangered species issues and as a fish biologist. Within headquarters, Cynthia oversaw the development of the *Conserving the Future* Strategic Vision, the Service's renewed vision for the growth and management of the Refuge System. Martinez began her career as a student trainee in the Service's Arizona State Office in Phoenix, Arizona. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree from New Mexico State University and a Masters of Science degree from the University of Arizona.

Gina McCarthy is the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Appointed by President Obama in 2009 as Assistant Administrator for EPA's Office of Air and Radiation, Gina McCarthy has been a leading advocate for common-sense strategies to protect public health and the environment. Previously, McCarthy served as the Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection. During her career, which spans over 30 years, she has worked at both the state and local levels on critical environmental issues and helped coordinate policies on economic growth, energy, transportation.

Tara McGuinness serves as a Senior Advisor to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Director Shaun Donovan, and Executive Director of the Community Solutions Team, an effort aimed at improving the interagency work of the federal government to deliver improved outcomes for communities. From 2013-2015 Tara served as a Senior Communications Advisor and a member of the White House team working to implement the Affordable Care Act and sign up 8 million Americans by the end of open enrollment in 2014. Tara has been working at the nexus of public policy and citizen engagement for over a decade. Prior to joining the White House, she was the Executive Director of the Center for American Progress Action Fund and a senior vice-president at the think tank, the Center for American Progress where she worked on a wide-range of issues from economic equity to climate and resilience policies. Tara has worked in Congress and for domestic and international non-profits and campaigns focused on engaging citizens in driving the direction of their communities.

Stan Meiburg serves as the Acting Deputy Administrator of EPA, continuing a career spanning over 36 years at EPA in locations around the country. He has broad experience in the management of the agency across the spectrum of EPA's activities, and has received numerous awards, including recognition as a Distinguished Federal Executive in 2012 and as a Meritorious Federal Executive in 1997. He received EPA's Gold Medal in 1990 for his work on the Clean Air Act Amendments, and Silver Medal in 1983 for work on state-federal relations. Meiburg spent 18 years as Deputy Regional Administrator of EPA's Region 4 office in Atlanta, Georgia, following service as Deputy Regional Administrator in EPA's Region 6 office in Dallas, Texas. He is the second person in EPA history to serve as Deputy Regional Administrator in more than one region. Meiburg joined EPA in 1977, serving in a variety of positions in Washington, D.C., Research Triangle Park, N.C., and Dallas, Texas, before coming to Atlanta. Meiburg holds a B.A. degree from Wake Forest University and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in political science from The Johns Hopkins University.

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Lesly Melendez returned to GWL as the Community Engagement Director in the fall of 2014. Lesly previously worked for GWL from 2004 – 2007 managing outreach, projects and events. Between working for GWL Lesly worked for Comcast and partnered with GWL to lead Earth Day/Comcast Cares Day for 5 years. Lesly's passion and commitment for the environment and her community have made her a great re-addition to the GWL family. As a lifelong resident of the City of Lawrence, she has always been passionate about serving the community. She has served on numerous volunteer boards and on the City's Planning Board as a voting member and later as chair. She continues to be involved in community initiatives through her work and her personal life.

Lesly is currently enrolled in a certificate program with the Institute for Non-Profit Management and Leadership through the Jonathan M. Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service at Tufts University and will be enrolling in the Masters of Public Policy program through the Department of Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning at Tufts in Fall of 2017. Lesly brings her love of writing, community and civic engagement and her passion for trees to GWL, and is excited that she and her daughter have rejoined the Groundwork family.

Michelle Melendez is Development Director at First Choice Community Healthcare, a Federally-Qualified Health Center system in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Michelle develops resources for programs and capital projects and develops relationships and strategic partnerships with community leaders, governments, organizations and innovators. She is the lead partner on behalf of First Choice in a CDC REACH grant; the BUILD Health Challenge sponsored by the Kresge, Robert Wood Johnson, deBeaumont and Colorado Health foundations along with the Advisory Board Company; and the IHI SCALE Pacesetter Initiative. Michelle serves on numerous boards, health councils and coalitions, as has completed two fellowships with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Her interest in Urban Waters stems from her recognition that the health of people is tied to the health of places where they live, work, learn and play.

Erik Meyers is Vice President of The Conservation Fund, a top rated charity making conservation work for America over three decades. Erik currently leads the Fund's projects on climate adaptation and resiliency, directs urban water sustainability efforts, and assists with the Fund's mitigation program. He also serves on the board and executive committee of the Natural Capital Investment Fund, a \$30 million multi-state subsidiary of the Fund lending to support sustainable businesses and communities. Erik currently co-chairs the Greater Baltimore Wilderness Coalition, SAGE Finance Work Group, and the Chesapeake Bay Program's Climate Resiliency Work Group. A board member of the US Water Alliance and Wildlife Habitat Council, he has written published books, articles and editorials and organized educational programs on law, policy and management issues relating to water. A member of NY, DC and VA bars, Erik received a law degree from Fordham University School of Law and bachelor's from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service.

Vernice Miller-Travis is the Senior Advisor for Environmental Justice and Equitable Development in the Community Planning and Revitalization Group of the environmental consulting firm Skeo Solutions. She provides technical expertise for collaborative planning and design services in area-wide land revitalization, equitable community redevelopment and environmental justice. Ms. Miller-Travis has over 25 years of experience in environmental policy development and analysis, hazardous waste abatement and remediation, community centered brownfields redevelopment, multi-stakeholder environmental problem solving, sustainable community development and design, environmental justice advocacy, urban green space design, land preservation and Geographic Information Systems analysis. Prior to joining Skeo Solutions, Ms. Miller-Travis served as the Director of the Environmental Justice Initiative of the Natural Resources Defense Council, a Program Officer at the Ford Foundation, Executive Director of Groundwork USA, and co-founder of We ACT for Environmental Justice. She also serves as Vice-Chair of the Maryland Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities.

Ann-Marie Mitroff is the River Program Director for Groundwork USA. She also serves as a co-coordinator of the EPA Urban Waters Learning Network with partner organization, River Network. Using her 20+ years of on-the-ground experience in managing conservation and river projects in urban areas, she provides guidance and program perspectives to urban waters practitioners across the country including local Groundwork Trusts through the Urban Waters Learning Network. Ann-Marie is also Groundwork Hudson Valley's River Program Director. For over a decade, she's been responsible for implementing river restoration efforts including tree planting and invasives management, water quality and fish studies, wetland reviews, municipal stormwater/green infrastructure projects, and river clean-ups. She coordinated the City of Yonkers' habitat plan and community engagement process on the 8-year Saw Mill River Daylighting project, completed in 2012. Prior to joining Groundwork, she developed and managed water and energy conservation programs for public and private utilities in Santa Cruz and San Jose California; Washington, DC; and Seattle. Ann-Marie has an MPA from Seattle University and a BA from the University of Washington. She is based in Yonkers, NY.

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Donna Myers is Chief of the Office of Water Quality and Senior Water Quality Advisor for the U.S. Geological Survey and is located at their headquarters in Reston, VA. Donna coordinates water quality activities for the USGS as a technical leader and oversees the National Water Quality Laboratory and Branch of Quality Systems. Prior to her position as Senior Water Quality Advisor, Donna served as the Chief of the USGS National Water-Quality Assessment (NAWQA) Program. The NAWQA Program provides scientific assessments of the quality of streams and ground water in river basins and aquifer systems representing more than 60 percent of the Nation's water use for public supply and irrigation. NAWQA Program informs policymakers on the science behind a wide range of water-quality issues.

Yudith Nieto was born in Mexico and grew up in the fence-line refining community of Manchester in Houston, TX. Which inspired Yudith to become involved in the environmental justice movement. Yudith now works with Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Services (t.e.j.a.s) to address the environmental impacts, public health, and urban development issues in her city. She is a member of the Environmental Justice & Health Alliance and the Moving Forward Network. Earlier this year she was named one of the 15 youth leaders of Climate Justice workgroup within the EPAs National Advisory Council of Environmental Justice. She is a 2013 graduate of the Four Directions Intergenerational Youth Exchange of Los Jardines Institute in Albuquerque, NM, where she learned how to build an intergenerational movement along with how the Chicana, Mexican American, and Indigenous cultures are intrinsically linked to the struggle of environmental justice. Yudith is now currently working with other youth, national and internationally to create youth leadership and art in activism trainings to teach people about environmental issues that affect their communities through culture, and the arts. Yudith is dedicated to confronting the petrochemical industries that perpetuate environmental racism and classism in marginalized communities of color, which lead her to be part of a Rights of Nature Tribunal that was held concurrently with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP 21). In collaboration with other Indigenous South American, African, Native American communities, she was able to contribute to the discussion on the many issues they face because of the fossil fuel industry, as well as other human rights issues that impact their way of life.

Kevin O'Hara is NRPA's Vice President of Urban and Government Affairs where he oversees NRPA's federal advocacy efforts with Congress and the Administration. He also leads the organizations efforts to promote parks and recreation agencies as leading problem solvers in American cities. O'Hara has a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and a Masters in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Minnesota's Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs. O'Hara and his wife and 15 month old son, are residents of the Petworth Neighborhood in the District of Columbia. His free time pursuits include hiking, travel, and good food, but now that he is a father of a toddler does none of these things.

Dr. Na'Taki Osbourne Jelks co-founded the West Atlanta Watershed Alliance (WAWA), an urban, community-based organization of Proctor, Utoy, and Sandy Creek Watershed residents in Northwest and Southwest Atlanta, GA who are overburdened with environmental stressors and pollution, but often underrepresented at environmental decision-making tables. WAWA was established as a result of community efforts to halt discriminatory wastewater treatment practices in West Atlanta, and the organization has grown to become an impactful force in community-centered sustainable development. Under Dr. Jelks' leadership, WAWA worked with West Atlanta residents to impact the closure of a combined sewer overflow facility and has led community efforts for more than a decade to clean up, protect, and restore Proctor Creek, one of Metro Atlanta's most impaired waterways. Dr. Jelks was also heavily involved in WAWA's co-founding of the Proctor Creek Stewardship Council (PCSC), a grassroots organization that engages Proctor Creek residents in community-driven, collaborative problem solving processes, along with government, academia, and other stakeholders, to identify innovative, community-engaged approaches for environmental restoration of the watershed. In addition to her community leadership and activism, Dr. Jelks is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Environmental Health at Agnes Scott College in Decatur, Georgia.

Lisa Pelstring has worked in the environmental field for the last twenty years in the nongovernment and government sectors. In 2011, Lisa was hired to work on urban environmental issue for former Interior Deputy Secretary David J. Hayes. She currently serves as an Advisor to the Assistant Secretary for Water and Science and the Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks at the U.S. Department of the Interior. In this role, Pelstring is working across Interior Bureaus to spearhead an Administration initiative launched by U.S. EPA in 2011, the Urban Waters Federal Partnership (UWFP)—a collaborative effort among 14 federal agencies working at the intersection of economic revitalization and environmental restoration in underserved communities. Previously, Lisa worked for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Environmental Law Institute, and Cornell University. She holds a BA from Hamilton College and an MS from Cornell and has published numerous articles and book chapters on risk communication, environmental attitudes and behavior, public participation, informed decision making, and restoring urban nature.

Jeff Reinbold is Assistant Director for Partnerships and Civic Engagement, National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

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Ed Reyes sees Urban Water Issues as a focal point of his career as an environmental justice advocate, 12 year City Council Member for City of Los Angeles and as a parent. For the past 26 years, Mr. Reyes has organized multicultural communities to promote their vision of a healthy community. Raised in the inner city of Los Angeles in the midst of abandoned rail yards and neglected communities, Mr. Reyes has connected traditionally ignored communities with the civic process. As a former elected official, populated with over 280,000 persons representing every major international City, Mr. Reyes and his colleagues leveraged public private resources to invest in undesirable locations to promote access to affordable housing, recreational facilities within the context of recently established light rail corridors. Mr. Reyes established the Ad-Hoc Los Angeles River Committee to formally address the Los Angeles River as a municipal asset to be nurtured with a focus on introducing strategies to save and promote ecosystems linked with the watershed.

Joe Rieger began working for the non-profit Elizabeth River Project as a staff scientist in 2002, and now serves as the Deputy Director of Restoration. Joe Rieger received his Bachelors of Science from Ohio University in 1998 and a Masters degree in Aquatic Ecology from Old Dominion University in 2002. Joe has overseen on-the-ground urban restoration projects including sediment, wetland, oyster restoration. His work allows him to work directly with the citizens of Hampton Roads, waterfront industries, federal and state governments, and universities to restore the Elizabeth River. The work which the Elizabeth River Project carries out results in measurable improvements in water quality, river health, and citizen behavior change. These direct improvements to the community and the river are what is most rewarding to him.

Claire Robinson is trained as an architect, has her masters in Urban Planning, an MBA from UCLA. She 25 years of practice as a teacher, Community Based Designer, Sustainable City Planner in Canada, Paris, London, New York and Los Angeles. Claire has served as founder and Managing Director of Amigos de los Rios since 2003, during which period Amigos has led conception and development of a regional network of open spaces keyed off Los Angeles Basin urban river corridors known as the Emerald Necklace Green Infrastructure Network. She is committed to training the next generation of sustainable city planners to “bring nature back” to our cities: at Amigos she has mentored over 100 regional college students in community based multi objective park design and implementation. She is a national leader in Metropolitan Greenspace development, serves as member of the National Urban Forestry Advisory Council, San Gabriel Mountains Forever Coalition and ENVIROMETRO.

Angie Rosser joined West Virginia Rivers Coalition as the Executive Director in 2012, bringing 22-years of experience working in West Virginia on social justice issues in the non-profit sector. She grew up near the urban waters of the Ohio River, where it was and still is unthinkable to swim safely. She now lives along the banks of the Elk River, that was devastated by record flooding last month. Her motivation for clean water advocacy is personal; she wants to be able to swim again in her backyard river. Her motivation is also political; she believes everyone, in urban and rural communities, has a right to enjoy clean water and that conservation of our water resources is central to a shared prosperity. Angie holds a BA in Anthropology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and an MA in Organizational Communication from West Virginia University.

Deborah Scott, Executive Director of Georgia Stand-UP and founder of “It’s time to TRADE-UP”, is a 2012 “White House Champion of Change,” honoree and is a dynamic leader in national and local initiatives. Ms. Scott is a founding board member and current vice-chair of the National Board of Directors of the Partnership for Working Families and serves on the executive board of Atlanta’s Transformation Alliance. Ms. Scott is currently working with EPA Region IV, Trash Free Waters and the Community Improvement Association to develop and implement a model community workforce Clean-up program for Proctor Creek. Driven by principles of social justice, economic equity, and inclusion, for more than a dozen years, Ms. Scott has served as the inaugural Executive Director and a founder of the non-profit (Georgia) STAND-UP, a “Think and Act Tank for Working Communities,” and founder of TRADE-UP, a national model for skills training and workforce development. Trade-UP has graduated over 150 community workers in construction skills and certifications. Ms. Scott innovated workforce development models with the Build-UP Program and organized the inaugural Atlanta’s Emerald Cities Collaborative Table. Scott has helped to build and sustain coalitions among neighborhood groups, labor, academic institutions, business, environmentalists, and government. Scott has helped to foster the establishment of regional tables on equity in transportation policy and economic opportunity. Ms. Scott is a trainer, and expert implementer of complex, mission-driven initiatives and widely recognized as a visionary thought leader and “doer”. She is an active organizer, community engagement facilitator and has a heart and history of providing public service and community capacity building for marginalized communities in the South. Ms. Scott a graduate of Clark (College) Atlanta University, has lived and worked in the Atlanta region for more than 30 years, grew up in Oberlin, Ohio and Boston, MA. Scott is the 2015 Rainbow Push Innovation Award and received the National Black Women’s Roundtable “Sistar” Award in 2016.

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Sally Sears is an award-winning news reporter and a Founding Board Member of the South Fork Conservancy, a public-private partnership restoring urban creeks and re-connecting people to the watersheds in their back yards. The Trust for Public Land named her its 2015 TrailBlazer for her leadership of the vision of the South Fork of Peachtree Creek. Her work is an outgrowth of 25 years of news reporting in growing cities across the Sunbelt. Special televised stories on solutions to Georgia's growth issues of water, land use and traffic helped her find the broader community connections to create cooperation among partners. Current television reports include commentary and specialized news reporting on CBS 46. She is a founding chair of the DeKalb County watershed oversight committee. Sally is a native of Montevallo, Alabama, an unrepentant Girl Scout, and a magna cum laude graduate of Princeton University.

Surabhi Shah is the Director of EPA's Urban Waters Program which supports local efforts to improve local waters while revitalizing communities. She is also a candidate in EPA's Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program, in recognition of her commitment to public service and leadership. Surabhi has been working in the environmental field for over twenty years. At EPA, she's led innovation in the agency's water quality, drinking water and stakeholder engagement programs. Prior to coming to EPA, Surabhi held leadership positions in North Carolina Department of Environmental and Natural Resources in the state's programs for protecting drinking water sources and for expedited clean-up of soil and groundwater at hazardous sites. Upon receiving the CIDA Award for Canadians, she took a sabbatical to evaluate community-driven water projects in Gujarat state of India. Surabhi holds a Bachelor's degree in Systems Design Engineering, a Master's degree in Civil & Environmental Engineering, and a certification in Leadership Coaching. When she's off the clock, she's playing music or performing stories.

Michael H. Shapiro joined the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Water as the Deputy Assistant Administrator in November 2002. Prior to that, he was the Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER). Mr. Shapiro has also served as Director of the Office of Solid Waste, and Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Office of Air and Radiation, where he directed implementation of the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments. From 1980 to 1989, Mr. Shapiro held a variety of positions in the Office of Pesticides and Toxic Substances, where one of his responsibilities was developing EPA's Toxic Release Inventory. Mr. Shapiro has a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Lehigh and a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering from Harvard. He has also taught in the public policy program at the John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Mike Shaw is the new Coordinator of Conservation Content & Partnerships for the Wildlife Habitat Council. He is responsible for the smooth running of the Content and Partnership department by providing support for important WHC programs such as (but not limited to) the Conservation Academy webinar series as well as the annual Conservation Conference. He attended the University of Maryland, College Park, where he studied Environmental Science with a focus in Public Policy.

Roy Simon is lead staff for the Urban Waters Federal Partnership. He has previously managed prevention programs for the sources of drinking water at 160,000 water systems -- the Source Water Protection and Underground Injection Control Programs. Roy was also the Designated Federal Official for two EPA Advisory Committees: Drinking Water and the Local Government Advisory Committee. Prior to EPA he worked at the National Governors' Association and the Department of Health and Human Services entering federal service as a Presidential Management Intern in 1978. Roy has an M.S. from Carnegie-Mellon University's Heinz School of Public Policy and a B.S. from Penn State University.

Lorisa Smith has been with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources for nearly ten years. Through her experience with the department, she has gained a broad knowledge of the diverse environmental programs, served as the agency's Performance Partnership Grant coordinator, and helped develop state legislation and regulations. In her current position as a policy coordinator, her responsibilities require her to work closely with a variety of federal, state, and local government officials to collaboratively leverage the tools and resources available to address urban waters challenges. She also serves as a co-chair for the Environmental Council of the States State Grant Subgroup and is a member of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Program Managers Guidance / National Environmental Performance Partnership System workgroup.

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Mathy Stanislaus was nominated by President Barack Obama for the position of Assistant Administrator in EPA's Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM) and began his service on June 8, 2009, after confirmation by the U.S. Senate. As Assistant Administrator for OLEM, Mr. Stanislaus leads EPA's programs that revitalize communities through the cleanup and redevelopment of contaminated sites under Superfund, Brownfields, and Resources Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) programs. OLEM also oversees other federal agencies cleanup of contaminated properties, and it advances hazardous and solid waste materials management under RCRA, chemical plant safety, oil spill prevention, underground storage tank program, and emergency response.

Through the Community Engagement Initiative, he has focused on open government, expanding transparency, and empowering local communities. He has expanded the brownfields program to provide tools to local communities to revitalize economically distressed communities in America's downtowns including through the innovative Area Wide Brownfields Pilot program. He is leading the effort to transition from waste management to life-cycle based materials management through the Sustainable Materials Management Initiative. Mr. Stanislaus is a chemical engineer and environmental lawyer with over 20 years of experience in the environmental field in the private and public sectors. He has worked in the not-for-profit sector, co-founding and co-directing New Partners for Community Revitalization, a NY not-for-profit organization whose mission is to advance the renewal of New York's low and moderate income neighborhoods and communities of color through the redevelopment of brownfields sites. He is also former counsel for EPA's Region 2 Office.

Scott Steen was appointed chief executive officer of American Forests in December 2010. He leads the organization in its mission to protect and restore forests. Since coming to American Forests, Scott has focused on developing a stronger scientific foundation for our forest restoration and public policy work, expanding public understanding of the importance of forests for human life and building an emphasis on stewardship and transparency. During his tenure, the organization has planted nearly 10 million trees in approximately 100 restoration projects, has re-launched its Urban Forest program, introduced the Endangered Western Forest initiative, expanded the board of directors and created a Science Advisory Board, engaging some of the most respected researchers in the forest conservation field.

Betsy Southerland earned a PhD in Environmental Science and Engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1981 and was appointed to the SES at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in December 1999. She is presently the Director of the Office of Science and Technology (OST) in the Office of Water (OW). In her existing position since 2012, Dr. Southerland leads a multidisciplinary staff of 130 implementing major science, technology, and regulatory programs under the Clean Water Act (CWA) and the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and oversees CWA actions in 10 Regional Offices. Her primary CWA responsibilities are to: 1) develop national water quality criteria that identify pollutant concentrations which cannot be exceeded in rivers, lakes, estuaries and coastal waters in order to protect aquatic life, fishing, and swimming; 2) approve state water quality criteria or replace disapproved state criteria with legally enforceable federal criteria; and 3) establish national pollution control requirements for every industry discharging wastewater to waters of the U.S. Her primary SDWA responsibilities are to: 1) develop drinking water advisories recommending pollutant concentrations which should not be exceeded in order to prevent adverse human health impacts and 2) establish public health goals for national drinking water standards required to be met by all public water utilities.

Martin Suuberg was appointed on January 8, 2015 as the Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) by Governor Charles D. Baker and his Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Matthew A. Beaton. With nearly 30 years of experience working in environmental and natural resource agencies at the state and federal level, Martin is a lawyer and manager who has effectively and efficiently administered the environmental laws that protect the quality of life for all Massachusetts' citizens. Prior to his appointment as Commissioner, Martin served as Undersecretary for Environmental Affairs in the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. At MassDEP, Martin served as Deputy Commissioner for Policy and Planning. He took over this position after 9 ½ years as the Regional Director for the Central Regional Office in Worcester, which serves more than 70 communities in Worcester County and nearby areas and is responsible for environmental permitting, inspection and enforcement activities.

Matthew Tejada, PhD, joined the EPA in March of 2013 as Director of the Office of Environmental Justice within the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. As Director, Matthew leads the Office of Environmental Justice in working with communities, other EPA divisions, federal agencies, and state, local and tribal partners to further the mission of the EPA and the goals of the Office of Environmental Justice. Matthew joined the EPA after spending over five years in the non-profit world as executive director of the environmental advocacy Air Alliance Houston, where he focused his efforts on environmental justice issues affecting the many overburdened communities in the Houston and Texas Gulf Coast area, region-wide ozone reduction policies and

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alleviation of toxic and particulate matter hotspots. In this position, Matthew was also centrally involved in local, state and federal level legislative and policy formation as regards environmental and public health issues.

Brenda Thomas is a 25 year resident in the Marlborough, Missouri neighborhoods. Ms. Thomas joined the Marlborough Community Coalition in 2010 and served as the Vice-President for three years and as President for the past two years. Ms. Thomas's experience includes labor negotiations, human resource management, organizational & training development, mediation and conciliatory services. Ms. Thomas has worked with diverse organizations including legal firms, federal government, county government, the hospitality industry, universities, public and charter schools in Chicago, IL and KCMO. Ms. Thomas is an advocate for equity in neighborhood services and supports the revitalization of disenfranchised and disinvested communities. She has served alongside other Marlborough residents in various clean-up and beautification activities; art-related and project green initiatives. The MCC was recently awarded a \$20K Community Capital Fund grant to develop a 'Hydrangea Garden and Community Plaza' project in the historic Marlborough Village.

Diana Toledo is Leadership Development Director for River Network, she also serves as a co-coordinator of the EPA Urban Waters Learning Network, along with partner organization, Groundwork USA. At River Network, Diana is responsible for developing and delivering training and consulting services so that leaders, organizations and coalitions working for freshwater protection are strong, effective and results-oriented. In that role, she provides support in the areas of strategic and campaign planning, project development, fundraising, board and staff development, and coalition building. Diana has over 20 years' experience in river conservation and community organizing. Prior to joining River Network in 2006, Diana helped build one of the strongest networks of local watershed groups in the country through her work with the River Alliance of Wisconsin, and led various Great Lakes policy and funding initiatives while at the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program. Diana has a MS in Water Resources Management from the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies (University of Wisconsin – Madison) and a BS from Indiana University – Bloomington. She is based out of Asheville, NC.

Tony Torrence is the Founder and CEO of the Atlanta Community Improvement Association and co-chair of the Proctor Creek Stewardship Council.

Harriet Tregoning is the HUD Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Community Planning and Development. She leads the Office of Community Planning and Development at the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. She recently led HUD's Office of Economic Resilience, helping regions, cities, counties and towns across the country build a strong foundation for a diverse and prosperous economy based on enhancing community quality of place, economic opportunity, fiscal stability, transportation choice, and affordability. She was previously Director of the District of Columbia Office of Planning, where she worked to make DC a walkable, bikeable, eminently livable, globally competitive and thriving city. Her priorities included re-writing the city's zoning code for the first time in 50 years, planning the revitalization of National Historic Landmark St. Elizabeth's Hospital campus as part of the consolidation of the Department of Homeland Security's Headquarters, and collaborating with her transportation colleagues to bring the nation's (then) largest bike-sharing program to DC in 2010.

Rebecca Turner, Esq. is Senior Director of Programs & Policy at American Forests.

Fred Tutman is Riverkeeper and CEO of Patuxent Riverkeeper. Fred was born and raised along the Patuxent River as were seven generations of his ancestors before him. Prior to founding Patuxent Riverkeeper in 2004, Fred operated a business that provided professional media and mass communication services internationally. Fred also worked as volunteer activist on the Patuxent for over 20 years until the momentum of the volunteer environmental work overcame his media career and the challenge of Riverkeeping beckoned. Fred is a recipient of numerous awards and recognitions for his work on behalf of environmental causes and issues in Maryland. He also serves on a variety of Boards, Task Forces and Commissions related to the work of protecting the Patuxent and the natural environment. Among them, Fred serves on the Board of the Environmental Integrity Project, as a Governor appointed Commissioner on the State's Patuxent River Commission and on the Board of Waterkeeper Alliance, the international group that licenses Waterkeepers. Fred is an adjunct instructor at historic St. Mary's College of Maryland, where he teaches an upper level course in Environmental Law and Policy. He is an avid kayaker and backpacker, and also helps to maintain trails on the Appalachian Trail.

Mark Van Putten is President and CEO of the Wege Foundation. Previously, Mark was President of ConservationStrategy® LLC, a philanthropic advisory firm specializing in environmental and natural resources issues. Mark currently serves as the Board Chair of the Environmental Grantmakers Association. Earlier, Mark served for 21 years on the staff of the Washington D.C.-based National

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Wildlife Federation – America’s largest membership-based conservation organization – including nearly eight years as President and CEO. He is a graduate magna cum laude of and currently serves as a part-time Public Service/Public Interest Law Fellow at the University of Michigan Law School. He received his B.A. degree from Calvin College in 1976. On the 30th anniversary of the Clean Water Act, he was named one of 30 nationwide “Clean Water Heroes.”

Dr. Hector Villanueva is Medical Director, since 1999, at HealthproMed, (formerly known as the Dr. Jose S. Belaval, Community Health Center) located in Barrio Obrero, Santurce, Puerto Rico.

He is a graduate of the University of Puerto Rico, School of Medicine (1982). Dr. Villanueva is a pediatrician with over 30 years of experience, who specializes in the unique physical, psychological, and social characteristics of adolescents, their healthcare problems and needs. He is a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics (Junior Fellow) and the American Medical Association.

David Washington, Program Executive, Corvias Solutions. David has lead in the development of long term financial and strategic plans totaling over \$1 billion for new facilities, major renovations, acquisitions, dispositions, and lease transactions including academic, research, athletic, student housing, and utilities infrastructure projects. David leads the Prince Georges County Community Based Public Private Partnership (CBP3) Clean Water Partnership with Corvias Solutions. David holds a Masters in Real Estate and MBA from the Johns Hopkins University and is also a certified Project Management Professional (PMP). David as the Program Manager at Corvias/Clean Water Partnership leads an integrated team of design engineers, general contractors, community outreach consultants, and other consultants to retrofit up to 2,000 impervious acres with Green Infrastructure; budget of \$100M; and schedule of 3 years for the first phase.

Corita Waters is a Rivers Partnership Specialist with the National Park Service (NPS), working mainly with the NPS Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program and the interagency National Water Trails System. Corita works with national partners, NPS, and at the interagency level to help build resources for local community conservation and recreation, with a focus on river recreation and access and watershed conservation. Corita was instrumental in standing up and forming the National Water Trails System and is currently working to nurture the national water trail partnership learning network, through which the designated trails are actively supported and sustained. Corita’s passion is creating connections between all people and the natural world, whether through direct experience or virtual, but especially by having fun. Corita has a degree in Biology and Environmental Studies from St. Mary’s College of Maryland and is an avid sailor and gardener.

Michael Wenstrom has been working the arena of public policy for more than thirty years. For the past fifteen years, Mr. Wenstrom has worked in the Region 8 Environmental Justice Program. Examples of this work include (1) assisting EPA Enforcement staff to negotiate Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs) which direct money to communities to remedy past environmental ills, (2) working with the people of Pueblo, the state of Colorado and the US Army to give the community a greater voice in the pending destruction of 780,000 rounds of chemical weapons and (3) working with local neighborhoods to remove, or mitigate the impact of, environmental threats. Mr. Wenstrom is currently working with a variety of internal and external partners in Utah to address environmental health issues in Salt Lake City to improve children’s health. Further, he has overseen the CARE (Community Action for a Renewed Environment) program for Region 8 for the past four years. He also assisted in crafting the Environmental Justice language for the Urban Waters Grant program.

Dr. Jalonne White-Newsome is senior program officer at The Kresge Foundation, responsible for the Environment Program’s grant portfolio on sustainable water resources management in a changing climate. 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. (WE ACT), where she was involved with leading national campaigns and a 42-member national coalition of environmental justice organizations. Her work helped ensure that the concerns of low-income communities of color were integrated into federal policy, particularly on clean air, climate change and health issues. She is a lecturer at The George Washington University in Washington, D.C., and an adjunct professor at Kettering University in Flint, Michigan. She continues to engage in research on climate, health and equity. 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. She currently serves on the board of US Climate Action Network and was recognized by Grist Magazine as “The 50 People You’ll Be Talking About in 2016.”

Angelina Yost is the National Urban and Vision Coordinator for the National Wildlife Refuge System. From 2008-2015, she was the Chief of Visitor Services at the Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex in Las Vegas, Nevada. Angelina has worked a total of over 20 years in the field of interpretation and education, including eleven years with the National Park Service.

Meet the Presenters

Lynn Youngblood in her short tenure with the Blue River Watershed Association, Lynn has more than tripled the number of staff, and doubled the net income. Lynn was a nature center manager for 20 years, seventeen with the Missouri Department of Conservation. Lynn received a Certificate of Appreciation by former Kansas City Mayor Kay Barnes, "For dedication and commitment for adding to the quality of lives for the people of Kansas City." She received a national award for Master of Interpretive Management by the National Association for Interpretation.

Lynn is also an award-winning writer. She writes weekly columns on living green and the outdoors for several newspapers. Other articles have appeared in state, regional, and national publications. Lynn holds a Master Degree in Education and teaches at Universities in the Midwest.