



FCWC

Federated Conservationists
of Westchester County, Inc.

In This Issue

Greening Our Towns
Hudson Valley Sustainability Conference
Tribute to Anne Donaldson
Upcoming Events

Join Our List

Join Our Mailing List!

Keep up with us!

Following us on social media is the best way to keep up with day-to-day announcements



Birds, Bugs, and Bushes the effects of climate change on local flora and fauna

October 21 * 9 -11am
Tarrytown Senior Center



The effects of climate change on our local flora and fauna

Friday October 21

9am- 11am
Tarrytown Senior Center
238 W. Main Street, Tarrytown
Erie Lind
Constitution Marsh Audubon Center and Sanctuary
Louis Sarkin
American Museum of Natural History
Angelica Patterson
Columbia University

Brought to you by:



Partners:



Central Westchester Audubon Society

Hudson River Audubon Society

October 2016

Our Vision And Mission

FCWC, founded in 1965, envisions a county in which an environmental ethic defines and shapes all public and private decisions.

Our mission is to provide leadership that educates about environmental issues, advocates sound decision making, and unifies groups and individuals to protect and preserve Westchester's environment and address climate change.

Greening Our Towns Wrap Up

Last month, FCWC and Greenburgh Nature Center hosted its inaugural Greening Our Towns program, which was designed as a networking event to bring together various municipal sustainability or conservation



advisory groups and task forces. In total, 15 municipalities throughout Westchester were represented, including, Bedford, Cortlandt, Croton, Eastchester, Irvington, Larchmont, Lewisboro, Mt. Kisco, Mt. Vernon, New Castle, Rye, Scarsdale, Sleepy Hollow, Tarrytown, and Yonkers. Many others were interested in attending, but could not make this particular meeting. In

addition to the municipalities, some non-profits and interested residents were in attendance.

The main event of the evening was a roundtable sharing of initiatives, issues, and successes by each municipality. A few salient topics that emerged from the group were plastic bag ordinances, waste reduction, LED lighting, and healthy lawns. We will hold a series of programs over

the next year on these topics and others where we will invite the municipalities to share best practices on how they accomplished these initiatives in their communities. It was a productive evening, which highlighted some great work being done all over the County. We are eager to help foster dialogue to spread this work beyond individual municipalities.



Shifting and shrinking ranges of habitat caused by climate change will have serious implications throughout our natural world. In fact, Audubon's findings classify nearly half of all

Thanks to all who participated!

Hudson Valley Sustainability Conference

FCWC would like to extend an invitation to all of you to attend the Hudson Valley Conference on Sustainable Development and Collaborative Governance to be held next week. This conference will be the fifth in a series of conferences planned across New York State designed to bring together a broad spectrum of government, public and private sector groups with an interest in coordinated, sustainable development. The conferences will focus on the potential for planned, coordinated governance with an emphasis on economic development, transportation, housing and environmental preservation. Speakers will include both experts on aspects of sustainable development as well as practitioners with experience putting sustainable development concepts to work in their communities. Panel discussions will feature case studies, best practices and examples of how New York State can and has served as a partner in advancing these goals.

Invited attendees include constituencies with an interest in these areas including local elected officials, transportation professionals, environmental advocates, planners, economic development practitioners including individuals involved with the regional economic development process, housing advocates and others. Audience members should learn from the conferences both about a variety of state programs and best practices that can be employed for the purpose of planned sustainable development. A resource guide featuring a range of available programs as well as case studies will be available to participants.

The conference will have 4 panels moderated by an agency head, each focused on one general area of state government in the community development formula- Housing, Transportation, Economic Development and Environment. The panels will demonstrate the inter-agency/inter-disciplinary approach that has been used around certain featured projects in the Hudson valley.

Chuck Lesnick, FCWC Board member, requests that you R.S.V.P. to him at desnick@nyshr.org and to HVSustainabilityConference@exec.ny.gov. In order to be extra green, we would like to encourage folks to take the Metro North train that arrives in Poughkeepsie at 8:38 am leaving Yonkers at 7:13 am, Tarrytown at 7:24 am, Croton at 7:37 am and many stops in between. Perhaps we can all gather in the third car in the train so that the environmental networking can begin early. Please RSVP by 5pm on October 17.

North American birds as severely threatened by global warming. Sea level rise will put pressure on estuarine marshes and the birds and other wildlife they support. Plant community shifts within the forests in our region where trees with northern range distributions are becoming locally extinct and southern ranged trees are migrating in will have impacts of this on this region's carbon storage capacity. Larger and more frequent insect outbreaks may occur, but in other cases recurring outbreaks may be disrupted or diminished.

Please join us on October 21 to learn about the effects climate change is likely to have on local flora and fauna and some simple action steps we can all take to help mitigate these effects.

Admission is \$5 for members and \$8 for non-members. Register [online](#) at or by calling 914.422.4053

Partners: Bedford Audubon Society, Bronx River Sound Shore Audubon, Central Westchester Audubon, Hudson River Audubon, and Saw Mill River Audubon.

What's All the Buzz About Pollinators?

October 14 * 8:30- 10:30am
Pace University Pleasantville Campus

Conservation Café presents
the next Conversations on Conservation

What's All the Buzz About Pollinators

October 14, 2016 8:30am-10:30am
at Pace University in the Multipurpose Room in the Kessel Student Center



Speakers include:

Greg Wechgelaer from Greenburgh Nature Center
Shaun McCoshum from Westchester Land Trust
Lori Fontanes from Rye Sustainability Committee's Healthy Yard Program

Bees, flies, wasps, beetles, butterflies, birds, and beyond all pollinate plants and are responsible for bringing us one out of every three bites of food. They also sustain our ecosystems and produce our natural resources by helping plants reproduce. Pollinators provide a keystone ecosystem-service one that is vital for keeping a healthy environment as loss of pollinators has augmented landscapes and plant communities.

Join Conservation Café for a discussion on pollinators. Learn about why pollinators are important, what has been happening to pollinator populations, and what you can do in your own backyard to encourage pollinators.

Speakers for the program include:

- Greg Wechgelaer- Senior Naturalist & Apiarist at the Greenburgh Nature Center will speak on the importance of pollinators
- Shaun McCoshum- Preserve Manager & Educator at Westchester Land Trust will highlight on

what's going on with the pollinator populations

- Lori Fontanes- co-head of the Rye Sustainability Committee's Healthy Yard Program will present what homeowners can plant to encourage pollinators.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Meeting of Interest

Managing Street Trees: What You Should Know For Success

Thursday, December 15 * 8:30am-1pm
Westchester County Center, White Plains

This workshop will focus on the selection of appropriate street trees and discuss insects, diseases and other environmental factors and how their influence and impacts on trees can be managed and controlled.

The workshop will feature four speakers representing Cornell University's Urban Horticulture Institute, Long Island Horticultural Research and Extension Center-Cornell University, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County, and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Approval is pending for continuing education credits for landscape architects and arborists. Annual training certificates for members of planning boards and zoning boards of appeals will be issued. May qualify for continuing education credits from other professional organizations.

[Street Trees Workshop Flyer and Registration](#)

Shopping With Purpose

Raise Money For FCWC Without Even Trying!

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

[Click here to start!](#)



Governor Andrew M. Cuomo

cordially invites you to attend the

Conference on Sustainable Development & Collaborative Governance

Moderated by

Rossana Rosado, Secretary of State,
NYS Department of State

Matthew Driscoll, Commissioner,
NYS Department of Transportation

James Rubin, Commissioner,
NYS Homes and Community Renewal

Richard Ball, Commissioner,
NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets

Wednesday, October 19, 2016

9:00 AM—3:00 PM

*A Reception will begin following the conclusion of the Conference

Culinary Institute of America

1946 Campus Drive
Hyde Park, NY 12538

Please R.S.V.P by 5 PM, Monday, October 17, 2016 to

HVSustainabilityConference@exec.ny.gov

Include your name and organization, phone number
and email address.

This invitation is non-transferable and extended to you only.
Photo ID must be presented at entrance. Unregistered guests will not be permitted.

Saying Goodbye to FCWC's First Executive Director

It is with deep sadness that we report that late this summer, Anne Donaldson passed away at the age of 91.

With her passing, she leaves behind a 40-year legacy in her life's work of environmental protection and open space preservation and recreation, which began when she joined FCWC in 1965. She served as FCWC president and Executive Director in the 1970's.

Frustrated by her status as a 'layman 'in the field of environmental law, she enrolled at Pace Law School at the age of 51. In retirement, she rededicated her life to conservation and open space acquisition as a member of various organizations in Orleans Massachusetts.

A memorial service to honor her life will be held this weekend in Massachusetts. We at FCWC are grateful for her time and service to helping our organization grow and flourish, and extend condolences to all who knew her.

Events

For a full list of our member organization's events and happenings, check out our Federation Calendar at www.fcwc.org/calendar. Remember to always confirm events before attending. Check back regularly as we are always updating.

Oktoberfest

Sponsored by: Friends of Rye Nature Center

When: Friday, October 14, 7:30-10:30pm

Where: Rye Nature Center

Oktoberfest will be filled with great drinks and delicious eats. Proceeds benefit Friends of Rye Nature Center's programs and conservation projects. Tickets are going fast - get yours [now!](#)

Fall Foliage Hike

Sponsored by: Friends of Trailside Nature Museum

When: Saturday, October 15, 1pm

Where: Trailside Nature Museum in Ward Pound Ridge Reservation

Join the Trailside staff for a hike to enjoy the fall colors at some of the best scenic views in the park and enjoy the grandeur of the season. Sturdy shoes recommended. For more information- 914-864-7322.

Screening of "Shellshocked: Saving Oysters to Save Ourselves"

Sponsored by: Committee to Save the Bird Homestead and LI SoundFest

When: Saturday, October 15, 3pm

Where: Rye Meeting House

This award-winning documentary film is about the importance of wild oysters in cleaning water and building ecosystems for other marine life. Today, because of pollution, wild oyster reefs have been declared the most severely damaged marine habitat on Earth. Now, scientists, nonprofits, teachers and student are working to bring oysters back to New York Harbor and the region. After the 40-minute film, Rye Middle School science teacher Debra Davis Galliard and volunteer students will give a presentation on their work at the Oyster Restoration Station at the Rye Boat Basin, which now serves as a satellite location of the Billion Oyster Project. Admission is free. For further information, call 914.967. 0099.

Fall Festival

Sponsored by: Sheldrake Environmental Center

When: Sunday, October 16 2-5pm

Where: Sheldrake Environmental Center, 685 Weaver Street, Larchmont

Celebrate Fall with events for the whole family! Build a Bug House or Fairy House, STEM & Nature Activities, Ponding, Face Painting, Animal Olympics, Pumpkin Giveaway, StoryWalk™, Bake Sale, Guided Nature Walks, Compost Education. Music by Larchmont Music Academy and School of Rock...PLUS join the Town of Mamaroneck at Sheldrake's festival for a Leaf In!- quiet leaf blower demos, mulch mowing and rain barrels for sale

Volunteer Opportunity with Native Plant Center

Sponsored by: Native Plant Center

When: Monday, October 17, 9 am to 12 pm

Where: Stone Cottage Garden at Native Plant Center

We need you! Help us make progress in our garden restoration projects during this work day. To prepare for the redesign of the Stone Cottage garden, we will be moving plants from these beds and replanting them in and around the meadow. It will be a fun, active day, and you may even take home an extra plant or two. If you can help out--even if you can stay only part of the time--please let us know by emailing or calling us. We will supply gloves, but please bring your shovel and tools. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. For more information call 914-606-7870 or visit nativeplantcenter.org.

Farm to Table Dinner Honoring Brett Alagna

Farm to Table Dinner Honoring Brett Alcaro

Sponsored by: Friends of Hilltop Hanover Farm

When: Wednesday, October 19, 6pm

Where: Hilltop Hanover Farm

Join Westchester County farmers and chefs in a rustic elegant small plates Farm-to-Table Dinner under a tent on the beautiful grounds of Hilltop Hanover Farm. Featuring, Sampling/Tastings of craft beer and hard cider. For [tickets](#).

Viewing of "Save Jamaica Bay"

Sponsored by: Groundwork Hudson Valley and Scenic Hudson

When: Thursday, October 20 7:30pm

Where: Jacob Burns Film Center

For many of us, Jamaica Bay is the anonymous body of water we fly over near JFK. But it's New York City's largest open space (larger than Central Park, Prospect Park, and Van Cortlandt Park combined), a surprisingly rich ecosystem that provides vital habitat for hundreds of migratory bird species and countless other flora and fauna, and an irreplaceable recreation site for many of the surrounding communities. It is also the epicenter for the local conversation about the long-term implications of global climate change and environmental mismanagement. In the process of rediscovering their historical relationship to the water and natural habitats of Jamaica Bay, local residents in Queens and Brooklyn have been transformed into urban environmentalists now struggling to preserve this priceless resource...and their way of life. Narrated by Susan Sarandon. For FREE tickets, Contact Holly Malekian at holly@groundworkhv.org.

At the Tideline

Sponsored by: Teatown Lake Reservation

When: Saturday, October 22 11am-12:30pm

Where: Kathryn B. Davis RiverWalk Center at Kingsland Point Park, Sleepy Hollow

The Kathryn B. Davis RiverWalk Center at Kingsland Point Park in Sleepy Hollow has a great beach for discovery. Join educator Marie Perry on a scavenger hunt to see what has been left on the sand - animal, mineral or vegetable? We'll have a hand at making "estuary soup" from all the components that washed onshore. All welcome. Free, \$5 parking fee. Programs require pre-registration. To register, call 914-762-2912 x 110.

We hope you find the information contained within this E-News relevant and useful. As always, please keep in touch and let us know your thoughts and ideas regarding environmental issues throughout the County.

Sincerely,

Federated Conservationists of Westchester County