

2026 NJCRC-NJDEP COASTAL AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE AGENDA				
NAVIGATING CHANGING TIDES				
MONDAY, MARCH 9				
7:00 AM - 9:00 AM	SPONSOR SET-UP / BREAKFAST / REGISTRATION - <i>Salon C</i>			
9:00 AM - 11:00 am	<p align="center"><i>Bayview Ballroom</i></p> <p align="center">WELCOME</p> <p align="center">PLENARY PANEL: <i>Climate Resilience in NJ: State of the Science - State of the Practice</i> Moderator: Marjorie Kaplan, Rutgers University Nick Angarone, NJDEP Bob Kopp, Rutgers University Nick Procopio, NJDEP Danielle McCulloch, American Littoral Society</p>			
11:00 AM - 11:30 AM	BREAK - <i>Presidential C</i>			
	SESSIONS AND PANELS			
	<i>Eisenhower</i>	<i>Harding</i>	<i>Salon A</i>	<i>Salon B</i>
	Cutting-Edge Communication to Empower our Communities	Strengthening Communities through Climate Resilience	Strategies for Maintaining Resilient Natural Systems	Building Resilience for Municipalities
Moderator	Karl Vilacoba, Monmouth University			
11:30 AM	<p><i>The MARCO Portal: Informing Action & Engagement for a Resilient Region</i></p> <p>Karl Vilacoba, Monmouth University</p>	<p><i>Measuring the Social and Economic Benefits of Flood Resilience Projects</i></p> <p>Alison Miskiman, Black & Veatch Corp.</p>	<p><i>Partnering for Resilience: NJAFM as a Collaborative Resource</i></p> <p>Joe Barris, NJ Association for Floodplain Management</p>	<p><i>Development of the 2025 Camden Coastal Resilience Plan</i></p> <p>Franco Montalto, eDesign Dynamics LLC</p>
11:45 AM	<p><i>Mid-Atlantic Digital Tools for Coastal & Ocean Acidification to Empower Local Communities</i></p> <p>Janet Reimer, Mid-Atlantic Council on the Ocean</p>	<p><i>Nature-based Climate Solutions to Lower the Temperature: The Low-Cost Alternative to Mitigating Severe Weather Events</i></p> <p>Britta Forsberg, Save Barnegat Bay</p>	<p><i>Why Local Data Matter: Hydrologic Variability in NJ Salt Marshes and Implications for Restoration Planning</i></p> <p>Ceili Pestalozzi, Barnegat Bay Partnership</p>	<p><i>Post Ida Resilience Planning in Montclair NJ</i></p> <p>Nicholas Dickerson, Colliers Engineering & Design</p>
12:00 PM	<p><i>Advancing Coastal Risk Communication: New Tools, Data AND Community Insights</i></p> <p>Dan Rizza, Climate Central</p>	<p><i>Making Climate Vulnerability Models Fit for Purpose: How Transportation and Finance Industries Assess Asset Risk</i></p> <p>Kevin McKeehan, HNTB Corp.</p>	<p><i>Flooding Exposure Impacts on Municipal Public Finance in NJ - Using NJ Adapt MOD IV Flood Analysis</i></p> <p>Pritpal Bamhrah, Rutgers University</p>	<p><i>Where Planning Meets Action: Strategies for Smarter Coastal Resilience</i></p> <p>Wendy Laurent, Taylor Engineering</p>
12:15 PM	<p><i>Using Photovoice for Coastal Advocacy</i></p> <p>Rita Chandler and Sherry Dudas, Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission</p>	<p><i>Reimagining Flood Recovery: Community Engagement in Blue Acres Buyouts along Orchard Brook</i></p> <p>Courtney Wald Wittkop, NJDEP Blue Acres</p>	<p><i>Using Flood Susceptibility to Harm and Recovery Index to Evaluate Effectiveness</i></p> <p>Valkaria Duran-Narucki, CUNY - College of Staten Island</p>	<p><i>Building Statewide Resilience and Sustainability through Collaboration: The Role of RASCL in Delaware's Climate Adaptation</i></p> <p>Jana Savini, PDE</p>
12:30 PM	<p><i>Collaborative Tools for "Getting to Yes" on Climate Resilient Projects</i></p> <p>Chris Kane, P3 Collaborative LLC</p>	<p><i>A Matrix-Based Approach for Assessing Watershed Resilience</i></p> <p>Luke Hogewood, USACE - Engineer Research & Development Center</p>	<p><i>Advancing Urban Flood Resilience through Hydrologic Simulation and Infrastructure Planning in NJ</i></p> <p>Viravid Na Nagara, NJIT</p>	<p><i>Advancing Municipal Resilience through University Partnership</i></p> <p>Matthew Murray, Montclair State University</p>
12:45 PM	<p><i>Integrating Data-Driven Decision-making and Community Voices through the NJBPU's Urban Heat Island Mitigation Program</i></p> <p>Aileen Eagleton, Rutgers University</p>	<p><i>Advancing Wildfire Resilience in the Township of Ocean</i></p> <p>Nicholas Mitch, Arcadis</p>	<p><i>Weathering the Storms: The Growing Problem at the Intersection of Aging and Increasing Flood Risk</i></p> <p>Tim Evans, New Jersey Future</p>	<p><i>Pioneering Integrating Resilience into Municipal Values</i></p> <p>Angela Andersen, Long Beach Township</p>
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	LUNCH - <i>Bayview Ballroom</i>			
	SESSIONS AND PANELS			
	Lightning Session - Tools Café	Lightning Session - Posters	Building Resilience for Municipalities	Strategies for Maintaining Resilient Natural Systems
Moderator			Sara Margolis, Dewberry	Danielle McCullough, ALS
2:00 PM	<p><i>Marsh Futures Mapper</i></p> <p>Richard Lathrop, Rutgers University</p>	<p><i>Improved Flood Forecasting and new Mapping for NJ Bayside Communities</i></p> <p>Philip Orton, Stevens Institute of Technology</p>	<p><i>How to Quantify the Difficult-to-Quantify: Vulnerability Assessments</i></p> <p>Tom Stanuikynas, Burlington County</p> <p>Barbara Woolley-Dillon, NJDEP</p> <p>Ian Abrahansen, Dewberry</p>	<p><i>Oyster Partnerships and a Program in Support of Coastal Resilience</i></p> <p>Jayne Seitz, NJDEP</p> <p>Craig Tomlin, NJDEP</p> <p>Ana Zivanovic-Nenadovic, North Carolina Coastal Federation</p> <p>Alyson Flynn, North Carolina Coastal Federation</p> <p>Kristin Adams, Ocean County Soil Conservation District</p>
2:10 PM	<p><i>Quantifying Current and Future Coastal Flood Hazards in NJ using Synthetic Storms and Hydrodynamic Modeling</i></p> <p>Amir Begmohammadi, Baird & Associates</p>	<p><i>Where Infrastructure Meets Ecology: A Recovery-Focused Approach to Marsh Restoration</i></p> <p>Samanatha Commandini, Rippled Waters Engineering</p>		
2:20 PM	<p><i>Forecasting Coastal Storm Erosion: COAST-SEA as a Decision Support Tool for Local Governments</i></p> <p>Matthew Janssen, Stevens Institute of Technology</p>	<p><i>Innovative Dredging and Marsh Restoration: A Resilience Model for Resource-Limited Municipalities</i></p> <p>Elissa Commins, Brick Township</p>		
2:30 PM	<p><i>Applying Statewide Climate Resilience Tools along the Coast</i></p> <p>Ashlyn Spector, Rutgers University</p>	<p><i>Secrets to Preparing a Buildout Analysis for a CCRHVA</i></p> <p>Barbara Woolley-Dillon, NJDEP</p>		
2:40 PM	<p><i>FloodPREPARE: An Ecosystem Approach to Coastal Flooding Resilience</i></p> <p>Vamsi Krishna Sridharan Tetra Tech Inc.</p>	<p><i>A Call to Action: Bringing Health into the Coastal Resilience Toolbox</i></p> <p>Diane Mas, Fuss & O'Neill, Inc.</p>		
2:50 PM	<p><i>Sea-Level Rise, Land Use Shifts, and Municipal Fiscal Challenges in NJ</i></p> <p>Qian He, Rowan University</p>	<p><i>Back Bay Restoration and Wave Attenuation at an Embayment in Avalon, NJ</i></p> <p>Ryan Christiansen, Mott MacDonald</p>		
3:00 PM - 3:30 PM	BREAK - <i>Salon C</i>			
3:30 PM - 5:30 PM	<p align="center"><i>Bayview Ballroom</i></p> <p align="center">PLENARY PANEL: Rising Voices - Next Gen Leaders Reimagining Climate Resilience</p> <p align="center">Laura Frances, ONE Johnny Quispe, The Nature Conservancy Ellen Roussel, Jacobs Hassan Saleem, ONE Hannah Storch, Rutgers U Joe McGovern, eDesign Dynamics Invited - Isabelle Thomas, NYC Mayor's Office of Climate and Environmental Justice Annabel Finkel, Starr Whitehouse</p> <p align="center">SPEAKER: Susie Moser - Adaptive Mind Project</p>			
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM	<p align="center"><i>Bayview Ballroom and Ballroom Foyer</i></p> <p align="center">TOOLS CAFÉ / POSTER SESSION and other after hours events</p>			

2026 NJCRC-NJDEP COASTAL AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE AGENDA

NAVIGATING CHANGING TIDES

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

7:30 AM - 9:30 AM					SPONSOR SET-UP / BREAKFAST / REGISTRATION - <i>Salon C</i>				
					SESSIONS AND PANELS				
		<i>Eisenhower</i>		<i>Harding</i>		<i>Salon A</i>		<i>Salon B</i>	
		Creating Climate Resilience for Critical Infrastructure		Building Partnerships to Transform Communities		Building Resilience for Municipalities		Revolutionizing Ecological Restoration Permitting	
Moderator		Maira Ejaz, NJ TRANSIT		Sarah Sterling, NJ Dept of Education		Anna Hochhalter, Ramboll		Liz Semple, The Nature Conservancy	
9:30 AM		<i>Achieving Resilience through Collaboration: Lessons from NJ TRANSIT's Capital Resilience Program</i> Emily Korman, NJ TRANSIT Megan Bushlow, Arcadis Dan Barone, Rutgers CAIT Maira Ejaz, NJ TRANSIT		<i>Building Partnerships to Support New Jersey's Climate Literate Workforce</i> Mike Acquafredda, Rutgers U, Marine and Coastal Sciences Diana Burich, NJ Sea Grant Consortium Kristin Shafer, Cape May County Tech HS Gianna Hart, Cape May County Tech HS Domingo Zapata, Cape May County Tech HS Sarah Sterling, NJ Dept of Education		<i>Scaling Resilient Natural Systems: Watershed, Municipality, Site</i> Anna Hochhalter, Ramboll Rob Pirani, NY-NJ Harbor & Estuary Program Angela Anderson, Long Beach Township Field Station Dr. Brett Branco, Science and Resilience Institute at Jamaica Bay		<i>Pursuing Innovation in Ecological Restoration Implementation in NJ</i> Panel 1 - Current Need and Status of Ecological Restoration Projects in NJ Dave Golden, NJDEP (invited) Martha Maxwell Doyle, Partnership for the Delaware Estuary Terry Doss, NJSEA - Meadowlands Research and Restoration Institute Liz Semple, The Nature Conservancy Colleen Keller, NJDEP Vince Mazzei, NJDEP (invited) Genevieve Clifton, NJDOT	
9:45 AM									
10:00 AM									
10:15 AM									
		Building Resilience for Municipalities - Funding and Planning		Building Partnerships to Transform Communities		Building Resilience for Municipalities		Revolutionizing Ecological Restoration Permitting	
Moderator				Sarah Sterling, NJ Dept of Education		Simon Kates, Ramboll			
10:30 AM		<i>Adapting to a New Funding landscape to Continue Resilient Project Implementation</i> Chris Huch, Black & Veatch		<i>Coastal Resilience begins at School: Building Partnerships to Transform Communities</i> Dennis Blazak, Point Pleasant Env Commission William Pirl, Point Pleasant Schools Dr. Christine McCoid, Egg Harbor Public Schools Jane Reilly, Egg Harbor Public Schools Michelle Rebilas, American Littoral Society Christina Delaney, Egg Harbor Township HS Sarah Sterling, NJ Dept of Education		<i>Creating Holistic Municipal Resilience Action Plans: Two Case Studies in NJ</i> Mayor Andrew J. Nowick, City of Lambertville Rocco Russomano, Town of Harrison Simon Kates, Ramboll Katie Coleman, Arcadis		<i>Pursuing Innovation in Ecological Restoration Implementation in NJ</i> Panel 2 - Examples of Supportive Ecological Restoration Project Programs from Other States Beth Lambert, MA Division of Ecological Restoration Debbie Mans, TWENTYTWO Danielle McCulloch, American Littoral Society	
10:45 AM		<i>From Compliance to Action: Transforming Municipal Resilience Planning in NJ</i> Sean Cannon, Michael Baker Intl.							
11:00 AM		<i>Save the Shore - A Comprehensive Approach to Flood Mitigation in Coastal Communities</i> Chris Tucker, Borough of Manasquan							
11:15 AM		<i>Buy Now, Save later: Why Prompt Flood Buyouts are Efficient Resilience Solutions</i> Sage Mitchell, NJDEP Blue Acres Program							
11:30 PM - 1:30 PM					LUNCH - <i>Bayview Ballroom</i>				
		Unlocking Funds to Power Progress		Communicating with Art		Nature-Based Solutions		Building Climate Resilient Coasts	
Moderator		Joshua Moody		Devon Haines, NJDEP		Jon Miller, Stevens		Aliza Leit, ECONcrete	
1:30 PM		<i>Blue Carbon Funding and Research Initiatives at NJDEP</i> Joshua Moody and Anthony Bevacqua, NJDEP		<i>Community Creators: Art Bridging the Gap in Coastal Hazard Communities</i> Stephaine Nerbak, New Jersey State Council on the Arts Chase Jackson, Ocean City Arts Center Jessica Mungekar, Fine Cement Crafts		<i>An Argument for Allowing More Natural Nature-based Solutions</i> Jon Miller, Stevens Institute of Technology <i>Nature as a Key Stakeholder in Resiliency Planning</i> Mike Trumbauer, Biohabitats Inc. <i>Nature-based Solutions Reimagined: A Parametric Approach to Dune Design</i> Ian Day, Stevens Institute of technology <i>Building Resilience with Nature: The Role of Living Shorelines in NJ's Coastal Future</i> Al Modjeski, American Littoral Society		<i>Building Climate-Resilient NJ Coasts with N-EWN: Insights from Regional and National Case Studies</i> Edgar Westerhof, Arcadis Nick Brown, HDR Pippa Brashears, SCAPE Kevin Dahms, Biohabitats Aliza Leit, ECONcrete	
1:45 PM		<i>Blue Bonds for NJ Coastal Resilience: Lessons from Global Issuances to Scale Nature-Based Solutions</i> Hilda Afeu-Amenyo, Montclair State U.							
2:00 PM		<i>Multi-Level Funding and Governance of Flood Relocations through NJ's Blue Acres Program</i> Melissa Tier, Princeton University							
2:15 PM		<i>User-Funded Nature-Based Solutions for Coastal Resilience: A Pragmatic Financing Framework</i> Martin Bohley, NJ Resident and Retired from Banking/FDIC Federal Government							
2:30 PM - 3:00 PM					BREAK - <i>Salon C</i>				
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM					<i>Bayview Ballroom</i> SPEAKER: TBD PLENARY PANEL: <i>Navigating the Tides: Housing, Insurance and Coastal Resilience</i> Moderator: Anushi Garg, Environmental Defense Fund Rob Pirani, NY-NJ Harbor & Estuary Program Amy Chester, Rebuild by Design Emma Thebault, STV Inc.				
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM					AFTER HOURS EVENTS - MAIN DINING ROOM AND OVAL ROOM				

2026 NJCRC-NJDEP COASTAL AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE AGENDA

NAVIGATING CHANGING TIDES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

SPONSOR SET-UP / BREAKFAST / REGISTRATION - <i>Salon C</i>				
SESSIONS AND PANELS				
	<i>Eisenhower</i>	<i>Harding</i>	<i>Salon A</i>	<i>Salon B</i>
	Protecting Our Shoreline Resources	Creating Climate Resilience for Critical Infrastructure	Climate Resilience	Strategies for Maintaining Natural Systems
Moderator				Bill Shadel, The Nature Conservancy
8:00 AM	<i>DEP Coastal Engineering Program History</i> Erick Doyle, NJDEP	<i>Building Resilience with Living Shorelines - Navigating, Design, and Permitting</i> Claire Sorensen, Stantec		<i>Bringing Marsh Replenishment to Scale with a Shared Project Pipeline</i> Tyler Kinney, NJDEP Fish and Wildlife Genevieve Clifton, NJDOT Office of Maritime Resources Fred Akers, Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association Adrianna Zito-Livingston, The Nature Conservancy
8:15 AM	<i>Bulkhead Ordinances: A Tool to Enhance Municipal Climate Resilience</i> Lindsey Sigmund Massih, Heyer Gruel & Associates, Arcadis	<i>From Base to Bay: Naval Weapons Stations Earle's Coastal Resilience Blueprint</i> Kevin Dahms, Biohabitats Inc.		
8:30 AM	<i>DEP Model Code Coordinated Ordinance</i> Kunal Patel, NJDEP	<i>Using Nature-based Solutions to Build Resilience that Benefits People and Wildlife</i> Lenore Tedesco, The Wetlands Institute		
8:45 AM	<i>Building Better Data: Flood Risk Tools and Potential Applications for the Inland Flood Protection Rule</i> Mathew Mampara, Dewberry	<i>Restoring Natural Systems to Solve Infrastructure Challenges</i> Mike Galvin, JMT		
	Building Community Resilience	Strategies for Maintaining Resilient Natural Systems	Building Resilience for Municipalities	Strategies for Maintaining Resilient Natural Systems
Moderator				Montana Knutsen, NJDEP
9:00 AM	<i>NJ's Changing Coastal Environment and Bay Island Restoration</i> Clay Emerson, Princeton Hydro	<i>Surflite Coastal Intelligence: Automated Object Detection in Coastal Regions using Remote Sensing</i> Austin Heimark, Surflite Partnerships	<i>Preserving, Protecting and Enhancing Natural Coasts: The Blue Flag Framework for Storytelling</i> Annie Mercer, American Shore and Beach Preservation Association	<i>Implementing the Resilient NJ Raritan River and Bay Communities: Planning for Adaptive Reuse of Buyout Properties along the South River</i> Meghan Leavey, NJDEP OCR Alvin Chin or Courtney Wald-Wittkop, NJDEP Blue Acres Mary Kimball or Vicki Chou, Arcadis Pippa Brashear or Despo Thomas, SCAPE
9:15 AM	<i>Using Spatial Data to Prioritize Investment in the Resilience of NJ Communities</i> Heather Korzun, Urban Coast Institute, NOAA Coastal Resilience Fellow	<i>Expanding the BMP Palette - Ecosystem Restoration Strategies for Improving Water Quality at the Coastal Interface</i> Megan Long, Black & Veatch	<i>Shark River Roundtable: Bringing Communities Together on a Regional Level in the Face of Climate Change</i> Aleks Modjeski, American Littoral Society	
9:30 AM	<i>Building Community Resilience through Improved Communication and Data Sharing</i> William Thomas, New Jersey Coastal Coalition	<i>Evaluating Biological and Physical Metrics of a Living Shoreline Mosaic™ Approach for Reefense</i> Jenny Shinn, Rutgers University	<i>Watershed-scale Planning and Design Solutions to Mitigate Flooding from Cloudburst Events</i> Simon Kates, Ramboll	
9:45 AM	<i>Meeting Long-Term Mid-Atlantic Coastal Resiliency Sediment Needs with Offshore Sand Resources</i> John Swartz, The Water Institute	<i>Modeling of Sediment Motion in Marshes to Evaluate Shoaling and Beneficial Use Options</i> Christopher Bender, Taylor Engineering	<i>Chucking Restoration Spaghetti - What Sticks? Finding Successes and Learning Lessons in Habitat Restoration</i> Shane Godshall, American Littoral Society	
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	<p align="center">CLOSING PLENARY - Bayview Ballroom (drinks and snacks available)</p> <p align="center">Bridging Scientific Findings and Practitioner Needs for Coastal Community Resilience Moderator: Tony McDonald, Monmouth University Michael Boufadel, NJIT Thomas Grothues, Rutgers U Tom Herrington, Monmouth U Owen Thomas, Montclair U Kim McKenna, Stockton U Jon Miller, Stevens Philip Orton, Stevens</p> <p align="center">Advocacy, Collaboration and Sound Policy toward a Resilient Future for New Jersey's Coastal Communities Moderator: Nick Brown, HDR Dan Barone, Rutgers U Tom Herrington, Monmouth U Derek Brockbank, Coastal States Org. Grace Hanlon, Jersey Shore Partnership</p>			
12:00 PM - 5:00 PM	<p align="center">FIELD TRIP</p> <p align="center"><i>Resilient by Nature</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Nature Conservancy's South Cape May Meadows Preserve The Wetland Institute's Salt Marsh Trail Avalon Dunes and Beach Trail 			