

## Sunday, August 24, 2014

- 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.      **Registration and Information**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Area, outside of Salon IV
- 11:45 a.m.                      **Load bus for the NACDE Tour** – Hotel Front Entrance
- Noon – 4:30 p.m.              **NACDE Sponsored Tour**  
*Visit the island of Jamestown, RI, learning about Rhody Fresh, Rhody Warm, the Jamestown Community Farm, and RI Raised Livestock Association from local participating farmers in Jamestown. Learn about the protection of three farms through NRCS' Farm and Ranchland Protection Program and see some outstanding pollinator habitat established at the Godena Farm, with NRCS' assistance. You will then stop at beautiful Beavertail Point, at the mouth of Narragansett Bay, for a breathtaking view. Finish off the afternoon touring a Newport Historic Mansion, with an added guided tour of its notable historic trees.*
- 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.      **Welcome Reception** –Atrium  
Light Hors D'oeuvres and Cash Bar

## Monday, August 25, 2014

- 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.      **Registration and Information**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Registration Area
- 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.      **Breakfast Buffet** – Atrium
- Opening Session**  
**Salon IV**
- 8:45 a.m.                      **Welcome** – Dick Went  
President of RI Association of Conservation Districts  
Secretary/Treasurer NACD
- Co-Master of Ceremony** - Christopher Modisette  
RI State Resource Conservationist, USDA-NRCS
- Invocation** - Gina DeMarco  
District Manager of the Northern RI Conservation District
- National Anthem** - Danielle Dufour

## ***Speakers***

- 9:00 a.m. ***Pat Sueck***  
Northeast Regional Chairperson, NACD
- 9:10 a.m. ***Earl Garber***  
President, NACD
- 9:35 a.m. ***Janet Coit***  
Director of RI Department of Environmental Management
- 10:00 a.m. ***Dr. Wayne Honeycutt***  
Deputy Chief for Science and Technology, USDA-NRCS  
*"Partnering to Enhance Soil Health"*
- 10:45 ***Break***
- 11:00 a.m. ***Keynote Speaker***  
Peter August  
Professor of Natural Resources at the University of RI  
*"The Mosaic of Protected Land in Rhode Island:  
Will It Be Effective As Our Climate Changes?"*
- Noon - 1:00 p.m. **Lunch** - On your own
- 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. ***Break-Out Session I***
- "Conservation Education Programs from Around the Nation and Territories"*** (Columbia Room)  
Susan Schultz: *NACD Education & Stewardship Specialist, Marketplace Manager*  
Gina DeMarco: *District Manager of the Northern RI Conservation District*
- "Improving Public Access: Developing Trails Mapping, Signs, Parking, the Right Management Plan, & Creative Stewardship Funding"*** (Enterprise Room)  
Kate Bousquet: *District Manager and Land Use Planner, Southern RI Conservation District*  
Kathryn Zuromski  
*Biologist & GIS Specialist, Southern RI Conservation District*
- "Board Training and Employee/Board Relations"***  
(Courageous Room)  
Michael Brown: *Executive Director of the National Association of State Conservation Agencies (NASCA)*

- 2:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.      **Break**
- 2:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.      **Break-Out Session II**
- “Science and Communication in Stormwater Management”**  
(Columbia Room)  
Molly Allard: *Environmental Education and Outreach*  
Coordinator, Northern RI Conservation District
- “Benefits of Oyster Restoration: Habitat, Water quality,  
Food, and the Local Economy”** (Enterprise Room)  
Gary Casabona: *RI State Biologist USDA-NRCS*  
with other USDA-NRCS Staff and Partners
- “Board Training and Employee/Board Relations”**  
(Courageous Room)  
Michael Brown: *Executive Director of the National Association  
of State Conservation Agencies (NASCA)*
- 5:30 p.m.                      **Cash Bar – Atrium**
- 6:00 p.m.                      **Dinner – Atrium**  
Drawing of the Penny Social  
Entertainment: John McNiff  
***Pirates, Privateers and New England***

<b>Tuesday, August 26, 2014</b>
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- 7:15 a.m. – noon              **Registration and Information**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Registration Area
- 7:15 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.      **Continental Breakfast – Atrium**  
**Specialty Breakfast Meetings**  
*Please bring your breakfast to the meeting room*  
NACD Northeast Board (Columbia Room)  
NRCS State Conservationists (Enterprise Room)  
NACDE (Courageous Room)
- 8:55 a.m.                      **Reconvene – Salon IV**

**R. Phou Vongkhamdy**  
RI State Conservationist, USDA-NRCS

**Jason Weller**  
USDA, Chief of NRCS

9:45 a.m. **Break**

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **Break-Out Session III**

**“The Scientific Basis for Soil Health”** (Columbia Room)  
Dr. Wayne Honeycutt  
Deputy Chief for Science and Technology, USDA-NRCS

**“Pollinators”** (Enterprise Room)

Kelly Gill  
Pollinator Conservation Specialist  
The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation  
Partner Biologist  
USDA-NRCS, Mid-Atlantic and Northeast Regions

**“The Small-Scale Forestry Project: Conserving Forestland in Northern RI”** (Courageous Room)

Paul Dolan  
Area Director, RI Resource Conservation & Development Council  
Christopher Modisette  
RI State Resource Conservationist, USDA-NRCS  
Kate Sayles  
Forestry and Agriculture Technician for the Northern RI Conservation District

11:45 a.m. **Load tour buses** in front of the hotel  
Boxed lunch will be provided.

**NOON SHARP** **BUSES LEAVE FOR TOURS** – Hotel Front Entrance  
**Northern Tour**

Tour Northern Rhode Island and visit three hidden Green Giants - treasures that are part of the backbone landscape which filters water for Narraganset Bay and over 60% of Rhode Island's drinking water.

\* Snake Den Farm - A 150 acre historic working farm currently state owned and managed by Northern RI Conservation District. It is in its infancy stages for bringing it back into crop production and developing as training grounds for farmers learning conservation techniques.

\* North Scituate Village - Drive through as we learn about stormwater and education projects aimed at protecting the Scituate Reservoir.

\* Joslin Farm - This property was acquired by Providence Water for drinking water protection and is the site of a major NRCS WHIP project. It has one of the most beautiful views in RI and is where the battle

*of invasives is being won and land is being reclaimed for wildlife. This part of the tour includes some walking on uneven terrain.*

***Southern Tour***

*Tour Southern Rhode Island with a stop at Perry Raso's, Matunuck Oyster Farm. He will be discussing aquaculture and fisheries on a global and local scale. The participants will then wade into the seven acre shellfish farm in Potter's Pond. **The Farm to Table** mission statement comes full circle with a visit to Perry's land farm where he grows vegetables and herbs for use in his restaurant.*

***Eastern Tour***

*Tour the Roger Williams University's oyster hatchery and learn about oyster restoration in Narragansett Bay. Then tour Newport Vineyards and see many conservation practices both cost-shared and privately instituted.*

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

***Closing Reception*** – Atrium  
Light Hors D'oeuvres and Cash Bar