



Day 1 March 3rd Agenda

8:00	Registration Opens
9:00 - 9:05	Welcome - Dean's Hall (all day)
9:05 - 10:00	Keynote Speakers: Dorothy Merritts, Franklin and Marshall College and Ellen Wohl, Colorado State University
10:00 - 10:15	Break
10:15 - 11:35	Technical Session 1: Understanding the Past 1. Landscape Memory – (Past Episodes) – Ben Hayes, Bucknell Univ. (30 min) 2. What Lies Beneath: The Geological and Environmental Transition from Holocene Wetlands to Historic Legacy Sediments and How This Knowledge Informs Restoration – Robert Walter, Franklin and Marshall College (30 min) 3. Examining the Carbon Implications of Legacy Sediment Removal in Pennsylvania Watersheds –Chris Williams, Franklin and Marshall College (20 min)
11:35 - 12:35	Lunch Gardens Restaurant
12:35 - 2:00	Technical Session 2: Characterizing the Colonial and Modern Past 1. Historic Watershed Alterations (Regional Patterns) – Ben Hayes, Bucknell Univ. (30 min) 2. Stratigraphic Investigation Techniques – Justin Spangler, LandStudies and Robert Walter, Franklin and Marshall College (35 min) 3. Tools for Locating Historic Changes – TWI, Geomorphon, Breached Dam Data – Dave Goerman, DEP DWET (20 min)
2:00 - 2:15	Break
2:15 - 3:45	Technical Session 3: Design Considerations 1. Evidence-Based Approach – Dave Goerman, DEP (10 min) 2. Principal and Key Restoration Design Considerations; – Art Parola, Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc. and Ward Oberholtzer, LandStudies; Identifying & Overcoming Complicating Factors – Drew Altland, Straughan Environmental, Inc., (80 min)
3:45 – 4:30	Panel A Session: Restoration Frame of Reference - Systems Approach Panelists: Ellen Wohl, Dorothy Merritts, Jeff Hartranft, Art Parola, Drew Altland
4:45 – 6:30	Student Career Networking and General Social Networking Session President's 1 Hall and the President's pre-function space (hallway)



PA Aquatic Resource Restoration Training 2026

Past, Present, and Future

March 3 and 4th, 2026

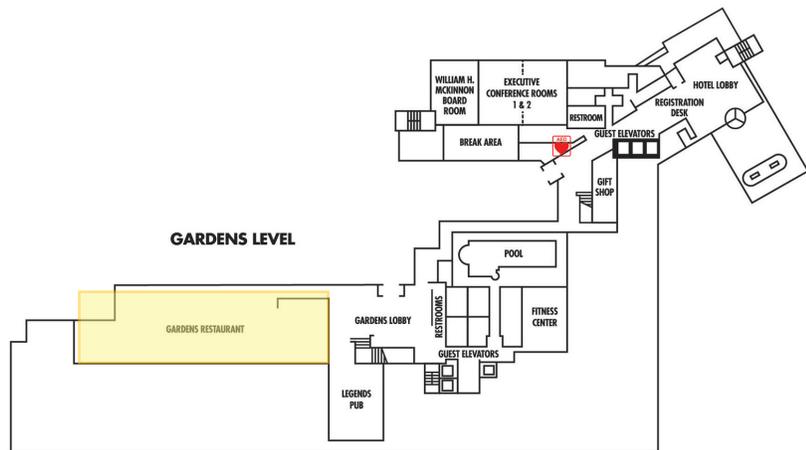
Penn State Hotel and Conference Center, State College PA

Day 2 March 4th Agenda

8:00	Registration Opens	
8:45 - 9:05	General Session - Dean's Hall Expertise Survey Results, Clean Water Academy Update, and Future of Watershed Restoration Permitting – Andy McDonald and Dave Goerman, DEP	
9:15 - 10:15	Breakout Session A	
	Design and Evaluation Tools - Room 206 1. Reliability of Two-Dimensional Hydrodynamic Models in Stream Restoration – Art Parola, Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc. (30 min) 2. USACE Stream Design Evaluation Tool – Matt Gilbert, Pittsburgh District USACE (30 min)	Ecological Considerations - Room 207 3. Key Design Considerations for Ecological Benefits – Jeff Hartranft, DEP DWET (40 min) 4. Use of Pennsylvania Community Prediction Tool for Site Restoration – Ephraim Zimmerman, Western PA Conservancy (20 min)
	Comparing Project Costs – Room 205 5. Compensatory Mitigation & Restoration Cost Evaluations , Christy Mower, Civil & Environmental Consultants (20 min) 6. NSCD and Floodplain Reconnection Cost Comparison – Katie Wolff, RES (20 min) 7. Wetland-Floodplain Restoration Cost-Effectiveness – Jake Lamb, Franklin and Marshall College (20 min)	
10:15 - 10:30	Break	
10:30 – 12:00	Breakout Session B	
	Longterm Monitoring and Research – Room 206 1. Big Spring Run Continuing Research and Other Regional Findings – Julia Carr, Shuyu Chang, and Joe Galella, Franklin and Marshall College (45 min) 2. Long Term Monitoring of Hydrological and Biological Responses to Dynamic Alluvial Valley Restoration at Robinson Fork, PA – Kelly Johnson, Ohio University (45 min)	Performance Measures, Outcomes and Long-Term Maintenance – Rom 207 3. Beyond the Channel – Dynamic Alluvial Valley Performance Standards – Sam Leberg, Ecosystem Planning and Restoration (30 min) 4. Observed Project Outcomes – Monitoring Large Scale Projects and Results – Shawyn Yeamans, RES (30 min) 5. Vegetation Management in Restored Floodplain/Wetland Complexes – Nick Myers, LandStudies (30 min)

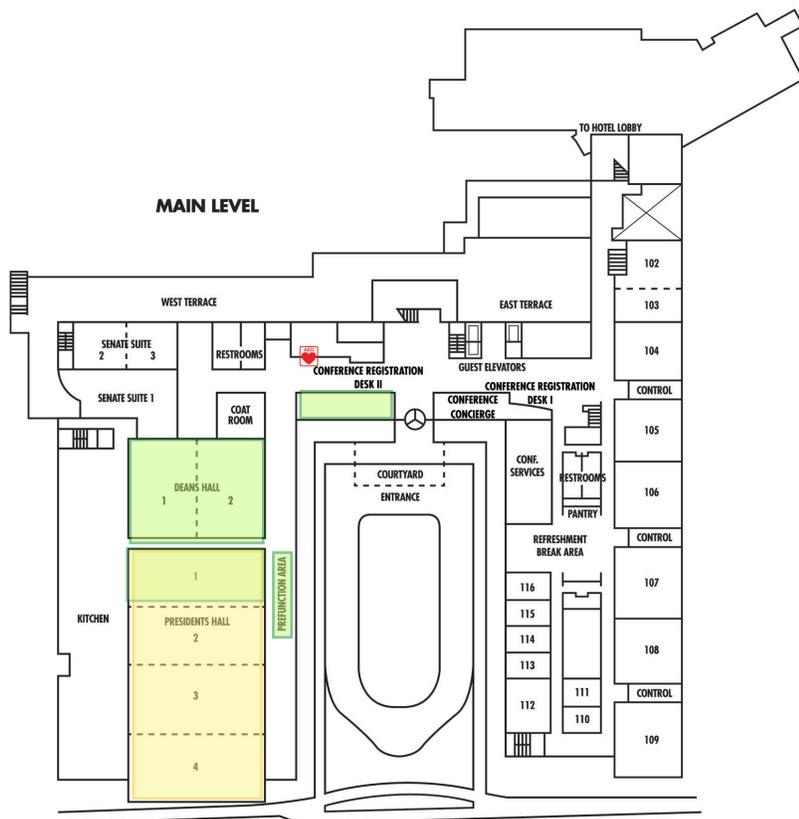


	<p>Community Engagement and Project Development - Room 205</p> <p>6. Coordinating a Large-Scale Project's Community Engagement and Funding - Little Conestoga Creek Blue Green Connector Experience – John Cox, Little Conestoga Creek Foundation (45 min)</p> <p>7. Indigenous Engagement in PA and the Role of Cultural Restoration Within the Context of Ecological Restoration – Laurel Etter Longenecker, RiverStewards Collaborative and Alyssa Hannigan, LandStudies (45 min)</p>
12:00 - 1:00	<p style="text-align: center;">Lunch President's Hall 1 and 2</p>
1:00 - 2:30	<p>Technical Session 4: Demonstration Case Studies – Dean's Hall</p> <p>1. Little Arnot Large Wood Reintroduction – Ben Hayes, Bucknell University (30 min)</p> <p>2. Adaptive Approaches to Aquatic Resource Restoration: Use of Large Wood Material in Stage 0 Remediation Design Approach at the Good Spring (aka Devil's Hole) Abandoned Mine Reclamation Floodplain Reconnection Project – Dave Goerman, DEP (30 min)</p> <p>3. Comprehensive Legacy Sediment Removal and Multi-Benefit Outcomes – Andrew Donaldson, Johnson, Mirmiran, & Thompson, Inc. and Ben Ehrhart, LandStudies (30 min)</p>
2:30 - 2:45	<p style="text-align: center;">Break</p>
2:45 – 3:45	<p>Technical Session 5: Watershed Scale Project Case Studies – Dean's Hall</p> <p>1. Robinson Fork Mitigation Bank – Dave Goerman, DEP, Art Parola, Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc. and Ward Oberholtzer, LandStudies (40 min)</p> <p>2. Connecting the Dots: Science Based Decision Making for River Restoration – Su Fanok, PADE The Nature Conservancy and Ben Ehrhart, LandStudies (20 min)</p>
3:45-4:15	<p>Panel B Session: Future of Restoration Project Planning, Development, Implementation and Watershed Restoration Permitting – Dean's Hall</p> <p>Panelists: Dave Goerman, DEP; Jack Hill, DCNR; Joe Sweeney, Water Science Institute; Scott Heidel, DEP; and Su Fanok, TNC</p>



 = Spaces Utilized by Restoration Conference

 = Lunch-Announcement will be made on which room will be utilized



FLOOR PLANS FOR THE PENN STATER HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER

