

Conservation Advisory Council Members Professional Training in 2024

For Colleen Lutz:

Presentation at the Copake Grange's/CAC invasive species talk - 3/2/2024 (3hrs)

Presentation at Punch Brook Characterization Presentation - 4/15/2024 - (2hrs)

Presentation at ACOE Wetland Delineation Course - 7/29-8/1 - (24hrs)

Webinars:

HREP Conservation Planning Series-3/28/2024 (1hr) and 4/18/2024 (1hr) (2hs total)

Identifying Invasive Species Range Shifts (1hr)NE CASC (Northeast Climate Adaptation Science Center) webinar series - (3 hrs)

For Jane Meigs:

1) Overview of NY's Freshwater Wetland Regulatory Changes February 1, 2024 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. In 2022, Governor Kathy Hochul signed into law historic revisions to New York's Freshwater Wetlands Act. Currently, the Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) jurisdiction is limited to wetlands that are equal to or greater than 12.4 acres (and certain wetlands of unusual local importance) and identified on the State Freshwater Wetlands Map. The new legislation will eliminate the map requirement beginning in 2025, and in 2028 DEC's jurisdiction will expand to wetlands as small as 7.4 acres. The reforms will allow DEC to protect over one million acres of critically important freshwater wetlands that are currently unmapped and thousands of additional acres of smaller wetlands.

This webinar will provide an overview of DEC's current freshwater wetlands regulations and how they are enforced. It will explain the need for the regulatory revisions and outline the forthcoming regulatory changes and their effective dates. Speaker: Krista Spohr, Environmental Program Specialist, DEC Bureau of Ecosystem Health

2) Invasive Species Presentation March 2, 2024

Speakers Colleen Lutz from NY Heritage Program and Sam Schulz of NY Prism

3) CLC Conversation on Farming and Conservation. March 5. Discussion on how farming and conservation practices intersect held at the Millerton Moviehouse. CLC and local farmers.

4) Master Gardener Tim Kennelty on Native Trees & Shrubs. March 16 at Ancram Town Hall. Hosted by the Ancram Resilient Farm and Gardens Group.

5) Deer Overpopulation Presentation by the Ancram Resilient Farm and Garden Group.

November 16, 2024, 11:30 to 1:00pm.

6) Columbia Land Conservancy online webinar on creating an Open Space Plan for Columbia County. December 10, 2024. 7-8:30pm.

For Jonathan Meigs:

Deer Overpopulation Presentation by the Ancram Resilient Farm and Garden Group.
November 16, 2024, 11:30 to 1:00pm.

For Walter Williamson:

6/25 – Conducted Master Forest Owner visit at property of landowners of a number of acres of woodland on Four Corners Road in Ancram to advise property owners of issues observed in their woods regarding health and regeneration of the woods, and resources available to them to address those issues. About 6 hours including preparation, visit itself, and post-visit communications.

10/9 – Webinar: White Pine Needle Damage and Options for Management. Jill Rose and Dr. Sarah Johnson, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Forestry, Division of Forest Health. 1.4 hours.

10/16 – Webinar: Adventures in Oak Recruitment. Cornell Forest Connect webinar taught by Thomas E. Worthley, Extension Professor, and Amanda Bunce, Ph.D. candidate, University of Connecticut. 1.3 hours.

11/20 – Webinar: The Critical Role of Forests as Pollinator Habitat, and Ten Practical Steps You Can Take to Benefit Pollinators in your Woods. Presented by the Cornell Cooperative Extension and the US Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Lecturer: Kristi Sullivan, wildlife biologist, Director, NY Master Naturalist Program and Extension Associate, Natural Resources and the Environment, Cornell University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. 1.5 hours.

12/10 – Webinar: Invasive Plant Toolkit for Landowners. Penn State Extension; Katie Brooks, Extension Educator, and Emily N. Rojik, Extension Educator. 1.3 hours