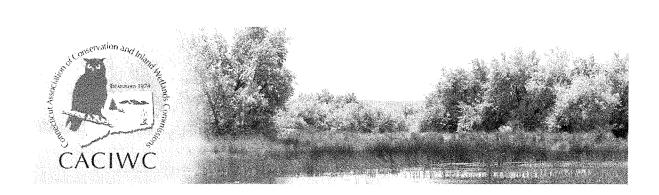
#### **Martin Connor**

From: CACIWC <communications@caciwc.org> on behalf of CACIWC

Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2023 2:46 PM

**To:** landuse@goshenct.gov

**Subject:** Environmental Conference & Annual Meeting Nov. 11

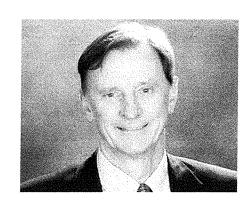


# The Connecticut Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions (CACIWC) presents its 46th Annual Meeting & Environmental Conference:

#### "Celebrating Connecticut's Conservation Commissions"

Saturday, November 11, 2023 Location: Bristol Event Center (new facility!) 112 Century Drive, Bristol, CT 06010

Keynote Speaker: Professor of Marine Sciences and Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) Executive Director **James O'Donnell, PhD** will present on "Climate Change in Connecticut (and what we're doing about it)"



#### Other highlights include:

• A dozen multi-track workshops (on such topics as wetland enforcement and legal updates, morticulture, greenways and outdoor recreation, wildlife action plan, climate resilience and conservation, stormwater management, GPS mapping, and more!). See more information on the workshops and presenters. CEUs available (to be announced soon).

- **Exhibitor hall** with displays from more than two dozen companies and non-profit organizations.
- 250+ municipal decision-makers, researchers, consultants, advocates, and land use professionals in attendance. Bring business cards for **networking** see old friends and make new ones!

Register one of two ways:

- **REGISTER ONLINE** (even if mailing payment later by check).
- Or use our MAIL-IN FORM.

Register/postmark by Oct. 28 early bird deadline to save \$10!

Registration includes continental breakfast, buffet lunch, and workshops. Save money as a member. Learn more about CACIWC membership!

Interested in exhibiting or sponsoring? Want ad space in CACIWC's Annual Report? Support at any level is appreciated! Learn more: Exhibitor/Advertiser/Sponsor Form / Non-Profit Exhibitor Form

Please forward to others who may be interested!

Questions? Email us at AnnualMtg@caciwc.org.

CACIWC | deKoven House Community Center, 27 Washington Street, Middletown, CT 06457

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Connecticut Association of Conservation & Inland Wetlands Commissions

# 46th Annual Meeting & Environmental Conference

Celebrating Connecticut's Conservation Commissions!

# Saturday, November 11, 2023 8:00 am to 3:30 pm

Our 2023 annual conference will be held at the newly constructed Bristol Event Center!

#### Schedule for the Day

Registration & Breakfast

8:00 - 8:45 am

Welcome & Business Mta.

8:45 - 9:00 am

Keynote Speaker

9:00 - 10:00 am

Break 1 10:00 - 10:15 am

Session 1 Workshops 10:15 - 11:15 am

> Break 2 11:15 - 11:30 am

Session 2 Workshops 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

> Break 3 12:30 - 12:45 pm

Luncheon 12:45 - 1:45 pm

Break 4 1:45 - 2:00 pm Session 3 Workshops 2:00 - 3:15 pm **End of Conference** 3:30pm

SUPPORT CACIWC and promote your brand to an audience of passionate conservation/wetland professionals:

economics. Through extensive engagement, and with the assistance of local, state, and federal government staff, the Resilience Connecticut project has identified and analyzed more than one hundred projects that climate change has created or exacerbated in Connecticut. and that towns would like help in addressing. Professor O'Donnell will summarize the changes that we expect, and the process we have used to create a "Pipeline" of Projects. He will illustrate the key components of the approach by discussing some specific projects. Professor O'Donnell will conclude with a summary of important lessons about effective adaptation planning and highlight some outstanding issues that need attention.

Jim O'Donnell is a physical oceanographer. He studies the physical processes that determine the circulation and transport of materials in the coastal ocean. He earned a BSc. (Hons) in Applied Physics from Strathclyde University in Scotland, and a M.S. and Ph.D. in Oceanography from the University of Delaware. After two years as a Postdoctoral Research Associate in the Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics at Cambridge University, England, he joined the faculty of the University of Connecticut in 1987 and was appointed Professor in 1999. He was elected to the Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering in 2009 and was appointed to be Executive Director of the Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) in 2014.

## A1. "Morticulture: The Ecological Importance of Old & Dead Trees"

Margery C. B. Winters, Chair, Simsbury Conservation Commission/Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency, President, Simsbury Land Trust & Assistant Director, Roaring Brook Nature Center

Once considered a wasted resource and a hazard in forest landscapes, dead trees, and logs are now known to be valuable and essential parts of a healthy, mature forest ecosystem. In addition to providing essential habitat and food for many terrestrial and aquatic species, these senescing trees serve as a vital source of soil moisture, soil carbon, and nutrients for the entire forest. The importance and benefits of allowing our existing older and "middleaged" forests to reach their full ecological potential and develop into a forest that has its full complement of environmental services, a process called proforestation, will also be discussed.

#### B1. "Advanced Topics\* in Wetlands Enforcement"

Janet Brooks, Attorney at Law, LLC with Mark Branse, Halloran & Sage, LLP, and Darcy Winther, State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), as moderator Let's discuss how you (some of you) are using Notices of Violation incorrectly and how to issue an order when you don't know the remediation that is required to correct the violation. We'll use the template that I developed and distributed through The Habitat. Let's have a wide-ranging approach to enforcement from incremental steps using your "soft" power to formal legally defined actions (orders + lawsuits). Are you jumping over steps and complicating your life? And what's your civility quotient? (How civil are you to those who appear before you?)

\*No prerequisites required. You will all be ready for advanced enforcement issues after attending this workshop.

## C1 "Sustainable CT: Supporting and Celebrating Sustainability Initiatives in Connecticut Communities"

Jessica LeClair, Senior Program Director, Sustainable CT Sustainable CT is a statewide municipal certification program that inspires and supports communities to become more vibrant, connected, healthy, and resilient. The workshop session will provide an overview of Sustainable CT, including the new Climate Leader Designation. The Climate Leader Designation celebrates municipalities that are reducing harmful greenhouse gas emissions and preparing their communities for the impacts of climate change. The workshop will focus on the how Connecticut Commissions can use the Sustainable CT framework as a resource to accomplish their commission goals, and help commissioners understand how to access funding and support for sustainability projects through Sustainable CT's Community Match Fund.

#### C2. "Conservation Commissions and Climate Resilience"

Louanne Cooley and Kayla Vargas from the CT Institute of Resilience and Climate Adaptation (UConn CIRCA) & Michael Stankov, Environmental Planner/Inland Wetlands Agent, Town of Mansfield

Climate change has created challenges for managing public natural resources. Conservation commissions should consider the effect of climate change on natural resources and the solutions these resources provide, when undertaking their duties of protecting and preserving biological diversity and natural resources. Conservation Commissions can act to increase municipal climate resiliency to impacts like flooding, heat, and drought by protecting present and future natural resources and the ecosystem services they provide. We will discuss ways Conservation Commissions can act within their legal authority and in concert with other town, regional, and state boards, commissions, and agencies to promote climate resilience and nature-based solutions.

#### D2. "Solutions to the Food Waste Crisis in Connecticut"

Sherill Baldwin, Sustainable Materials Management Environmental Analyst, State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), and Pippa Bell Ader of Sustainable Westport

Learn about food waste, including how municipalities and DEEP are responding with innovative pilots, programs, and other initiatives to reduce, reuse and recycle the organic portion of our municipal solid waste. Sherill Baldwin of DEEP will provide an overview of the challenges, programs the state is implementing with municipalities and food waste prevention and food recovery policy ideas. Pippa Bell Ader of Sustainable Westport, a non-profit, will discuss how Westport's voluntary food scrap recycling program got started, progress made, challenges and ideas for the future.

Session 3 (2:00 AM-3:15 PM):

# A3. "Conserving amphibian and reptile diversity – a collective responsibility"

Hank Gruner, Herpetologist, and member of the Andover Conservation Commission & Dennis Quinn, owner of Quinn Ecological, LLC

Responding to rapidly changing climatic conditions is a significant challenge facing populations of many amphibians and reptiles. Low dispersal capabilities, coupled with an increasingly fragmented landscape, limits the capacity of populations to rearrange themselves in response to climatic changes that impact habitat suitability. Although some species and/or populations may demonstrate the ability to locally adapt to changing conditions, this remains far from certain. This session will provide an update on the status of Connecticut's "herps" and illustrate the critical role

Emily's personal favorite, sending it over for inclusion in CT Trail
Finder!

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