

2025 Pennsylvania Reforestation Symposium



**August 5-7 at the Altoona Grand Hotel &
Conference Center**

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Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds

2025 Pennsylvania Reforestation Symposium

Hosted by Green Forests Work at the Altoona Grand Hotel

August 5-7 in Altoona, PA & Surroundings

Tuesday, August 5th - Altoona Grand Hotel Conference Center

9:00-10:00 AM

**ARRIVAL, REGISTRATION, COFFEE, &
REFRESHMENTS**

10:00-10:30 AM

OPENING SESSION & WELCOME STATEMENTS

- » **Green Forests Work** - Michael French, Director of Operations
- » **Office of Surface Mining Reclamation & Enforcement** - Thomas Koptchak, PFO Director
- » **Pennsylvania Environmental Council** - Tom Gilbert, President
- » **Pennsylvania DCNR** - Jason Albright, Director of Forest Operations

10:30-11:00 AM

**MINED LANDS REFORESTATION - PROMISE &
OPPORTUNITY**

Michael and Eric will discuss the history, techniques, and approach of using the FRA to reforest mined land throughout Appalachia. They will also introduce the topics to be discussed through the symposium (vision, successes, opportunities and challenges) as they pertain to the FRA.

- » **Michael French** - Green Forests Work
- » **Eric Oliver** - Green Forests Work

11:00-12:00 PM

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

A panel discussion with Jake Reilly from NFWF, Maggie Anderson from the Foundation for PA Watersheds, and Katy Shallows from The Nature Conservancy. Topics discussed will include funding opportunities in general as well as a brief presentation from each panelist on their organization's opportunities for funding reforestation projects.

- » **Jake Reilly** - National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
- » **Maggie Anderson** - Foundation for PA Watersheds
- » **Katy Shallows** - The Nature Conservancy
- » **Eric Oliver** - Green Forests Work (Moderator)

12:00-12:45 PM

LUNCH

12:45-1:15 PM

PARTNERSHIPS

An overview of the recent partnership that developed between the AWA, PEC, and Bryn Mawr College to reforest 188 acres of AWA property to restore and protect the Kittanning Run Watershed in Blair County. Opportunities for future similar partnerships and lessons learned will also be explored.

- » **Tom Gilbert** - Pennsylvania Environmental Council
- » **Katie Semelsberger** - Altoona Water Authority
- » **Neha Sood** - Bryn Mawr College

1:15-1:45 PM

LANDOWNER RELATIONS

Ryan and Michael will present updates on the topic of successful landowner engagements to facilitate reforestation projects. Ryan's experience as an environmental attorney as well as years of work engaging landowners for various conservation projects has given him a complete experience which can help symposium attendees better understand techniques and strategies to improve their engagements. Michael's experience with landowners first as conservancy staff and now in the private sector focusing on the carbon markets will bring a unique viewpoint to the discussion.

- » **Ryan Hamilton** - Clearwater Conservancy
- » **Michael Knoop** - Bosland Growth

1:45-2:15 PM

LAND USE CHANGES

Scott will discuss how land use change has affected the forestland cover of Appalachia. He will review the many land use types allowed by mining statutes. He will also discuss how the reforestation program looks to correct this loss of forested land use.

- » **Scott Eggerud** - OSMRE (Retired), Former ARRI Core Team Leader

2:15-2:30 PM

BREAK

2:30-3:00 PM

PERMITS & REGULATIONS

Paul and John will present on the varied permits and regulations that are encountered during reforestation project planning.

- » **Dr. Paul Roth** - Entropia
- » **John Walliser** - PEC, Legislative Liaison

3:00-3:30 PM

NURSERY CONSIDERATIONS & NEEDS

This discussion and presentation will address the needs of the nurseries in order to scale up the amount of reforestation that could take place on state lands that were previously mined. Logistics such as seed collection, nursery operations, seedling availability, and species selection will be discussed.

- » **Annetta Ayers** - DCNR BoF Nursery Manager
- » **Brian Stone** - PGC Nursery Manager

3:30-4:15 PM

CARBON MARKETS

A presentation on the current state of how reforestation projects fit into the carbon market. Attendees will learn about the intricacies of the market and gain information on how their projects can utilize the players in the market to add another ecosystem service to their projects.

- » **Johnathan Shears** - Living Carbon
- » **Michael Knoop** - Bosland Growth
- » **Alicia Cramer** - US Endowment

4:15-4:30 PM

WRAP-UP & CLOSING SESSION

- » Recap and reflect on the day
- » Field trip overview
- » Announcements

Wednesday, August 6th - All Day Field Trip (See Itinerary)

7:45-8:00 AM

BOARD TRANSPORTATION FOR FIELD TRIP

8:15 AM

DEPART FROM ALTOONA GRAND HOTEL

5:00 PM

RETURN TO ALTOONA GRAND HOTEL

6:30-8:30 PM

SOCIAL NETWORKING EVENT AT LEVITY BREWING

- » Hosted by the Pennsylvania Environmental Council

Thursday, August 7th - Altoona Grand Hotel Conference Center

8:00-9:00 AM

COFFEE & REFRESHMENTS

- » A continental breakfast will be provided from 8:00 until 9:00 am.
Please help yourself before the opening session kicks off at 9:00 am.

9:00-9:45 AM

OPENING SESSION & FIELD TRIP REFLECTIONS

- » **Sarah Clark** - Institute for Conservation Leadership

9:45-10:15 AM

CRITICAL ISSUES & OPPORTUNITIES IN REFORESTATION

Reflecting on themes and experiences from first two days, interactive discussion to identify significant issues, opportunities and strategic questions.

- » **Sarah Clark** - Institute for Conservation Leadership

10:15-10:30 AM

BREAK

10:30-11:40 AM

STRATEGIZING TO ADDRESS CRITICAL ISSUES & OPPORTUNITIES

Interactive small group and whole group discussions to discuss critical issues and opportunities, with a focus on strategic issues and next steps.

- » **Sarah Clark** - Institute for Conservation Leadership

11:40-12:00 PM

CLOSING SESSION

Event recap, evaluation and final reflections, close, and professional credits.

- » **Eric Oliver** - Green Forests Work
- » **Sarah Clark** - Institute for Conservation Leadership

12:00 PM

END - BOXED LUNCHES PROVIDED

Safe travels!

Event Details

ALTOONA CURVE GAME

For those who signed up when registering, Tuesday evening we will be holding a social event at the **Altoona Curve** vs Hartford Yard Goats minor league (AA) baseball game at **Blair County Ball Park**. If you signed up, your registration includes a diamond level ticket, a super meal ticket (hot dog, chips, and soda) and one \$10 Curve coin that can be used for just about anything in the ball park. We will provide shuttle service to and from the ball park with limited trips before and after the game. To use the shuttle, please sign up for a transportation time at the registration desk. The ballpark is very close to the hotel but it is not walkable. If you chose to drive your own vehicle, the parking deck is recommended and the cost to park is \$4 per car. There will be a post-game fireworks show at the ball park.



Altoona Curve at the Blair County Ball Park.

HAPPY HOUR AT LEVITY BREWING - SPONSORED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

Refresh yourself after a long, fun day in the field touring reforestation project sites at **Levity Brewing** in downtown Altoona (1411 11th Ave, Altoona, PA 16601) for happy hour drinks and heavy snacks from 6:30 until 8:30 pm. Sponsored by the Pennsylvania Environmental Council, two drink tokens will be provided, as well as a taco and nacho bar, fruit tray, pretzel bites, and hummus with pita and veggies to dip. Transportation will be provided from the Altoona Gran Hotel. We look forward to seeing you there!

Field Trip Data Sheets

Morning Site Visits

7:45-8:00 AM

MEET & BOARD

8:00-8:40 AM

TRAVEL TO WOLF RUN // COALDALE SITE VISIT LOCATION

8:40-10:00 AM

WOLF RUN // COALDALE SITE VISIT

Wolf Run // Barlow Hollow AML Site

Landowners: Carmen III, Inc & Jon Fox

Number of Acres: 73 Acres of mine Reclamation (66 of these acres used ARRI Reforestation)

Four (4), Priority 2, Dangerous Highwalls totaling 9,300 linear feet. 50 Acres of associated, Priority 3, Spoil Areas.

Materials in growth medium: Mixed overburden, sandstones, shales, native soils

Method of placement (grading, etc.): Push up method, pit-mound topography

Ground covers: 3 lbs/acre – Big Blue Stem, 3 lbs/acre – Switch Grass, 3 lbs/acre Lidino Clover and 3 lbs/acre Indian Grass. Total 12 lbs/acre of seed.

Tree species: American chestnut, northern red oak, chestnut oak, white oak, eastern white pine, black cherry, Norway spruce, black walnut, sugar maple, yellow poplar (47, 365 tree planted)

Partners: American Chestnut Foundation

Coaldale AML Site

Landowners: Carmen III, Inc. & PA DCNR

Number of Acres: 61.0 Acres

Two (2) Priority 2, Dangerous Highwalls totaling 7,000 linear feet.

Materials in growth medium: Mixed overburden, sandstones, shales, native soils

Method of placement (grading, etc.): Push up method, pit-mound topography

Ground covers: 3 lbs/acre – Big Blue Stem, 3 lbs/acre – Switch Grass, 3 lbs/acre – Ladino Clover, 3 lbs/acre – Indian Grass, 3 lbs/acre – Birdsfoot Trefoil. Total 15 lbs/acre seed.

Tree species and numbers: American chestnut, eastern white pine, northern red oak, chestnut oak, black cherry, Norway spruce, white oak, black walnut, sugar maple, black oak, black locust, swamp white oak (38,525 trees planted)

Landowner Comments: Rough grading discourages ATVs and off road vehicles.

Outreach Opportunities, etc.: Public lands offer training opportunities, field visits, etc.

Partners: American Chestnut Foundation, PA DCNR, ARRI

CIG Grant Area:

- » **Funding Source:** USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service, The American Chestnut Foundation, OSMRE, BAMR
- » **Details:** 1-acre progeny test of potentially blight resistant families; mixed hardwood/American chestnut mixed reforestation area to see how chestnuts compete against other commonly used reclamation species
- » **Number and type of chestnuts:** 1,225 – mostly 15/16 American 1/16 Chinese; some pure Am. Pure Ch. and early backcross controls in the progeny test
- » **Outreach Opportunities:** Pennsylvania Wildlife Habitat Unlimited volunteer planting event
- » **Partners:** OSMRE, BAMR, NRCS, TACF, ARRI, GFW, others

Midday Site Visit & Lunch

10:00–11:30 AM

TRAVEL TO ROUND KNOB SITE VISIT LOCATION

- » Rest stop planned at Sheetz in Huntingdon

11:30–1:00 PM

ROUND KNOB SITE VISIT

1:00–1:30 PM

BOXED LUNCHES AT ROBERTSDALE FIRE HALL

- » Restrooms available

Round Knob Reclamation Project

Landowner: Joseph Kovalchick

PA DEP issued the permit for mining and re-mining of AML to Ferlitch Construction Company Inc. on February 28, 2008. The permit authorization was for 48.1 acres of which 15.0 acres were previously disturbed by surface AML and 1.0 acre was disturbed by underground AML. The coal seams to be mined were the Barnett (Lower Kittanning) and the Fulton. A reclamation bond was placed on the site by the company in the amount of \$159,983.00. Bond was made up of both surety and Re-mining Financial Guarantee bonds issued by the state.

Ferlitch operated at the site from 2008 until their financial collapse in 2017 which caused them to abandon the site with pits, highwalls, and spoil piles remaining. As the bond forfeiture process was starting, a post-mining discharge was discovered that would require treatment beyond the surface reclamation of the site.

Discussions were held between the Cambria Office of District Mining Operations, Bureau of Mining Programs, the landowner, the engineering consultant for Ferlitch, and the surety company to determine the best course of action to allow the site to be reclaimed and the water treated without exceeding the budgeted amount set by the bond that was to be forfeited. It was determined that since the post mining land use to be achieved was forestland that the ARRI FRA partnership would achieve this land use while also freeing up funds to be used on treating the postmining discharge.

Due to the condition of the soil, application of biosolids was also part of preparing the site for reclamation. This would provide the much-needed organic material to the trees as well as increase the pH of the soil. All costs of trucking and application were covered by the source generator.

Work began on the site in the fall of 2018 and continued into the spring of 2019. The treatment system was complete and functioning by the summer of 2019.

The site was prepared by spreading the biosolids at about 30 tons/acre and chisel plowing for incorporation. The site was then cross ripped using a D10 dozer with dual shanks. The ripping depth was measured to 4+ feet. This not only loosened the compacted soil for tree root penetration, but it also allowed deep incorporation of the biosolids where the tree roots could utilize it.

Tree planting was completed by hand in May 2019 by professional tree planters from Napieralski Forestry Services. A mixture of early successional and high-value hardwoods was planted along with a moderate evergreen component. Species included:

Tree species: White oak, red oak, American chestnut, river birch, sycamore, white pine, red spruce, black cherry, dogwood, black locust, black walnut, red maple, sugar maple, American beech, quaking aspen, big toothed aspen, eastern redbud.

In all, 36 acres were reclaimed and revegetated using the FRA. The site has stabilized nicely with volunteer herbaceous vegetation starting to fill in as well as the trees growing at a rate that put them out of the browse zone of deer within the 2nd and 3rd year.

Partners: PA DEP, Pennsylvania Environmental Council, Susquehanna River Basin Commission, Foundation for PA Watersheds, OSMRE, CASRI, and the landowner.

Afternoon Site Visit

1:30-2:30 PM

TRAVEL TO AWA SITE VISIT LOCATION

2:30-4:30 PM

AWA RECLAMATION SITE VISIT

AWA Reclamation Site

~2500 acres purchased by the AWA to protect their water shed. Many acres are previously mined land, some AML and some Legacy. Open to limited public use and monitored by the PGC.

AWA treats drinking water for around 70,000 people (about 60%) of Blair County. They are the largest dual-operating authority (water and wastewater) between Pittsburgh and Harrisburg.

Murph/Glen White/Barrens Areas:

- » All are reclaimed AML projects. Glen White and Barrens were reclaimed with grasses in 2018-2019. Prepared and planted with trees in 2022 after the Murph Area was reclaimed.
- » Murph was reclaimed in 2021-2022. Reclamation of these AML features eliminated several dangerous highwalls and spoil piles that were in high use by ATVs. Watershed was returned to approximately the original contours, stopping rainwater from infiltrating into the underground mine pools.
- » Approx 97 acres planted with: Red spruce, white pine, red oak, white oak, chestnut oak, black cherry, yellow poplar, black locust, quaking aspen, big-tooth aspen, American crabapple, black chokeberry, silky dogwood, and grey-stem dogwood (36,400 trees total)
- » No biosolids used in this area.

Kittanning Run Area:

- » All-legacy project. 88 acres with biosolids applied. Biosolids are very expensive for the Authority to dispose of properly (landfill) but provide a rich organic additive to nutrient deficient mine soils. Utilization on this project was a win-win for all. Ripped in the winter of 2021, trees planted in the spring of 2022.
- » Approx. 88 acres planted with: Red spruce, white pine, red oak, white oak, chestnut oak, black cherry, yellow poplar, black locust, quaking aspen, big-tooth aspen, American crabapple, black chokeberry, silky dogwood, and grey-stem dogwood (61,600 trees total)
- » Partners: AWA, PEC, SRBC, PGC, PADEP (BAMR and BMP), Bryn Mawr College, GFW, OSM (ARRI), CBF 10M Trees

Return to Altoona

4:30-5:00 PM

RETURN TO ALTOONA GRAND HOTEL



Speaker Bios



Michael French - Director of Operations, Green Forests Work

Michael is GFW's Director of Operations and co-chair of the Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative's Science Team. Michael holds a B.S. in Biology and an M.S. in Forestry from the University of Kentucky. He is instrumental in all aspects of GFW operations and has supervised the reforestation of thousands of acres of mined lands across Appalachia for nearly two decades.

French began working for GFW as a Reforestation Coordinator in 2014 and has been Director of Operations since 2015. Before working for GFW, he worked for The American Chestnut Foundation and focused on linking American chestnut restoration to surface mine reforestation efforts. He also worked for a professional tree-planting company where he supervised the planting of millions of trees on mined lands across Appalachia.



Eric Oliver - Reforestation Coordinator, Green Forests Work

Eric Oliver is a Mined Land Reforestation Specialist for Green Forests Work. Oliver earned a BS in Earth Science from Clarion University of PA, a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in GIS from Penn State University and is a Master's Degree Candidate in GIScience at Northwest Missouri State University.

Oliver's work focuses on reforesting thousands of acres of forest in Pennsylvania lost to mining and restoring the temperate forest ecology to a native state that existed before mineral extraction using the Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative's Forestry Reclamation Approach.

Before working for Green Forests Work, Oliver was a Mineral Resources Program Specialist for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Mining Programs. He currently lives in Tyrone, PA, and is the caretaker for the Plummers Hollow Private Nature Preserve.



Jake Reilly - Program Director, NFWF

Jake Reilly serves as the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's program director for Central Appalachia and the Chesapeake Bay, where he oversees competitive grantmaking and conservation strategy for NFWF's Central Appalachia Habitat Stewardship Fund and the Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund. Prior to NFWF, Jake served as a conservation policy analyst for the White House Office of Management and Budget.

Jake holds a bachelor in agricultural natural resource economics from the University of Maryland and a masters in environmental science and policy from Johns Hopkins University.



Maggie Anderson – Grants Program Administrator, Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds

The Foundation for Pennsylvania Watershed is a grant-making foundation and nonprofit organization dedicated to conserving and protecting Pennsylvania's water resources. In her role, she oversees grant programs supporting watershed restoration, community-led conservation, land protection, and other projects that advance clean water across the state.

Maggie holds a bachelor's degree from New York University and a master's degree from Sarah Lawrence College. She has worked locally in journalism, marketing, events, local food, and conservation, most recently at ClearWater Conservancy, where she served as Director of Operations.

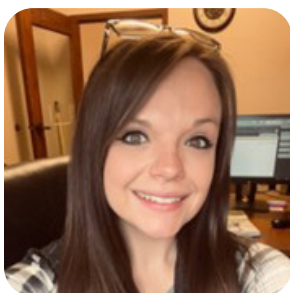
Born and raised in Centre County, Maggie lives in State College with her husband. She can be reached at manderson@thefpw.org.



Thomas Gilbert – President, Pennsylvania Environmental Council

For over three decades Tom has led non-profit campaigns, coalitions, and organizations working to protect land, water, and air resources throughout the eastern U.S., including Pennsylvania.

Prior to joining PEC, Tom served as Co-Executive Director of NJ Conservation Foundation. In that role he co-led all aspects of the organization, reporting to the board of trustees, with primary oversight over the policy, communications, and finance teams. He previously served as NJ Conservation's Campaign Director for Energy Climate and Natural Resources, leading a team that helped enact the landmark Clean Energy Law, developed a new state Energy Master Plan to achieve 100% clean energy, and improved state solar incentives and siting policies.



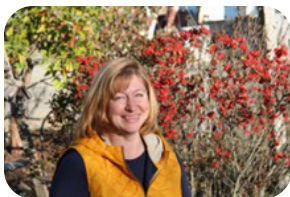
Katie Semelsberger – Land Manager, Altoona Water Authority

Graduate of Penn State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Science and Biology. Currently the Land Manager for the Altoona Water Authority since 2022, but have been with the Authority since 2019. I have been involved with all of the Altoona Water Authority's reforestation projects as well as several AML/AMD reclamation projects orchestrated by the PA DEP BAMR division.



Scott Eggerud – Forester, OSMRE (retired); Consulting Forester, Tri State Timber

Scott recently retired from a long career with WVDEP and OSMRE where he was instrumental in developing and recruiting for the ARRI program. The success of the program is largely attributed to the work that Scott and his co-workers did in the early years of the developing initiative. He was successful in promoting the use of the FRA to active, legacy, and abandoned mine lands throughout Appalachia. Scott was the leader of the ARRI Core team. In his retirement, he continues to provide consulting forestry service. He enjoys spending time with his family and catching as many fish as his grandkids will allow.



Annetta Ayers - Nursery Operations Manager, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

Annetta is the Nursery Operations Manager for the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), where she has led nursery operations for nine years. Prior to this, she spent five years as Nursery Manager and 11 years as a

Forester at the Pennsylvania Game Commission. She holds a BS in Forest Science from Penn State University and is dedicated to sustainable forestry and natural resource conservation.



Brian Stone - Nursery Manager, Pennsylvania Game Commission

Currently he is the Nursery Manager for the Pennsylvania Game Commission's Howard Nursery where he has led nursery operations since 2016. Formerly he was a Forest Program Specialist managing Continuous Forest Inventory crews and other forest data collection projects for the Pennsylvania Game Commission beginning in 2005. And prior to working for the PGC he worked as a forester with DCNR at Moshannon State Forest and as a forest technician at Bald Eagle State Forest. He holds a BS in Forest Science from Penn State University and an AS in Forest Science from Penn State Mont Alto.



Michael Knoop - Vice President, Bosland Growth

Michael is responsible for engaging landowners and coordinating project partners to implement successful reforestation projects as Bosland Growth's Vice President for Landowner Engagement.

He joined Bosland Growth from Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, where he was the Senior Director for Special Projects, and previously served as Land Protection and Planning Manager. Michael is Board Chair of the Riverside Innovation Center, which works to catalyze small businesses throughout Southwest Pennsylvania.



Jonathan Shears - Land Partnerships Lead, Living Carbon

Jonathan partners with private landowners to execute reforestation and afforestation projects on degraded lands. Since joining Living Carbon in 2024, Jonathan has helped landowners reforest over 1,000 acres throughout Appalachia and the Southeast US. He brings six years of experience in landowner outreach and carbon project development from previous roles with South Pole and the American Forest Foundation.



Alicia Cramer - Chief Operating Officer, US Endowment for Forestry & Communities

Alicia's primary focus is program oversight and development. She began working with the Endowment first in 2015 as a volunteer member of the Board of Directors and then transitioned to become a full-time member of the leadership team in 2017. Her more than 30 years of professional experience includes roles in packaging engineering and supply chain analysis to product development positions in the forestry sector, all of which contribute to her current role.

Before joining the Endowment, Alicia worked for more than two decades for the Westervelt Company, formerly known as Gulf States Paper Corporation, located in Alabama. There she held key management positions in product

development before progressing to Vice President of Business Development, an executive role which encompassed global leadership accountability for Westervelt Ecological Services, Westervelt Renewable Energy, and the company's recreation and agricultural assets in New Zealand.

Alicia received bachelor's degrees in Chemistry and Sociology from Thiel College in Greenville, Pennsylvania. She also completed The Fuqua School Executive program at Duke University. Most importantly, she loves to hike, fish, and spend time with her family.



Paul A. Roth, Ph.D - Entropia

Paul has a PhD in Forestry from Penn State's Department of Ecosystem Science & Management. He is a private forest landowner, an avid outdoorsman, and has always found great enjoyment in the woods. From 2005 - 2013 he was with the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources in the Forest Planning & Information Division and served as the Chief of the Resource Inventory & Monitoring Section from 2010-2013. From 2013 - 2019 he served as a Senior Adviser to the Director of a Washington, D.C. based non-profit that focused on natural resource and energy policy advocacy at the federal level. In 2019, he started Entropia LLC, a consulting business, and has served clients in the natural resources, philanthropic, advocacy, academic, and non-governmental organizational sectors. He served on the Board of Directors of the Mt.

Nittany Conservancy as its forest subject matter expert since 2017, on the Council of the James C. Finley Center for Private Forests at Penn State since 2021 and joined the Board of the Pennsylvania Parks and Forest Foundation earlier this year. Paul has three wonderful children, Alden, Conor, and Maddie, ages 16-21, who are a constant inspiration to him, and resides in the State College area of central PA.



John Walliser - Senior Vice President for Legal & Government Affairs, Pennsylvania Environmental Council

John oversees PEC's policy work, and helps manage legal and governance issues for the organization. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Citizens Advisory Council, the Pennsylvania Environmental Quality Board, and the Department of Environmental Protection Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee. He has served in numerous stakeholder initiatives for PEC.

He received his B.A. from the University of Pittsburgh, and J.D. from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. John has been published on the subjects of conservation and resource protection law. In his spare time he enjoys kayaking & hiking with his family.



Ryan Hamilton - Land Conservation Manager, Clearwater Conservancy

Ryan works with local landowners, volunteers, partner agencies, engaged businesses and stakeholders along with ClearWater staff and board to conserve ecologically important habitats in Central Pennsylvania. Prior to joining ClearWater, Ryan practiced as an environmental, land use, and natural resources attorney in Pittsburgh representing individual property owners, nonprofits, and small businesses across the state.

He earned a JD with a Certificate in Environmental and Natural Resources Law at Lewis and Clark Law School and he graduated with a BA in Philosophy and English from Juniata College. Outside the office, you can most often find Ryan exploring local hiking trails with his wife, Sarah, and daughter, Elouise. He also enjoys gardening and mountain biking.