

2013

## 8th Susquehanna River Symposium Program

Bucknell Center for Sustainability and the Environment

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The Bucknell University Environmental Center and the Susquehanna River Heartland Coalition for Environmental Science welcomes you to the **8<sup>th</sup> Annual Susquehanna River Symposium**, held on October 18-19 in the Elaine Langone Center on the campus of Bucknell University. **All events are free and open to the public.** Parking is available nearby on Moore Avenue and 7th Street. Maps and lodging information are available at:

[www.bucknell.edu/riversymposium](http://www.bucknell.edu/riversymposium)

The symposium focuses on the impact of dams on the Susquehanna River, ranging from pre-historic glacial ice dams, to historic mill, canal, and logging dams, to the modern hydroelectric, flood control, and recreational dams. Many communities, railroads, and industrial plants rely upon electricity generated from four major hydropower facilities built on the lower Susquehanna - Conowingo, Holtwood, Safe Harbor, and York Haven dams.

Dams can provide a source of renewable energy, flood control, and recreational boating to millions of citizens in the Susquehanna watershed, but they can also impact the fisheries, water quality, and aquatic life in river and the Chesapeake Bay. Learn how environmental consultants and the hydropower facility owners are assessing

the environmental impacts and evaluating various management alternatives as part of the federal energy relicensing process. The solutions are complex, difficult, and require trade-offs.

#### **DAMS AND THEIR IMPACTS**

This symposium brings the public together with scientists, engineers, dam owners and operators, and community leaders to explore the legacy of dams in the Susquehanna watershed and their impacts on human and aquatic life in the river and Chesapeake Bay.

#### **PRESENTATIONS, STUDENT RESEARCH POSTERS AND AGENCY EXHIBITS**

Also featured will be research posters by over 100 students and faculty studying the many streams, rivers, lakes, and wetlands throughout the Susquehanna watershed.

Exhibits and representatives from many organizations will also be present, including the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, American Rivers, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Trout Unlimited, PA Department of Environmental Protection, PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Buffalo Creek Watershed Association, and the Merrill Linn Conservancy for Land and Waterways.

### Friday's Schedule

*Terrace Room, Elaine Langone Center  
Bucknell University*

**7:00 pm**  
Welcome

Dr. Peter Wilshusen, Executive Director  
Bucknell University Environmental Center

**7:15 pm**  
"Exploring the watershed  
through university research and  
collaborative partnerships"

H.W. "Skip" Wieder, Director  
Susquehanna River Heartland Coalition  
for Environmental Studies

**7:30 pm (Keynote Address)**  
"The legacy of dams on the  
Susquehanna - a view upstream  
from the Chesapeake Bay"

Ann Swanson, Executive Director  
Chesapeake Bay Commission

**8:00 - 10:00 pm**  
Student research posters,  
agency exhibits, and  
evening social

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18<sup>TH</sup>

# DAMS ON THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVER

*Morning events held in the Terrace Room  
Elaine Langone Center*

**8:00-9:00 am**

Coffee & refreshments  
Student research posters

**9:00 am**

*Opening comments*

Brian Mangan

Professor and Director of the Susquehanna River Institute  
Kings College

**9:15 am**

*Pre-historic ice dams and catastrophic paleofloods on  
the Susquehanna: their fingerprint on the river*

Jessica T. Newlin

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Bucknell University

**9:45 am**

*Centuries of mill dams in the watershed: implications  
for stream restoration and reducing sediment delivery  
to the Chesapeake Bay*

Robert Walters

Dorothy Merritts

Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences  
Franklin and Marshall College

**10:15 am**

*Logging splash dams and timbering in the  
Susquehanna watershed: its legacy and importance*

Benjamin R. Hayes

R. Craig Kochel

Susquehanna River Initiative, Environmental Center  
Bucknell University

**10:45 am**

*The Conowingo hydropower facility on the  
Susquehanna: its importance, the FERC relicensing  
process, and sustainable management alternatives*

Kimberly Long

Senior Program Manager - Hydropower Relicensing  
Exelon Corporation

**11:15 am**

Break

**11:30 am**

*Lower Susquehanna hydroelectric dams:  
overview of sediment transport and deposition*

Marjorie Zeff, Ph.D., P.G.

Pennsylvania Professional Geologist  
Principal Environmental Scientist  
URS Corporation

**12:00 pm**

*Impact of large dams on fish, mussels, and other  
aquatic communities in the Susquehanna River*

Rick Spear

Senior Aquatic Biologist

PA Department of Environmental Protection

**12:30 pm**

*Removing low-head dams across the Susquehanna  
watershed: approaches that improve public safety,  
aquatic habitat, and river aesthetics*

Laura Craig

Associate Director, River Restoration Program  
American Rivers

*Lunch and open discussion held in Walls Lounge  
Elaine Langone Center*

**1:00 pm**

*Lunch in Walls Lounge, Elaine Langone Center*

**1:30 pm**

*Open Discussion*

Moderated by Mark Lawrence

Anchor/Program Director  
Newsradio WKOK 1070

**2:00 pm**

*Closing Comments*

H.W. "Skip" Wieder

Executive Director  
Susquehanna Heartland Coalition for Environmental Studies