

President's Message



We reached out to a few of our Members and asked them how they plan to celebrate Earth Day this year. Some are celebrating with a one time volunteer effort - others are making longer term commitments. We hope that this list inspires you to find your way to celebrate!

## Join A Participatory Science Project

Rob Ferri alerted us to the participatory science projects around the country that are open to new volunteers.

Participatory science engages the public in advancing scientific knowledge by formulating research questions, collecting data, and interpreting results. Other terms include citizen science, community



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New Members thru March 30, 2023

Roch Baamonde Padma Bending

science, volunteer monitoring, or public participation in scientific research. EPA supports these initiatives through a range of resources including funding, technical support, and tools.

Find a participatory science project near you!

Check out **Citizenscience.gov** for a government-wide listing of participatory science efforts and cross-agency collaborations

# Volunteer to Provide Technical Assistance to A Disadvantaged Community

Last November, the Environmental Protection Network presented an Alumni Association Academy session on the technical assistance they provide to disadvantaged communities. The Academy session allowed EPN staff, Alumni volunteers, and community leaders to talk about the types of assistance that communities are requesting and how the volunteers and communities work together. It was a very informative session, and we hope it inspired our Members!

EPN's pro bono capacity-building technical assistance program helps disadvantaged communities, NGOs, and under-resourced state/local/federal agencies navigate and understand government programs, data, and processes; gain access to partners, allies,

**Bob Benson Kathy Davey Debra Denton Chebryll Edwards Rose Ellison** William Fisher Angie (Fugo) **Fuoco Diana Galperin Scott Jordan David Korotney Charmita Langley Sherry Maddox Andrea Medici Stuart Miles-McLean Jenny Molloy Jason Piccolo** Susan Rittenhouse **Carla Smocks Sydney Weiss Quintin White** 

## Thank You Donors

The Association is supported entirely by voluntary contributions. If you have not given, or gave a year or more ago, please consider donating now. Click Here to make a secure online donation now. If you prefer to send a check, please send to:

EPA Alumni Association 1700 East 56th Street, Unit 1203 Chicago, IL 60637

We are most grateful for donations of any size. We want to thank these members who have donated from January 16 through March 31st:

Janet Adams

and decision makers; and apply for funding. EPN's **5 Community Outreach Associates** and

volunteers across the country work on issues including air quality, safe drinking water, Superfund, climate resilience, and more. Since

launching the program in June 2021, over 110 EPN (some who area also Alumni Association members) volunteers have provided assistance on over 260 technical assistance requests, and helped communities access over \$3 million in federal funds.

If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to Michelle Roos at michelle.roos@environmentalprotectionnetwork.org

(If you would like to see this Academy session or any other, please check out <a href="https://www.epaalumni.com/videos">https://www.epaalumni.com/videos</a>).

# Get Outside and Volunteer to Clean Up A River through A Riverkeeper Organization

Do you live near a river that has a Riverkeeper? Do you know what type of volunteer activities that they have -- especially during Earth Month? We asked Nancy Stoner, President of the Potomac Riverkeeper Network, to let us know what activities that they are hosting in the Washington Metro area. See below.

# JOIN POTOMAC RIVERKEEPER NETWORK AND OUR PARTNERS AS WE BRING OUR

James Barnes Wendy Bartel Jacqueline Beatty-Smith Barbara Beck Cynthia Beeler Jim Berlow **Brooks Bowen** Candace Brassard **Debora Clovis** Marian Cooper Lawrence Culleen Kathy Daniel **Bruce Diamond** Oscar (Gene) Dickason **Deborah Dietrich** Cynthia Dyballa Marius Gedgaudas John Goodin Geoffrey Grubbs John Gustafson Debra Gutenson **Edward Hanley** Bill Hanson Thomas Kelsch Michael Kenyon Myron Knudson David Levy Mary Lindsay Creavery Lloyd Thomas Maslany Thomas McCabe, Daniel McGovern Jack McGraw Colleen McKaughan Andrea Medici Luther Mellen John Moebes **Brian Molloy** Charles Murray Sebastian Patti Gloria Posey Hema Prado Michael Quigley Harvey Richmond John Rogers Kris Shurr Cynthia Singletary Jay Sinnott James Southerland **Bob Stewart** Anne Weinberg James Willis Michaelle Wilson Paul Witthoeft Amy Zimpfer

John Armstead

## COMMUNITIES TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE EARTH DAY BY GIVING BACK!

#### REGISTER HERE TO VOLUNTEER

On April 22nd, in celebration of Earth Day and Celebrate Trails Day, Potomac Riverkeeper Network once again is aiming to provide the hands and bodies to remove trash and debris from the recreational and natural areas along the Oxon Cove shoreline. The event last year was so successful that we are doing it again! This year our volunteers will return to clean up the park and model environmental stewardship.

The Network welcomes volunteers to help remove single-use plastics and trash that has accumulated along the shoreline of Oxon Cove and Oxon Run. Please be prepared and dress accordingly and be sure to bring a snack and a reusable water bottle!

In order to not over-crowd our volunteers, our event will be running in two shifts. One from 9am – 11:30am and the other from 12pm – 2:30pm. More details are available at Oxon Cove Earth Day 2023 River Cleanup - Potomac Riverkeeper Network.

Nancy also urged her fellow Alumni members to get involved in protecting the rivers in your part of the country!

Conduct an Earth Day Program at your High School or College

Kevin Teichman is giving his fourth annual Earth Day lecture at his high school, Baltimore Polytechnic Institute aka Poly! Each year, Kevin gives a lecture on current environmental issues (e.g., drinking water in Flint, MI, the train derailment in East Palestine, OH) and the environmental challenges students can pursue in college and their careers.

If you are interested in reaching out to one of your alma maters, EPA Alumni volunteers have prepared presentations that cover the origins of the environmental movement, an overview of how environmental science informs policymaking, a summary of progress made in the last 50+ years, and remaining challenges, including climate change and environmental justice.

We also have more in-depth presentations on topics such as air pollution, water pollution, climate change, and environmental justice. These presentations can be tailored to meet the interests of students. Please reach out to John Bachmann at <a href="mailto:johnbachmannva@icloud.com">johnbachmannva@icloud.com</a> or (919) 619-0769 if you would like more information.

Join your Fellow Members on the Association's Facebook Page

Bob Wayland hosts the Alumni Association Facebook Group. Over 1,000 alums follow the group and are able to post their stories and connect with other alums. Share your favorite Earth Day memory or experience -- be it in the last several years or back to 1970! Photos are always a plus!!

If you don't already belong to the Facebook group, which is open only to EPA Alums, go to https://www.facebook.com/groups/6008 6462778 and click join.

After answering a few questions to screen out denizens of St. Petersburg Troll Farms you will be admitted! We'd love to hear your Earth Day Story!

# Have a Get Together with your Fellow Alumni

Betty Williamson hosted a Region 6 Alumni Social Event in Dallas on March 30th. You still have time to reach out to other EPA Alumni for an Earth Day get together!

# Recruit a Friend or Former Colleague to the EPA Alumni Association

Recruit a new Member to the EPA Alumni Association so they can stay in touch with friends and up-to-date on environmental issues. Share this <u>one pager</u> on what the Alumni Association is doing.

Send them the

link: https://www.epaalumni.com/joinnow and tell them membership is *FREE* thanks to alumni donations!

## And, Last But Not Least, Let Folks Know You Appreciate their Work

Reach out to former EPA colleagues and your environmental counterparts at state, local or tribal governments and thank them for the work they do!

We hope you enjoy and have a meaningful Earth Day!

# David Menotti President



### THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION'S 2023 ANNUAL MEETING

MAY 3, 2023 6:00 PM EASTERN

#### **Register Now**

We have the great fortune of having Governor Whitman be our virtual speaker at this year's Virtual and In-Person Annual Meeting. Please register below.

#### When

Wednesday, May 3rd
From 6:00 to 7:00 pm Eastern
With a reception from 7:00 to 8:30 pm
Eastern

Where

IN PERSON

Offices of Sidley & Austin 1501 K Street, NW Washington, DC 20005 (Paid parking available in the building)

#### **VIA ZOOM**

Link will be provided closer to the date of the Event

A \$40 contribution is requested to those attending in person to defray the costs of catering.

If you are planning to attend in-person, please register <u>as soon as you can</u> so we can ensure we have enough registrants for an in-person event.

Check In -- 5:30 pm Eastern
Program -- 6:00 pm Eastern
Zoom Breakout Rooms for Virtual Participants -7:00 pm Eastern.

Reception with Light Repast and Beverages for In-Person Participants -- 7:00 pm Eastern

In-Person Event Ends -- 8:30 pm Eastern

Click Below to Register to attend either in person or via Zoom.

REGISTER NOW
FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

## **Upcoming Academy Events:**

We have three Academy Events coming up. This is your opportunity to put them on your calendar and register for them!

They are in chronological order so please read the list. You don't want to miss Deputy Administrator Janet McCabe's program!



# Come Hear about the US Blueprint for Transportation Decarbonization -- It is a Whole of Government Approach!

April 11, 2023 3:00-4:00 pm Eastern

### **Register Now**

One-third of all greenhouse gases in the US are from our complex transportation sector. Come be part of a discussion on The U.S. National Blueprint for Transportation Decarbonization – a landmark strategy for cutting all greenhouse gas emissions from transportation by 2050!

Learn about the whole-of-government approach to transform the transportation sector and address the climate crisis. We'll discuss the strategies and actions needed to achieve a sustainable transportation system, the milestones that will help us get there, and how Alumni can support these changes.

Karl Simon, Director, Transportation and Climate Division, Office of Transportation and Air Quality, and key members of his staff will be leading the conversation.

In advance of the discussion, we have linked key documents that you may want to see before the program.

U.S. National Blueprint for Transportation Decarbonization



Come Join us in a Discussion on the Cleanup of the Hudson River

(or What Did They Do With 1.3 Million Pounds of PCBs?)

April 25, 2023 4:00-5:00 pm Eastern

### **Register Here**

The cleanup of PCBs in the Hudson River in New York is one of the largest, most complex, and successful (but still controversial) projects ever undertaken by EPA. The Hudson River is truly a "mega site" covering 200 miles of the River where over 1.3 million pounds of PCBs were discharged over the years. Fish contamination and threats to public health are -- and continue to be -- major concerns. It was listed on the National Priorities List in 1984.

Region 2 Deputy Regional Administrator Walter Mugdan, with 48 years of service with EPA, has been involved throughout the process. He will give us the insider's view of the keys to success, the sources of ongoing controversy, and lessons learned in this historic project. After he has brought us up-to-speed, he and Dave Ullrich, former DRA in Region 5, will have a conversation about the Hudson River work before they open it up for questions from the Zoom participants.

#### Please join us for this exciting program!



# EPA 2023: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

A Conversation with Janet McCabe

June 5, 2023 4:00-4:30 pm Eastern

### **Register Now**

The EPA Alumni Association is thrilled to host a conversation with EPA Deputy Administrator, Janet McCabe. Since we talked to her in 2021, EPA has been given many challenges and opportunities that will make a difference in the lives of Americans.

EPA is recruiting and hiring new employees, implementing reorganizations, addressing the Agency's current statutory authorities and, under very tight timeframes, implementing the most recent statutes (the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act). And the responsibilities continue!

We are looking forward to hearing from her about what is happening at EPA and how we as Members can engage (and assist) the Agency!

Dave Ullrich, Board Member and Former DRA from Region 5, will have a conversation with Janet McCabe, and we are looking forward to incorporating your questions! (You can send them in advance to <a href="mailto:epaalumni@aol.com">epaalumni@aol.com</a> or put them in the chat function during the Zoom meeting).

#### **In Memoriam**

Since our January 2023 newsletter, the Association has been informed that the following former EPA employees having passed away. If you learn that a former colleague has died, you may share that information on our Facebook Page or let us know at newsletter@epaalumni.org. We will then post the obituary on the web site.

Greg Carlson Jack Downie Lou Ann Gross Bettina Brincefield Fletcher Charles "Chuck" Hajinian Jonathan Hermann Ken Kryszczun Milton Russell Mark Sather

#### **STAY INFORMED!!**

Sign up for the Weekly EPA and Environmental News Update - its primary focus is on new people, budgets, and policies of the current administration. It's great reading!

Go to: https://www.epaalumni.com/transition-news to read it or subscribe.

P.S. If you would rather not receive these newsletters, please email us at newsletter@EPAalumni.org rather than using the other tools available in this newsletter.







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