

Final revised

Mohawk Watershed Symposium - 2025

21 March 2025, College Park Hall, Union College, Schenectady NY

Oral session (College Park) - Registration and badges required. No photography

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| 7:30 AM | 8:15 AM | Registration, Coffee - College Park |
| 8:15 AM | 8:20 AM | Introductory Remarks <i>John Garver, MWS Co-chair, Geosciences Department, Union College, Schenectady, NY</i> |
| 8:20 AM | 8:35 AM | Potential safety concerns of earth dams within the Mohawk River Watershed <i>Ashraf Ghaly, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Union College, Schenectady, NY</i> |
| 8:35 AM | 8:50 AM | Big Creek restoration strategy <i>Jo-Anne Humphreys, Northeast Coldwater Habitat Program, Trout Unlimited, Arlington, VA</i> |
| 8:50 AM | 9:05 AM | Salinity tolerance of Round Goby: informing invasion potential in the Hudson River Estuary and adjacent coastal waters <i>Kelsey Alvarez del Castillo, Dept. of Natural Resources and the Environment, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY</i> |
| 9:05 AM | 9:30 AM | Angler survey results for the Mohawk River (2024) <i>Stephen Manning, Scott Wells, NYS DEC, Region 4 Fisheries suboffice, Stamford, NY</i> |
| 9:30 AM | 9:45 AM | Leave it to beavers: the expanding role of Nature's engineers in the Mohawk Watershed <i>John Garver, MWS Co-chair, Geosciences Department, Union College, Schenectady, NY</i> |
| 9:45 AM | 10:45 AM | COFFEE and POSTERS (see next page for listing) |
| 10:45 AM | 11:00 AM | What goes up must come down: assessing the fate of Blueback Herring spawning in the Mohawk River <i>Wes Eakin, Department of Natural Resources and the Environment, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY</i> |
| 11:00 AM | 11:15 AM | Biogeochemical BBH: what we've learned about the remarkable life histories of the Blueback Herring, <i>Alosa aestivalis</i>, from biogeochemical tracers <i>Karin Limburg, Dept. of Environmental Biology, SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry, Syracuse, NY</i> |
| 11:15 AM | 11:30 AM | Home is where we made it: mussel research leads to mudpuppy habitat <i>Adam Haines, NYS DEC Department of Fish and Wildlife, Bureau of Ecosystem Health, Albany, NY</i> |
| 11:30 AM | 11:45 AM | Protecting public drinking water in the Mohawk Watershed with the Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2) <i>Tyler Bobko, NEIWPC, NYS DEC, Albany, NY</i> |
| 11:45 AM | 12:10 PM | Some critical water resource issues in the Mohawk watershed and beyond <i>Brian Rahm, New York State Water Resources Institute at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY</i> |
| 12:10 PM | 1:30 PM | LUNCH and POSTERS - Lunch at College Park Hall |
| 1:30 PM | 1:40 PM | NYS DEC Remarks <i>Carol Lamb-Lafay, NYS DEC, Albany, NY</i> |
| 1:40 PM | 1:55 PM | Deepening sense of place and water literacy of the Mohawk River Watershed through art, science, and indigenous knowledge <i>Anna Davidson, Department of Natural Resources and the Environment, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY</i> |
| 1:55 PM | 2:20 PM | A Day in the Life of the Mohawk River: 2024 program overview <i>Doug Reed, Watershed Community Organizer</i> |
| 2:20 PM | 2:35 PM | Longitudinal snapshots of nutrients in the Mohawk River show clear and distinct effects of agriculture and sewage effluent <i>Julian Damashek, Department of Biology, Hamilton College, Clinton, NY</i> |
| 2:35 PM | 2:50 PM | Trends and observations from 10 years of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci and <i>Escherichia coli</i>) monitoring partnership in the Mohawk River Watershed: toward a more swimmable Mohawk <i>Neil Law, SUNY Cobleskill, Cobleskill, NY 12043</i> |
| 2:50 PM | 3:40 PM | COFFEE and POSTERS (see next page for listing) |
| 3:40 PM | 4:05 PM | Climate impacts to drinking water <i>Dan Shapley, Riverkeeper, Ossining, NY</i> |
| 4:05 PM | 4:30 PM | The threat of landfill leachate to drinking water in the Hudson and Mohawk Rivers <i>Rebecca Martin, John Lipscomb, Hudson and Mohawk Rivers Leachate Collaborative</i> |
| 4:30 PM | 4:55 PM | Federal funding and advocacy for the Mohawk River <i>Jeremy Cherson, Riverkeeper, Ossining, NY</i> |
| 4:55 PM | 5:00 PM | Concluding Remarks <i>Carolyn Rodak, MWS Co-chair, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Union College, Schenectady, NY</i> |
| 5:00 PM | 7:00 PM | Symposium Reception in College Park Hall Lobby, 5:00 - 7:00 PM |

*The lead or presenting author(s) is(are) listed here; for complete author listings and affiliations please refer to the abstract.

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Poster session (all day)

- P1 Schoharie River Center's Community Ecology Internship: using stewardship of the Mohawk Watershed to promote job skill development and community advancement**
Annemarie Dooley, Schoharie River Center Inc., Burtonville, NY
- P2 The Schenectady Environmental Education Center: connecting communities, parks and schools through environmental literacy education and neighborhood-based stewardship activities: a progress report, March 2025**
John McKeeby, Schoharie River Center, Inc., Burtonville, NY
- P3 Bringing A Day in the Life to the Mohawk River**
Doug Reed, Community Watershed Organizer
- P4 Using citizen science data to inform avian surveys in the Mohawk and Hudson River watersheds**
Zoe Gliosco, NYS DEC Bureau of Ecosystem Health, Albany, NY
- P5 Mohawk Watershed Enterococcus and E. coli sampling sites time series have different geographic distributions: results of clustering by dynamic time warping**
Juliana Hanle, Riverkeeper, Ossining, NY
- P6 Observations from a decade of monitoring fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci and Escherichia coli) in the Mohawk River Watershed**
Neil Law, SUNY Cobleskill, Cobleskill, NY
- P7 Prevalence of PFAS contaminants in surface water in the Capital Region**
Michael McKenna, Geosciences Department, Union College, Schenectady, NY
- P8 Evaluating NY State's wastewater infrastructure for a healthier future**
Emmett Parkerson, Environmental Science, Policy, and Engineering Program, Union College, Schenectady, NY
- P9 Survey study of presence of cyanotoxins in wadeable stream sites in New York State, US (2017-2021)**
Keleigh Reynolds, NYS DEC, Division of Water, Bureau of Water Assessment and Monitoring, Albany, NY
- P10 Sustaining a Brook Trout stronghold: initiatives in the West Kill**
Steven Swenson, NYS DEC, Bureau of Ecosystem Health, Stamford, NY
- P11 The effect of road salt on benthic macroinvertebrate community health: a comparison of Vermont and New York streams**
Noah Fahey, Environmental Science, Policy, and Engineering Program, Union College, Schenectady, NY
- P12 Sodium and chloride in the lower Mohawk River: implications of imperviousness and urbanization on drinking water sources**
John Garver, MWS Co-chair, Geosciences Department, Union College, Schenectady, NY
- P13 Assessing Neogobius melanostomus (Round Goby) abundance in the Mohawk River and Hudson River using eDNA**
Vivian Tidd, Geosciences Department, Union College, Schenectady, NY
- P14 Diet shifts and spatial growth variation of Round Goby in Schoharie Creek, NY**
Thomas Sadekoski, Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, & Environmental Science, SUNY Cobleskill, Cobleskill, NY
- P15 Investigating antibiotic-resistant genes in Hudson River water samples: implications for environmental health**
Shalini Varma, BCP Department, Hudson Valley Community College, Troy, NY
- P16 Molecular detection of invasive species in the Hudson River using DNA barcoding**
Shalini Varma, BCP Department, Hudson Valley Community College, Troy, NY
- P17 Large scale solar proliferation in the Mohawk River Watershed**
Stephen Helmin, President & Co-Chair, GlenFARMLand, Inc; President, Stop Energy Sprawl
- P18 A smallholder's perspective on a very big issue: managing invasives on the Hudson River shoreline 2010-2023, who pays?**
Barbara J. Heinzen, Landowner, New Baltimore/Coeymans, NY
- P19 X-Snow: A regional citizen-science project for snow**
Margaret Turrin, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, Columbia Climate School, Palisades, NY
- P20 A forensic investigation examining the failure of Edenville and Sanford dams**
Ashraf Ghaly, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Union College, Schenectady, NY
- P21 Some local and global analysis related to CO2 and climate change**
Frank Wicks, Professor Emeritus, Union College, Schenectady, NY

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Symposium Reception in College Park Hall Lobby, 5:00 - 7:00 PM
