

# The Upper Delaware

A newsletter about the environment and people of the Upper Delaware River Valley in NY & PA

Volume 30 Number 2

Published by the Upper Delaware Council, Inc.

Spring/Summer 2018



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**available on-line or by mail!**

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**RESERVOIR EMERGENCIES:** New York City Department of Environmental Protection Director of Public Affairs Adam Bosch provided a March 1st update to the Upper Delaware Council on his agency's project to improve the notification system for any emergency incidents impacting the water supply reservoirs. (UDC Photo by Laurie Ramie)

## UDC Reviews Reservoir Emergency Plans in Enlightening Presentations

County emergency management agencies would be the first line of defense for the public to find out and take action if any catastrophic failures occurred at New York City's upstream water supply reservoirs.

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYC DEP) has initiated two projects to examine and improve the speed of their Emergency Action Plan (EAP) notifications.

Director of Public Affairs Adam Bosch briefed the Upper Delaware Council (UDC) on March 1 that Schnabel Engineering began their external analysis of the Cannonsville Reservoir in late February.

As required by the dam's Federal Energy Regulatory Commission license, the consultants will generate recommendations expected by the end of 2018 that will be applied as a model to the other reservoirs.

Internally, NYC DEP has undertaken a series of exercises focusing on all dams that also aims to reduce notification time.

That emphasis is on using computer software to expedite the initial calls and

mobilization of first responders utilizing land-line phones, cell phones, text messages, emails, and fax machines.

The focus has been on geographic areas within a one-hour travel time of a flood wave from a dam failure.

"County and state agencies reserve the responsibility of reaching out to their citizens in the case of an emergency at a DEP facility," Bosch said.

He noted that they are the experts in handling emergency declarations by knowing what local resources to summon.

NYC DEP held a controlled tabletop exercise with EAP holders in Dec. 2017 then conducted a functional exercise on Jan. 25 using a theoretical emergency scenario of a portion of the Cannonsville Dam eroding. The software was deployed and evaluated, with promising results.

Inundation maps posted on the DEP website show that flooding from Cannonsville would reach Deposit in 25 minutes, Hancock in 90 minutes, Long Eddy in four

*Please see REVIEWS on Page 10*

## Upper Delaware Profile: Steve Adams

With a family history that includes the emigration in 1639 of four Adams brothers to America from England, Deliverance Adams whose Revolutionary War service is memorialized on a monument in Honesdale and is buried in the Milanville Cemetery, great-great-grandfather William "W.D." Adams who settled in Long Eddy and was one of the last men to ride a log raft down the Delaware River, and a genealogical tree that traces ties to five U.S. presidents, Steve Adams is a proud student of and successor to that rich ancestral legacy.

He grew up on a dairy farm in Braman, PA and attended elementary schools in Callicoon, NY through 4th grade and Damascus, PA to 7th grade before graduating from Honesdale High School in 1983.

Always interested in machine trades, Adams earned an Associate's Degree in Specialized Technology from Johnson School of Technology in Scranton, PA.

He worked multiple jobs for construction companies and machine shops throughout his education and after graduation.

"My ambition was to retire at age 40," Adams says.

With his brother Jeffrey as vice-president, Steve incorporated Adams & Adams Construction Company in 1988.

Now 52, Adams notes, "I officially retired in 2001."

That is not to say that Adams hasn't kept busy, particularly after getting lured into public service in 2014.

He was content with pursuing his own endeavors, helping out others, and volunteering at the Wayne County Public Library when, within one week, three people independently asked if he would consider running for a township supervisor seat in Damascus.

"My first reaction was no, but then I thought maybe somebody was trying to send me a message. Maybe this is what I'm supposed to do," he says.

Adams began attending township meetings, talking to people to learn more, and witnessing some discord.

He threw his hat in the ring and beat an incumbent to join fellow Supervisors Jeff Dexter and Joe Canfield on the board.

"I got in it to help the township and make it a better place," Adams says.

However, he told Dexter and Canfield that if he was committing to this role, he wanted to have some authority.

Damascus Township created the position of Operations Supervisor, which means that Adams is in charge of the day-to-day business of the local government. That includes supervising 12 employees.

He is at the municipal building five days



Steve Adams, Damascus Township, PA

a week and on call 24/7.

Canfield chairs the Board of Supervisors, Daniel Rutledge who replaced Dexter upon his retirement is vice-chair, and Adams says, "We make a great team."

Damascus has grown its surplus significantly; won numerous grants through such programs as Dirt & Gravel Roads, PA Parks and Recreation, and the Upper Delaware Council; and had its voice heard through Adams' liaison work with elected officials, state agencies, and testifying at opportunities such as the Delaware River Basin Commission's recent hearings on their proposed natural gas regulations.

"It's about being organized, proactive, getting the work done with better management, and having pride in the township," Adams describes as keys to that success.

In January 2014, Adams was appointed as an alternate representative to the UDC.

"I think the UDC is a great organization. It allows for civil negotiations between the townships and the Department of the Interior/National Park Service. It provides a buffer and safe place to discuss all sides of an issue," he says.

Since 2010, Adams has been a First Responder and the treasurer of the Damascus Volunteer Ambulance Corps.

Making himself available for those "couple hundred calls a year" that the ambulance receives means that Adams limits his other activities to membership in the Upper Delaware River Basin Citizens to protect landowner rights. He attends Calkins Church, enjoys line dancing and camping.

Adams has two children with his first wife of 19 years, Clare, who passed away in 2008: Madeline, 25, of St. Angelo, TX; and Jacob, 17, a Honesdale High School junior.

"Blessed with love twice", Adams married Amy in 2010, who brought son Hunter Hill, 25, and daughter Summer Hill, 22, into the family. Amy Adams teaches science at Wallenpaupack Middle School.

### Upper Delaware Council, Inc.

P.O. Box 192, 211 Bridge St.,  
Narrowsburg, NY 12764-0192

Phone: (845) 252-3022; FAX: 252-3359

[www.UpperDelawareCouncil.org](http://www.UpperDelawareCouncil.org)

*The Upper Delaware* is a free publication of the Upper Delaware Council, a 501(c)(3) organization comprised of member governments from New York and Pennsylvania directly affected by the River Management Plan for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River.

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Vice-Chairperson.....David M. Dean  
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Alternate-vacant  
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Steven Adams, Joseph Canfield &  
Daniel Rutledge, Alternates  
Berlin.....Alan Henry  
Paul Henry, Alternate  
Lackawaxen.....Doug Case  
Judy Kuhn Conklin, Alternate  
Shohola.....Aaron Robinson  
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#### Staff

Executive Director &  
Newsletter Editor.....Laurie Ramie  
Resource Specialist.....Pete Gold  
Secretary.....Linda Drollinger  
[\[firstname\]@upperdelawarecouncil.org](mailto:[firstname]@upperdelawarecouncil.org)



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# UDC Installs 2018 Officers

The Upper Delaware Council (UDC) board elected Shohola Township Representative Aaron I. Robinson to serve as its 2018 chairperson.

UDC Representatives David M. Dean, Town of Deerpark, NY, and Alan F. Henry, Berlin Township, PA, were elected vice-chairperson and secretary-treasurer, respectively, in oaths of offices administered by Shohola Township Board of Supervisors Chairperson Gregory Hoyer.

Robinson is accepting his first officer position with the Council.

He was appointed on Jan. 3, 2012 as Shohola's 2nd alternate to the UDC board, became the 1st alternate in 2015, and took over as representative in 2016.

He has served on the Project Review and Operations Committees, as well as the Personnel Subcommittee.

The 62-year-old graduated from Eldred High School in 1973 after his family moved from New York City to their river-side property in Barryville, NY in 1969.

Robinson completed the Agricultural and Life Sciences School program at Cornell University in Ithaca in an accelerated three years, during which time he served as the 18-year-old secretary-treasurer of an activist group called Catskill Waters that prompted New York City to settle a lawsuit out-of-court to compel more balanced reservoir releases in support of the Delaware River fishery.

In 1975, he researched and composed a 34-page booklet titled, "White Water Boating on the Upper Delaware River: A



**UDC ROSTER:** The Upper Delaware Council held its 2018 annual meeting on Feb. 1 after two weather cancellations in January. Seated from left to right are: Secretary-Treasurer Alan Henry; Vice-Chairperson David Dean; and Chairperson Aaron Robinson. UDC representatives and alternates standing, from left to right, are: Larry H. Richardson; Steve Tambini; Bill Rudge; Kristina Heister (National Park Service federal partner); Virginia Dudko; Tim Dugan; Roger Saumure; Michael Barth; Susan Sullivan; Fred Peckham; Kaitlin Haas; Steve Adams; Harold G. Roeder, Jr.; Doug Case; and Jim Greier. (UDC Photos by Laurie Ramie)

Guide to Canoeing, Kayaking and Camping", and then produced a set of "Recreation Maps of the Upper Delaware River" over the next year which he also self-published and sold.

Robinson worked after college for the Lovelace family who owned Jerry's Three River Canoes and had a part-time sawmill operation in Barryville.

He purchased the latter business at the age of 21 and successfully operated Robinson's Sawmill for 24 years, with two international patents for wood-related equipment to his credit.

For the past 20 years, Aaron and his wife Randy have lived along the Shohola Creek where he manages an 800-acre timber stand and Firewood-on-Time, a business for which he cuts, splits, and delivers firewood.

Robinson has served on the Shohola

Township Planning Commission since 2009, is a trustee and cemetery coordinator of Temple Beth-El Synagogue in Port Jervis, and assists with philanthropic projects of the New York State Lumberman's Insurance Trust Fund.

He is a former member of the Highland Zoning Board of Appeals and the Eldred Central School Board of Education.

## 2018 Board Changes

Transitions in board appointments include the departures of Town of Highland Representative Jeff Haas, who was replaced by Kaitlin Haas; Town of Lumberland Representative Leigh Sherman and Alternate Zoriana Gingold, whose positions remained vacant at press time; and Town of Tusten Alternate Tony Ritter, which also leaves a vacancy.

Shohola Township appointed Roger Saumure as 1st alternate, with Patricia Jeffer becoming 2nd alternate, and George J. Fluhr retiring after 30 years on the board.



**GAVEL PASS:** 2017 UDC Chairperson Jim Greier, Town of Fremont, left, turned over leadership to Shohola Township Representative Aaron Robinson Feb. 1 following administration of the 2018 oaths of office by Shohola Board of Supervisors Chairperson Gregory Hoyer.

## UDC Hires Secretary

Linda Drollinger began employment on March 19 as the UDC's new full-time secretary.



Her hiring followed the Feb. 16 resignation of Cindy Odell of Honesdale, PA, who had filled the position since Aug. 29, 2011.

A Town of Cochetcon native, Drollinger moved back to the river valley in 2012 after living in Westchester for 35 years and working in Manhattan in executive assistant roles. She holds degrees in English and Journalism from Empire State College. Drollinger is a freelance contributor to *The River Reporter*.

# Natural Gas Regulations Debated

Wayne County, PA was the site for the first set of public hearings that the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) held on its draft regulations which would prohibit hydraulic fracturing of shale throughout the basin, as New York State did on June 29, 2015.

The Jan. 23 afternoon hearing at Camp Ladore in Waymart attracted 60 speakers, with another 10 who had registered invited to return that evening.

None of the Commissioners who represent the four basin states of New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware, along with the federal government that comprises the membership, were in attendance.

March 30 was the extended deadline to submit oral and written comments, after which the DRBC will develop a response document before they vote on the ban.

The Special Regulations released on Nov. 30, 2017 state, "The Commission has determined that high volume hydraulic fracturing poses significant, immediate and long-term risks to the development, conservation, utilization, management, and preservation of the water resources of the Delaware River Basin and to the Special Protection Waters of the Basin, considered by the Commission to have exceptionally high scenic, recreational, ecological, and/or water supply values."

Passions ran high in response.

Damascus Township Supervisor Daniel Rutledge claimed that there is a disparity in decision-making between states and within PA, where drilling is allowed in the Susquehanna River Basin.

"Who gave Tom Wolf and Andrew Cuomo the right to choose prosperity for some and poverty for others? It's not fair and it's not right. We are being discriminated against and not allowed equal rights. Why is opportunity afforded or denied based on which side of a mountain water descends?", asked Rutledge.

Tracy Carluccio of the Delaware Riverkeeper Network called for a complete ban on all fracking-related activities.

"This is where government is supposed to step in. This is not the wild west. It's one of the most carefully cared for and moni-



**LET US DRILL:** Wayne County Commissioners Chairman Brian W. Smith, left, told Hearing Officer William Ford at the Delaware River Basin Commission's January 23, 2018 public hearing at Camp Ladore in Waymart, PA that risk is not a valid reason to enact a permanent ban on natural gas drilling. (UDC Photos by Laurie Ramie)

tored watersheds in the world," she said.

PA Senator Lisa Baker (20th District) aide Andrew Seder said on her behalf that asserting this threat from drilling is "inconsistent and contradictory", while adding that Wayne and Pike County citizens have demonstrated that they are good stewards of their land.

"I believe this potential action constitutes a taking and I will seek a legislative remedy," Senator Baker's statement read.

Barbara Arrindell, director of the Damascus Citizens for Sustainability, supported making permanent the de facto drilling moratorium in place since 2010.

"Property rights do not include the right to pollute and contaminate. The Delaware River Basin is not for sale to the highest bidder. It is the DRBC's mandate to protect the river basin," she said.

Kittatinny Canoes owner Dave Jones said that the DRBC would stifle economic development, and urged the Commission to let Pennsylvania serve as regulators.

"You do not have the authority to pick and choose which industry gets water and which doesn't. Don't deny us what is rightfully ours. This is a blessing," he said.

Buck Moorhead of Callicoon, NY said the risk of irreparable damage from accrued impacts is too great, leading to his mantra: "No fracking in the watershed, no fracking waste, no water shipped out."

Roy Morsch of Buckingham Township said, "There is nothing natural about natural gas. The entire process is dangerous to our environment. It only benefits property owners for a short-term gain and brings profits to the fossil fuel industry, which then sells it to foreign companies."

Pro-drilling activist Tom Shepstone said a 2017 report showed "no discernable impacts" from gas drilling to the Susquehanna River, which Fred Peckham of Hancock asserted "has become cleaner."

On Dec. 7, the Upper Delaware Council had invited Penn State Extension hydrogeologist David Yoxtheimer to its monthly meeting to address "Shale Gas Development and Water Resource Considerations in the Susquehanna River Basin."

Yoxtheimer emphasized that the SRBC regulates water quantity rather than water quality, which is the responsibility of PA.

He also compared the two river basins in terms of drainage, average flow, land use, and population. Copies of his presentation slides are available from the UDC.

In a Feb. 1 letter, the UDC wrote to the DRBC, "It has been the Upper Delaware Council's consistent position to oppose surface activities associated with hydraulic fracturing from being allowed within the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River federal-state-local management area to avoid any potential impairment to the special values here and to preserve our non-industrialized regional character. We find that the magnitude of risks from any negative consequences and cumulative impacts from natural gas development in the designated boundary are incompatible with the goals of the River Management Plan. Given that upholding private property rights and local land use controls remain of paramount concern to the Council, horizontal drilling under the river corridor should be considered only if it can be done consistent with the objectives of the River Management Plan."



**SUSQUEHANNA BASIN:** David Yoxtheimer from Penn State University's Marcellus Center for Outreach and Research discussed the experience of shale gas drilling in the Susquehanna River Basin at the UDC's Dec. 7, 2017 meeting.



# UDC to Present 30th Annual Awards at April 22 Ceremony

The Upper Delaware Council will host its 30th Annual Awards Ceremony on Sunday, April 22, at Central House Family Resort in Beach Lake, PA.

Open to the public, reservations at \$28 are due by April 13.

Check [www.upperdelawarecouncil.org](http://www.upperdelawarecouncil.org) for announcements about the slate of honorees and identity of the keynote speaker.

Festivities begin with a 3 p.m. reception featuring hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar in the Carriage House facility of the resort at 81 Milanville Road.

A buffet dinner featuring tossed garden salad, dinner rolls, chilled fresh fruit, pasta salad, prime rib, chicken breast parmesan, baked salmon with maple glaze, skinless

baked potatoes, long grain & wild rice, buttered sheopeg corn, and Fruits of the Forest pie or Brownie a la mode for dessert will be served after a 4 p.m. welcome.

A keynote address at 5 will precede the presentation of awards recognizing individuals, organizations, communities, and government agencies that have contributed to protecting the resources and enhancing the quality of life in the Upper Delaware River region.

A souvenir booklet will be produced.

For more information, please contact UDC Executive Director Laurie Ramie at P.O. Box 192, 211 Bridge St., Narrowsburg, NY 12764; phone (845) 252-3022; or email [laurie@upperdelawarecouncil.org](mailto:laurie@upperdelawarecouncil.org).



**ZANE GREY HOUSE:** The National Park Service's Zane Grey Museum in Lackawaxen, PA was a tour stop for an Upper Delaware orientation for elected officials and policy makers in August 2016 organized by the National Parks Conservation Association and Friends of the Upper Delaware River. The museum will transition into a visitor center. (UDC Photo by Laurie Ramie)

## Upper Delaware Visitor Center In the Works

The National Park Service has begun a 3-4 year project to convert the Zane Grey Museum into the "Upper Delaware Visitor Center at the Zane Grey House".

Currently, the primary visitor contact station at Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River is the museum located in Lackawaxen, PA which interprets the life and significance of famed western novelist Zane Grey.

"A facility that provides information and educational opportunities focused on telling the full story of the Upper Delaware River is critical to ensuring a transformative visitor experience and creating the next generation of park stewards," said Kristina Heister, superintendent of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River.

\$841,000 awarded through the NPS Rec Fee program will be put to use making the site handicap accessible, converting the garage into bathrooms, implementing needed building repairs, and creating exciting new exhibits focused on the ecological, geological, recreational, scenic, and cultural resources of the river corridor.

The project represents not only a needed connection to park visitors but also a more sustainable approach to protecting this National Register of Historic Places building.

## National Park Service News



Jennifer Z. Claster

## Land Use Planner To Aid Communities

A newly-established position of Community and Land Use Planner at the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River will be filled by Jennifer Z. Claster effective April 29.

Claster will provide professional planning, technical, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and compliance assistance to NPS management and the Upper Delaware community in assuring that land use issues and growth within the river corridor fulfill the intent of Congress when it established the Upper Delaware unit 40 years ago.

A Reading, PA native, Claster earned degrees from Bard College and the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

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## NPS Earns \$1.5 Million In New Project Funding

At the March 1 UDC meeting, Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Superintendent Kristina Heister announced securing \$1,513,641 in competitive funding for projects that will be implemented over 1-3 years:

-\$841,000 for the Upper Delaware Visitor Center at the Zane Grey House;

-\$120,000 to complete a Historic Structures Report for the Corwin Farm, formerly South District Ranger Station;

-\$55,000 to complete a National Register of Historic Places nomination for the D&H Canal resources located on NPS properties;

-\$149,850 to catalog records related to the Upper Delaware's establishment, administration, and resources;

-\$33,000 to complete a long-range Upper Delaware interpretive plan;

-\$66,000 to evaluate and study American eels in the Delaware River with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service;

-\$176,000 to evaluate microplastics in the Delaware River with the U.S. Geological Survey (see page 9); and

-\$72,791 to continue a project to evaluate the best methods to assess shad populations in the Delaware River.

# Upper Delaware Council Activity Highlights

Highlights of UDC and river valley issues from early October 2017 to mid-March 2018, not mentioned elsewhere, include:

## UDC FUNDING

The UDC endured a second funding crisis since April 2017 when five months of Fiscal Year 2018 elapsed from Oct. 1, 2017 to Feb. 8, 2018 with no income, again due to a Department of the Interior review of Cooperative Agreements including the contract under which the Council operates through a line-item appropriation in the National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River's budget.

The board took action at its Feb. 1 meeting to set a March 30 office closure with staff layoffs to avoid completely depleting its modest operating capital resource.

No timetables or updates had been given for completion of the nation-wide reviews.

"I extend my wholehearted thanks to those in the public sector, private individuals, other concerned organizations, the media, and especially Congressman John Faso (NY-19) for advocating for us during this 'do or die' period," said UDC Chairperson Aaron Robinson when funding access was restored.

At press time, the UDC's funding extended only through a March 23 expiration of the fifth FY 18 Continuing Resolution for full operation of the federal government.

Simultaneously, the National Park Service conducted an audit of the UDC's Unrestricted Fund Account that required compiling and analyzing 30 years of financial records to respond to the inquiry by a Dec. 1 deadline.



**CONTEST WINNER:** This photo by Martha Tully of Glen Spey, NY of "Winter at the Stone Arch Bridge" was chosen as the winner of the Delaware River Basin Commission's Winter 2018 Photo Contest. The bridge is located in the Town of Tusten. The DRBC's Spring Photo Contest has a May 1 deadline. Visit [www.nj.gov/drbc](http://www.nj.gov/drbc) or the DRBC's Twitter and Flickr social media sites for details and a look at other winning seasonal photographs. (Contributed Photo)

Valued at \$115,508 as of Sept. 30, 2017, the Unrestricted Fund represents non-federal assets derived from interest on investments, grants, and contributions, all of which have been reported to NPS through independent audits annually since 1988.

The Unrestricted Fund allowed the UDC to continue operating during the delays.

No response had been received as yet.

## UDC LETTERS

10/10, to NY member towns, sample let-

ter to express support for UDC's \$50,000 project request to NYS DEC; 10/25, to NPS, Letter of Interpretation Proposal to Incorporate UDC Renewable Energy Position Statement into the Land and Water Use Guidelines; 11/2, to Northeast Regional Director Gay Veitzke, NPS Inquiry into UDC Unrestricted Fund extension request; 12/5, to NYC DEP, progress report on emergency notification system improvements; 11/30, to NPS, Unrestricted Fund Response; 12/29, to Secretary of the Interior, NPS Acting Director & Regional Director, UDC financial hardship impact from DOI review; 12/21, to Superintendent Heister, reimbursement of expenditures for NPS audit; 2/1, to DRBC, UDC comments on Hydraulic Fracturing Regulations; 2/20, to Upper Delaware BioBlitz Steering Committee, grant application support; 3/1, to PA DCNR Secretary, Pennsylvania funding of the UDC request.

## TECHNICAL GRANTS

The UDC awarded two Technical Assistance Grants for Fiscal Year 2018.

The Town of Tusten will receive \$6,000 for a phase two project to codify its local laws and ordinances.

Damascus Township won \$5,583.33 to fund its share of an update to the three-township East Central Wayne County Comprehensive Plan.

Completion deadline is Aug. 24.

## PROJECT REVIEWS

-Conceptually approved on 11/2 the posi-

*Please see HIGHLIGHTS on Page 7*



**SOLAR FARM:** Delaware River Solar, Inc. recently completed installation of New York State's largest community solar project on Baer Road in the hamlet of Callicoon. The 2.7 MW solar array has approximately 9,800 panels and will reportedly supply energy to more than 350 homes and businesses. It is located just outside the designated boundary of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River in the Town of Delaware. (UDC Photo by Pete Golod)



## HIGHLIGHTS, continued from Page 6

tion paper, "Evaluation of Cideries in the Upper Delaware River Corridor"

Town of Highland: Camp Tel Yehudah site plan and building permit review

Damascus Township: Detached garage and single-family home on River Road

Town of Hancock: SPDES permit modification for Camp French Woods

Town of Delaware: Preliminary engineering plan for Callicoon Water Co. take-over

Town of Cochection: Draft zoning ordinance change for summer camps

Westfall Township: Waste water treatment plan discharge approval renewal

### EVENTS & MEETINGS

In addition to serving on numerous committees, non-UDC meetings included:

9/27 - National Parks Conservation Association's meeting for Upper Delaware Economic Research Project, at UDC

9/28 - Delaware River Basin Commission Regulated Flow Advisory Committee

10/17-18 - 5th Annual Delaware River Watershed Forum by the Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed, Skytop, PA

10/25 - Completion of "Problem Solving with GIS" course by Resource Specialist Pete Golod through Penn State World Campus GIS Certification Program

10/25, 11/1 & 11/9 - Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Education Institute Subdivision and Land Development course

11/16 - Meeting with U.S. Senator Pat Toomey's regional manager, Wilkes-Barre

12/4 - Upper Delaware Watershed Resources Forum, Port Jervis

12/9 - Informal workshop with Upper Delaware Superintendent Kristina Heister to discuss UDC-NPS relations

1/5 - Conference call meeting with U.S. Congressman John Faso aides

1/18 - Conference call meeting with U.S. Senator Charles Schumer aides

1/23 - DRBC's Draft Hydraulic Fracturing Regulations Public Hearing #1

### UDC RESOLUTIONS

2017-#12: Awarding Technical Assistance Grants for Fiscal Year 2018; #13, Revising Upper Delaware Council Bylaws; #14, Revising Conflict of Interest Policy for Representatives, Alternates and Officers; #15, Approving Fiscal Year 2017 Independent Accountants' Review and IRS Form 990 Tax Return; #16, Contract with Eckersley and Ostrowski, LLP for Fiscal Year 2018 Financial Review; and 2018-#01: Authorizing Signatories for the Council's Bank Accounts in 2018.

### NPS DOCUMENTS

The UDC reviewed: "Working Draft Discussion Paper: Protection of the Dwarf Wedgemussel in Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River"; a draft Trail of Geology booklet; and the Upper Delaware's FY 2018 Work Plan.



**DECREE PARTIES PANEL:** In attendance at the October 11, 2017 "Water, Water Everywhere" conference to provide an update on the FFMP negotiations were 1954 U.S. Supreme Court Decree Party delegates Jennifer Orr (PA); David Wunsch (DE); Steve Domber (NJ); Brennan Tarrier (NY); and Jennifer Garigliano (New York City). (UDC Photos by Laurie Ramie)

## Ten-Year Management Plan for Delaware Reservoirs Approved

After being subject to interim extensions for the previous five years with no significant changes, a new Flexible Flow Management Program (FFMP) was unanimously approved for a 10-year period on October 20, 2017.

Developing the pact for management of New York City's Delaware River Basin Reservoir System required hard-fought, unanimous agreement among the 1954 U.S. Supreme Court Decree Parties of New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and New York City.

Negotiations proceeded through the May 31 expiration of the last FFMP without resolution, which resulted in reverting to a 1983 operating regime that called for drastically decreased water releases.

On June 1, the Decree Parties minus New Jersey announced that New York City had volunteered to temporarily release additional water to protect the river's ecological health and enhance flood protection. The program was due to end Nov. 1.

The new FFMP is predicated on broad compromises which respond more fully to public input seeking improvements.

It establishes four water banks to support specific flow needs and targets an increase in reservoir voids to as much as 85% during portions of each year in order to reduce the likelihood of flood-flow releases from the reservoirs.

The Program also includes a commitment by the parties to conduct focused studies during the first five years of the agreement to resolve outstanding issues such as the detachment of reservoir releases from the positioning of the

Delaware Estuary salt-front during drought emergencies; the impact of New Jersey water-supply diversions during drought conditions; and the availability of increased water storage capacity in the lower basin.

Upon satisfactory progress, the next five-year phase to include improving Delaware River Master operations and stipulating the method to calculate the Excess Release Quantity will be addressed.

The Friends of the Upper Delaware River's 8th Annual Water, Water Everywhere conference on October 11 had hailed a preview of this long-term plan which would mitigate the "yo-yo" water releases and provide thermal relief to the Upper Delaware coldwater ecosystem during high-temperature events.



**TAILWATERS ADVOCATES:** Representing the Upper Delaware River Tailwaters Coalition was former Town of Hancock Supervisor Sam Rowe, Delaware County Planning Director Shelly Johnson-Bennett, Delaware County Department of Watershed Affairs Commissioner Dean Frazier, and Friends of the Upper Delaware River, Inc. Executive Director Jeff Skelding.

# Spring and Summer Activities Aboard

## D&H Canal Bus Tour

The D&H Transportation Heritage Council will sponsor a bus trip tour of D&H Canal Company sites from Carbondale to Lackawaxen, PA on **April 29** from 9 to 4.

The cost is \$45 per person, including admissions, maps, and a sit-down lunch at Cora's 1850 Bistro in Hawley, PA.

The 29-passenger bus will leave the Wayne County Visitor Center's lower parking lot on Commercial Street in Honesdale at 9 a.m. and drive to Carbondale's Gravity Plane #1 monument, where Dr. S. Robert Powell will be the site and step-on guide.

There will be a stop at Waymart Area Historical Society's Gravity Depot.

Sally Talaga will then become the guide from Honesdale with stops at the White Mills Lock Tender House, D&H Canal Park at Lock 31, Lock House 22, and Roebling's Delaware Aqueduct in Lackawaxen.

Related sites will be pointed out along the way before returning to Honesdale at 3:45 p.m. for an optional tour of Wayne County Historical Society's main museum, including its D&H Canal exhibit.

Purchase tickets by calling (570) 253-3240 Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for credit card orders, or mail a check with a lunch selection (turkey & brie sandwich, roast beef & cheddar melt, or garden salad with chicken & mushroom) to WCHS, P.O. Box 446, Honesdale, PA 18431. Please include a phone number.

Payment must be received **by April 15**.

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**April 28** - Thomas Kennedy Local History Festival, 9-4 at the Dorflinger Factory Museum in White Mills, PA

**April 28** - Sullivan Renaissance Spring Market and Annual Conference, at Bethel Woods, with award presentations starting at 9 in the Event Gallery followed by a talk by "Love Where You Live" author Peter Kageyama, and opening of the market with local vendors and services at 10:30. See [sullivanrenaissance.org](http://sullivanrenaissance.org).

**April 28** - Food of the Delaware Highlands four-course dinner and auctions at Silver Birches in Hawley, PA to benefit the Delaware Highlands Conservancy at \$140 per ticket. See [delawarehighlands.org](http://delawarehighlands.org).

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## Delaware River Sojourn

Each day of the Sojourn from **June 15-23** gives people of all ages and experience levels a chance to have a truly "hands-on" river adventure with a guided paddle, camping, meals, educational programming, and camaraderie.

Camping for the first three days will be at



**SOJOURN PATROL:** Emma Emery of Parryville, PA began training at the age of 11 to join the National Canoe Safety Patrol as one of its youngest members and contributed her river rescue expertise to the 2017 Delaware River Sojourn, when 96 participants set out on June 17 to paddle from the Zane Grey Access in Lackawaxen, PA to the NPS Corwin Farm property in the Town of Lumberland, NY. The 2018 Delaware River Sojourn will take place June 15-23 under the theme of "Still Wild After All These Years", celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Oct. 2, 1968 passage of the U.S. Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. (UDC Photo by Laurie Ramie)

the Northeast Wilderness Experience Campground in Equinunk, PA.

Join a volunteer river clean-up with the National Park Service from Buckingham to Lordville on June 15, 12-5 p.m.

In this region, paddle on June 16 from Equinunk to Callicoon, PA; on June 17 from Callicoon to Narrowsburg; and on June 18 explore the Lackawaxen River.

Visit [www.delawariversojourn](http://www.delawariversojourn) for more.

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## Upper Delaware BioBlitz

The Upper Delaware BioBlitz will return to its inaugural site from five years ago in Starlight at the junction of the East and West Branches of the Delaware River in northern Wayne County, PA.

Scientists will arrive on the morning of June 29 and begin collecting samples of every living thing at the Gales property owned by the Norcross Wildlife Foundation for a 24-hour period to catalog biodiversity.

On **June 30**, the public is invited from 9-3 to view the specimens, enjoy talks and walks, and speak with the experts.

Visit [UpperDelawareBioBlitz.com](http://UpperDelawareBioBlitz.com).

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**July 14** - 14th Annual Zane Grey Festival, sponsored by the NPS Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, from 10 to 4 on the grounds of the Zane Grey Museum in Lackawaxen, PA. Call (570) 685-4871, ext. 6610.

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## Scenic Values Presenter

Planning is underway for the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway Committee to bring nationally-renowned land use expert Ed McMahon to the river valley on **July 21** for a presentation on the importance of scenic values.

McMahon will offer strategies for controlling development and discuss the economic value of protecting community character.

Geared toward municipal officials, planning boards, and interested citizens, the presentation is expected to start at 11 a.m. at the Narrowsburg Union.

A session with McMahon in Hancock on July 21 is being organized.

Email [info@upperdelawarescenicbyway.org](mailto:info@upperdelawarescenicbyway.org) for confirmed details.

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## Battle of Minisink Event

The Revolutionary War Battle of Minisink will be commemorated at Sullivan County's Minisink Battleground Park in Minisink Ford, NY on **July 21** by the Sullivan County Historian's Office and The Delaware Company.

Delivering the 4 p.m. keynote address will be Orange County Historian Johanna Yaun. The program also includes military salutes, greetings, and weekend encampments by living history groups.



# Delaware River to be Sampled for Microplastics

By Don Hamilton, Natural Resources Chief, Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, National Park Service

In 2018, the Delaware River will become one of a relatively small number of rivers that have been sampled for microplastics, an emerging contaminant of considerable concern in aquatic ecosystems.

When a U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) scientist first contacted the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River about being part of this sampling effort, it was not an issue that was prominent on our radar screen.

But after learning more about some of the problems associated with microplastics in aquatic food webs, it's become a concern to us as well.

Microplastics are plastic particles less than 5 millimeters (less than 2/10") in diameter that come from a variety of sources, including fibers shed from synthetic clothing, abrasive plastic microbeads used in face and hand scrubs and toothpastes, and also from the photodegradation and breakdown of larger plastic litter, including styrofoam, plastic bags, plastic bottles, wrappers, cigarette butts, braided plastic line, and countless other plastic products.

Microplastics are essentially worrisome because of their increasing prevalence throughout the food webs of marine and freshwater systems, where they are mistaken as food and ingested by everything from zooplankton to corals, mussels, fish, and other organisms (e.g. mammals and birds) that consume any of these.

Physical hazards of sustained ingestion can include obstruction of the digestive system, clogging of feeding appendages, physiological stress, impaired reproduction, nutritional deprivation, and death.

Ingestion of microplastics can also result in uptake and bioaccumulation of harmful chemical additives found in plastics, as well as an array of organic toxins in the environment that attach onto the surface of plastics.

Amplifying these concerns is the fact that plastics have become one of the most prevalent and readily discarded materials in our daily lives.

Plastic's largest use today is in packaging, which has shifted primarily to single-use containers.

Half of the plastic we use, such as bags and bottles, is used just once and thrown away.

Americans on average discard approximately 185 lbs. of plastic per person per year. The majority of plastic used in these containers is derived from petroleum-based hydrocarbons (accounting for about 8% of the world's oil production) and none



**MICROPLASTICS:** Tiny plastic fragments known as **microbeads**, examples of which are shown above to the scale of a penny, are causing problems in aquatic ecosystems. (Photo by Sherri A. Mason, SUNY Fredonia)

are biodegradable, leading to a near-permanent contamination of the natural environment with plastic waste.

The vast majority of studies on microplastics have focused on the oceans, the most visibly impacted endpoints of plastic pollution and accumulation.

Photos abound of marine life negatively impacted by plastic wastes. Just look at The Great Pacific Garbage Patch located in the North Pacific Gyre off the coast of California, a floating mass of plastic twice the size of Texas, where plastic pieces outnumber sea life six to one.

A few studies on microplastics have sampled large lakes. Very few have focused on rivers, although rivers are likely a primary source of microplastics to oceans and lakes.

A handful of recent studies on microplastics in lakes and rivers have, disturbingly, reported concentrations to be as high, or higher, than in oceanic gyres.

The USGS scientist who will collaborate on the Delaware River sampling recently completed a 2015 pilot study assessing microplastics in the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway, and the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area in Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Microplastics were found in every water, sediment, fish, and mussel sample collected. Bald eagle nestlings were found to have alarming levels of plasticizer and endocrine disruptors in their blood.

Starting in July, staff from the Upper Delaware and USGS will take water and sediment samples at nine locations throughout the 197-mile non-tidal river, and fish and mussel samples at less locations.

Much still needs to be added to the limited body of knowledge related to this contaminant.

The Delaware River, representing a diverse longitudinal gradient of forested to urban land use, land cover, and population in a watershed, provides a valuable setting for potentially helping to better understand

the sources, transport, prevalence, concentrations, and effects of microplastics in our waterways and on our biota.

During the course of planning this work, the partners became aware of another microplastics study being conducted by the University of Delaware focused on Delaware Bay.

The University has been contacted and data will be shared.

The \$175,947 in funding for the three-year study was obtained through the USGS/NPS Water Quality Partnership Program. The study will also extend to Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

## How Can We Help?

Individual actions can seem insignificant in the face of daunting problems like microplastics in the environment, but they can be very effective in helping to bring about change.

- \* Choose to reuse when it comes to shopping bags and bottled water. Take reusable cloth bags to the grocery store, and get a reusable metal, plastic, or glass water bottle.

- \* Refuse single-serving packaging, excess packaging, straws, and other "disposable" plastics. Carry reusable utensils with you.

- \* Reduce everyday plastics such as sandwich bags by replacing them with a reusable lunch bag or box.

- \* Bring your to-go mug with you to the coffee shop, which is a great way to reduce lids and plastic cups.

- \* Seek out alternatives to the plastic items that you rely on.

- \* Recycle. If you must use plastic, try to choose #1 or #2, which are the most commonly recycled plastics.

- \* Support bottle recycling bills.

- \* Spread the word. Talk to your family and friends, and contact your political representatives about why it's important to reduce plastic in our lives and the nasty impacts of plastic pollution. After all, it was political pressure that moved Congress to pass the Microbead-Free Waters Act of 2015, which prohibits the manufacturing, packaging, and distribution of rinse-off cosmetics containing plastic microbeads.

- \* Some synthetic clothing manufacturers are exploring ways to reengineer their materials to shed fewer plastic fibers.

- \* Some wastewater treatment plants have installed improved filtration systems shown to effectively remove microplastics.

# Invasive Spotted Lanternfly, Emerald Ash Borer Threaten

By Pete Golod, UDC Resource Specialist

Two invasive insects are either threatening or already present to cause havoc in the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Valley.

A native to Southeast Asia (specifically China, India, Vietnam and Korea), the Spotted Lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*) is yet another invasive insect that is migrating towards the Upper Delaware.

Similarly to its invasive relatives, this insect has the potential to greatly impact the agricultural community and logging industries, estimated at an \$18 billion loss in agricultural revenue.

Attacking crops and trees, the Spotted Lanternfly gnaws on plant stems.

It extracts their sap and excretes large amounts of a fluid that coats leaves and stems, promoting mold and fungal growth, and ultimately killing the host.

Although it has wings, the adult Spotted Lanternfly is known as a “plant-hopper” because it will hop or jump from plant to plant or tree to tree as opposed to flying.

It is approximately one-inch long and 1/2” wide. Adults have a black head and grayish wings with black spots and bright red bodies. Their forewing tips have tiny black bricks outlined in gray.

In flight the hind wings display patches of red and black with a white band. Their abdomens are yellow with black bands on the top and bottom.

Being observant of adults is important, however, it is the detection and destruction of their egg masses (sacs) that is critical.

Here is what to look for. Egg masses have a gray mud-like appearance and are approximately 2-3” long and 1” wide.

They are typically found on the trunks of trees such as the “tree of heaven” or willows.

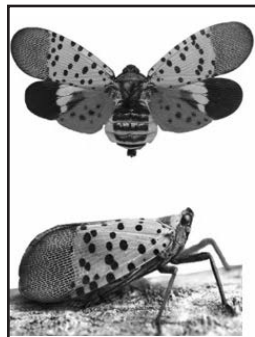
Older egg masses appear as rows of 30-50 brownish seed-like deposits in 4-7 columns on the trunk, roughly an inch long.

If you come across egg masses, immediately scrape them off into a bag (double bag if possible), squirt some alcohol or hand sanitizer on the egg mass, and dispose of them properly.

Although the Spotted Lanternfly has not yet been sighted in the Upper Delaware region, it has been spotted in Delaware, New Jersey, and New York.

And, as if this news isn't bad enough, what's worse is that the lanternfly has no natural predators.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture lists the following crops and trees at infestation risk to the Spotted Lanternfly: almonds,



**INSECT ALERT:** The top illustration shows an Adult Spotted Lanternfly with its wings extended, while the bottom image depicts the insect at rest. Egg masses have a gray, mud-like appearance.

apples, apricots, cherries, grapes, hops, maple trees, nectarines, oak trees, peaches, pine trees, plums, poplar trees, sycamore trees, walnut trees, and willow trees.

## Emerald Ash Borer

First sighted in Pennsylvania in 2007, the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) beetle (*Agilus planipennis*) has now spread to all PA counties as well as New York State's Delaware and Broome Counties.

Similar to its distant relative the Spotted Lanternfly, EAB is a native of Southeast Asia and is responsible for the destruction of tens of millions of ash trees throughout 30 states.

EAB is an exotic beetle that displays a metallic green color and is approximately 1/2” in length.

The pest specifically targets ash trees and while the adults feed on foliage, causing little damage, it is the larvae which causes the major devastation.

Larvae feed on the inner bark of ash trees, disrupting the tree's ability to transport water and nutrients.

These invasive pests are transported via firewood or wooden packing materials and have cost municipalities, property owners, nursery operators, and forest product industries hundreds of millions of dollars.

There are treatment options which serve as a control measure, but there is no cure for an EAB infestation. The best prevention is to avoid moving firewood, and to buy local and burn local.

Here are signs of EAB infestation to look for: heavy woodpecker damage on ash trees; yellow, thin, wilted foliage; and “D”-shaped exit holes from when the beetle emerges from the bark.

So keep a keen eye out for these critters whether in, on, or around the river or out in wooded areas. Report spottings to:

National Park Service: [nps.gov/upde](http://nps.gov/upde)  
PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources: [dcnr.state.pa.us](http://dcnr.state.pa.us)

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation: [dec.ny.gov](http://dec.ny.gov)

REVIEWS, continued from Page 1

hours, and Narrowsburg in six hours.

The UDC has floated the idea of using existing fire department or new sirens as a supplemental means of alerting the public to river-related emergencies, given the often unreliable communication infrastructure in the Upper Delaware River Valley.

“There has been broad disagreement over whether sirens are the way to go,” Bosch said, but added they await the outcome of the notification improvement analyses before finalizing determinations.

At the Feb. 20 UDC Water Use/Resource Management Committee meeting, Pike County Office of Community Planning Director Michael Mrozinski provided an overview of the Pike County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

The county completed this latest, five-year update to the plan in late 2017.

The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 established a national program for pre-disaster hazard mitigation. Establishing plans such as this is a condition to be eligible for federal and state disaster funds.

Mrozinski outlined the process, which required resolutions from each of the 13 townships and boroughs in Pike County to ultimately approve it.

In the 2017 iteration which includes 1,153 pages plus appendices, they added five new hazards of concern to the 16 that were previously listed.

They are: Extreme Temperature; Invasive Species; Landslide; Lightning Strike; and Radon Exposure.

Each hazard is ranked according to probability, impact, spatial extent, warning time, and duration.

Additional presentations to the UDC occurred on Nov. 2, 2017 when Dr. Claire Jantz and Antonia Price from Shippensburg University's Center for Land Use and Sustainability returned to offer an update on “DRB2070”.

This project is funded by the William Penn Foundation to forecast land use change out to the year 2070 for the entire Delaware River Basin.

It focuses on mapping, modeling, and monitoring. Stakeholder involvement has been important, including a Nov. 10, 2015 workshop held at the UDC office and subsequent surveys. See [www.drbproject.org](http://www.drbproject.org).

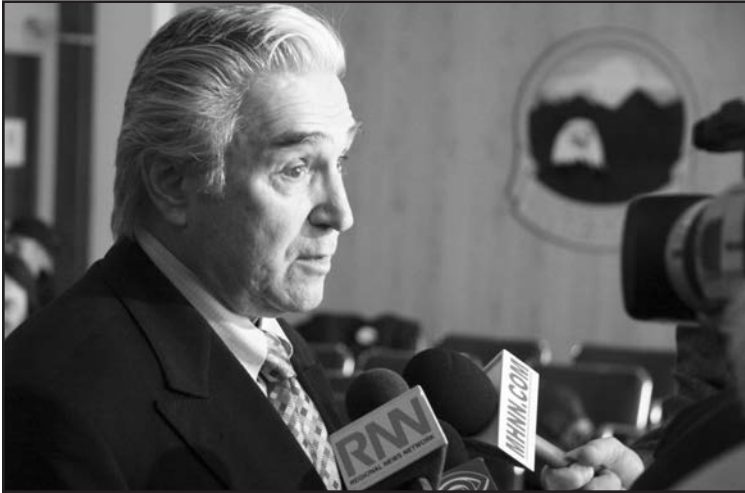
At the Oct. 5, 2017 UDC meeting, National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Administrative Officer Karen Henry presented the topic of federal budgetary procedures.

Henry explained that the NPS is a discretionary budget subject to the will of Congress and the president.

She noted that the UDC receives 11% of the Upper Delaware's fixed cost budget under its contract for services.



## In Memoriam: Rep. Maurice D. Hinchey



United States Congressman Maurice D. Hinchey is pictured at a 2007 press conference at the Sullivan County Government Center during the New York Regional Interconnect high-voltage power line battle. (UDC File Photo)

U.S. Congressman Maurice D. Hinchey died on November 22, 2017 at the age of 79 at his home in Saugerties, NY after battling frontotemporal dementia following a 2012 diagnosis with colon cancer that had resulted in his retirement from 38 years of public service.

The Upper Delaware Council presented its Distinguished Service Award to Rep. Hinchey in 2012 in recognition of his principled and effective advocacy for constituents of the U.S. House of Representatives' 22nd Congressional District from 1992 to 2012.

At the UDC's March 19, 1994 awards ceremony at The Club at Villa Roma where he served as keynote speaker, Rep. Hinchey said, "People here in the Upper Delaware are pioneers, managing the environment by paying attention to the entire ecosystem. You have made history, and people across the nation are talking about what is happening here on the Delaware." He was invited back to deliver the keynote at the April 25, 2004 banquet held at The Eldred Preserve.

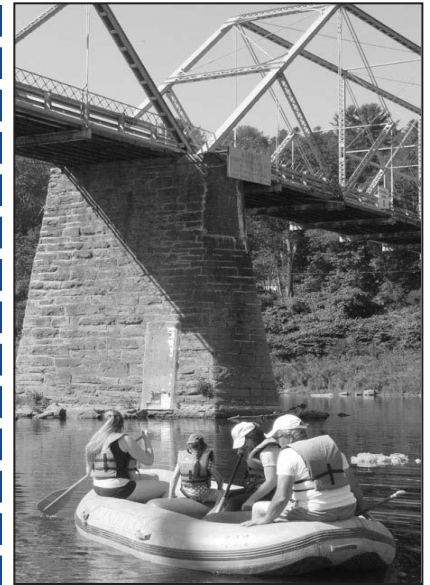
The progressive Democrat began his political career in the New York State Assembly in 1975 before winning his 1992 Congressional election. The 22nd District at that time spanned eight counties, incorporating parts of the Upper Delaware River, Hudson River, and Finger Lakes regions.

Known for being a passionate environmentalist, Rep. Hinchey's credentials date back to having chaired the NYS Assembly's Environmental Conservation Committee for 14 years, during which time he tackled such weighty issues as Love Canal, acid rain, and cleanup of Hudson River PCBs.

In Congress, he was a senior member of the House Appropriations Committee and its Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies. He was a defender of America's natural resources including national parks and wilderness areas, as well as an advocate for agricultural preservation, renewable solar energy, and economic development through tourism. He co-authored the 2009 Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness of Chemicals (FRAC) Act and was a leader in the fight against high-voltage power lines.

Rep. Hinchey co-chaired the bi-partisan Delaware River Basin Task Force which sought legislation, funding, and organized educational briefings to facilitate flood forecasting, emergency mitigation, and a variety of river conservation and protection projects.

Born in New York City, Hinchey grew up in Ulster County, served in the U.S. Navy, and earned degrees from SUNY New Paltz and SUNY Albany.



## UDC 30th Annual Raft Trip August 5

Join the Upper Delaware Council on August 5 for an exciting and scenic ten-mile raft trip on the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River from Skinners Falls to Ten Mile River.

Reservations are due by July 27.

The discounted cost is \$27 for adults and \$17 for ages 5-12.

Lander's River Trips will provide the rafts, paddles, life jackets, safety instructions, and shuttle transportation at the end of the trip.

The rendezvous will be at Lander's Skinners Falls Campground, located at 40 Skinner's Falls West, Narrowsburg, NY 12764. Check in between 9-10 a.m. at the UDC's registration table.

Minimum occupancy per raft is four people. Children must weigh a minimum of 40 lbs. and be able to swim. All UDC participants must wear life jackets for optimum safety throughout the trip.

This average trip length is 4.5 hours.

Visit [www.upperdelawarecouncil.org](http://www.upperdelawarecouncil.org) or call (845) 252-3022 for reservations.

## Please Help the UDC to Update Our Mailing List

The Upper Delaware Council offers its free newsletter on-line at [www.upperdelawarecouncil.org](http://www.upperdelawarecouncil.org) or via postal mail. Please advise us if you wish to discontinue your mail copy, would like to sign up as a new mail subscriber, or if there are any changes to your name or address for our records. Return this notice to: Upper Delaware Council, P.O. Box 192, Narrowsburg, NY 12764; or call (845) 252-3022 or e-mail [linda@upperdelawarecouncil.org](mailto:linda@upperdelawarecouncil.org).

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Upper Delaware Council  
P.O. Box 192, 211 Bridge St.  
Narrowsburg, NY 12764-0192  
Phone: (845) 252-3022; Fax (845) 252-3359  
[www.upperdelawarecouncil.org](http://www.upperdelawarecouncil.org)

*Working together to conserve the Upper  
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The Upper Delaware Council, Inc. meets on the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. Three standing committees meet monthly as follows: Water Use/Resource Management, third Tuesdays at 7 p.m.; Project Review and Operations, fourth Tuesdays at 6:30 and 7:30 p.m., at the UDC office, 211 Bridge St., Narrowsburg, NY. All meetings are open to the public. Call (845) 252-3022 or visit [www.upperdelawarecouncil.org](http://www.upperdelawarecouncil.org) for specific meeting dates.

## Upper Delaware News, Views and 'To Do's'

### UDC Annual Report Out

The Upper Delaware Council has posted its Fiscal Year 2017 Annual Report on-line.

The 19-page report covers accomplishments and annual information for the federal fiscal year period of Oct. 1, 2016 to Sept. 30, 2017.

Visit [www.upperdelawarecouncil.org](http://www.upperdelawarecouncil.org) under Publications.

### Take a Virtual Tour

The National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River invites all to experience the natural, cultural, and recreational resources of the river without leaving the comfort of home through the unveiling of the Upper Delaware Virtual Tour and the National Park Service's On-line Museum.

The virtual tour includes five interactive modules covering History and Culture, River Access Points, Wildlife & Ecology, Hiking Trails, and River Recreation.

Designers Eric Rowe and Jordan Lewis of Quiet Life Films were honored with the 2016 Upper Delaware Council Special Recognition Award for their work over a two-year period exploring the park unit and

documenting what they discovered with film and still images.

It can be viewed at [www.nps.gov/upde](http://www.nps.gov/upde).

At Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, only 227 of the 150,000+ objects and archives in the park museum collection are on exhibit at the Zane Grey Museum in Lackawaxen.

Through an innovative, on-line tool, the NPS Web Catalog, the public may now access over 200 of the museum's offerings both familiar and strange, some of which the public has never seen.

Visit <https://museum.nps.gov> and select Upper Delaware from the list of parks.

For information, call (570) 685-4871, #2.

### Funds for Rt. 97 Vistas

Owners of private and public properties along NYS Route 97 that would benefit from reducing vegetative overgrowth to enhance views from the highway are encouraged to contact the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway Committee about funding opportunities.

All trimming work would be performed by certified professionals and follow a work plan with advance agreement by the property owner. No match is required.

Email [info@upperdelawarescenicbyway.org](mailto:info@upperdelawarescenicbyway.org) to confidentially submit sites for consideration or find out more.

Butterfly Habitat Promotion grants also remain available on a rolling basis.

### For Forest Landowners

The Pinchot Institute has produced a guide, "Helping Your Woodland Adapt to a Changing Climate" for forest landowners in the upper Delaware River watershed.

See [www.commonwatersfund.org/forest-adaptation](http://www.commonwatersfund.org/forest-adaptation) for links to NY and PA guides.

### Poems for Children

Town of Cohecton, NY Upper Delaware Council Representative Larry H. Richardson received a touching birthday gift from his son who came across 25 years worth of poems his father wrote while watching his children grow up, illustrated the collection, and published them in book format.

Graphic art designer Russell Richardson produced the "Poems for Children" paperback book through the CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.

It is available for \$12 through Amazon or to borrow from local libraries for free.