

Climate Change Resiliency & Preparedness Webinars

Right-sizing Stream Crossings for Fish, Wildlife and Resiliency

Thursday, June 3rd @ 7pm

Presenter: Julie Busa, PhD, Fuss & O'Neill

Undersized or degraded culverts can fragment habitat, promote flooding, create public safety hazards, and undermine road and other infrastructure. Learn about a recent assessment of 50 road-stream crossings in South Hadley and preliminary design plans for reconstruction.

The Benefits of Trees: Climate Resilient Communities

Tuesday, June 8th @ 7pm

Presenters: Katherine Kemen, Ricardo Austrich, & Gillian Davies –
BCS Group

The importance of trees will only increase with climate change due to their ability to provide shade, mitigate flooding, support biodiversity, store carbon, and much more. Yet, climate change threatens the health of trees whether through sudden, powerful storms or steady changes in precipitation and temperature. In this webinar, an ecologist, landscape architect, and climate adaptation specialist will discuss how a changing climate impacts trees and actions communities and residents can consider to protect and fully realize the benefits of trees to support more resilient communities.

The Case for Green Infrastructure

Monday, June 28th @ 7pm

Presenter: Scott Turner, PE, AICP, LEED AP ND
Environmental Partners

Green infrastructure is a cost-effective, resilient approach to managing wet weather impacts that provides many community benefits including environmental, social and economic. Such techniques are even more important in increasing community resilience to water quality impacts stemming from climate change. Learn about different green infrastructure practices, and see how they have been applied in transportation projects.

OUR PRESENTERS

Julianne Busa, PhD, CSE

Senior Environmental Scientist, Fuss & O'Neill
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Julie is an environmental scientist in the Water Environment and Natural Resources group. She has experience in the areas of global biodiversity and forest conservation, sustainability, and ecological modelling. Before joining Fuss & O'Neill, she worked in academia, conducting and publishing ecological research and serving as a project manager and technical advisor for stream and wetlands restoration projects. She has served as President of the Society for Conservation Biology's Working Group for Ecological Economics and Sustainability Science and has taught extensively, holding positions on the environmental studies faculties of multiple colleges. Her work has taken her around the globe, where she has conducted field research in places as varied as India and Appalachia, exploring conservation issues at the intersection of human and natural systems in an aim to empower communities to shape their own futures around ecologically, economically and socially sound systems.

Ricardo Austrich, PLA, ASLA

Manager of Landscape Architecture, BSC
Group, Inc. raustrich@bscgroup.com

Ricardo has more than 25 years of experience in landscape architecture. His practice maintains a focus on design, including but not limited to parks, streetscapes, cemeteries, historical landscapes as well as site planning. Ricardo's specialization in plant-centered approaches developed through his formative years at the Arnold Arboretum, embracing methods that encompass sustainable plant solutions characterized by pleasing aesthetics and performance. As an educator in landscape architecture he has taught at The Boston Architectural College, was a Fulbright scholar in Chile and a visiting lecturer in Australia. He is past president of the Boston Society of Landscape Architects.

Gillian T. Davies, PWS Registered Soil

Scientist Senior Ecological Scientist, BSC
Group, Inc. gdavies@bscgroup.com

Gillian is a Senior Ecological Scientist at BSC Group, Inc., focusing on climate change and wetlands and providing peer review services to Massachusetts municipalities. Previously, she was a MassDEP Circuit Rider. She is President Elect of the Society of Wetland Scientists Professional Certification Program, and served as SWS 2016- 2017 President. She is founding co-leader of the SWS Climate Change and Wetlands Initiative and served on the Massachusetts Healthy Soils Action Plan Work Group. Gillian has a Masters from Yale School of the Environment, and a bachelor's from Williams College. She is a Professional Wetland Scientist, and a Registered Soil Scientist.

Katie Kemen, MBA

Climate Adaptation and Resilience Specialist, BSC Group, Inc.
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Katie is a climate adaptation and resilience specialist with BSC Group and has worked on public health, emergency preparedness, and resilience planning with a variety of stakeholders for more than 12 years. Much of her work has focused on regional and systems-level projects to understand vulnerabilities and develop mitigation and response plans to address future risk. She draws upon academic training in public health and business administration to engage diverse stakeholder groups and drive toward effective climate solutions.

Scott Turner, AICP, PE

Director of Planning, Environmental Partners
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Scott Turner is the Director of Planning and an Associate at Environmental Partners with 30 years of experience in Civil Engineering, Planning, and Stormwater Management. He is a registered professional engineer, member of the American Institute of Certified Planners and LEED Accredited Professional in Neighborhood Development. He specializes in Site Development, Permitting, Green Infrastructure Design, and Resilience. His diverse project experience includes managing and directing complex land development, green infrastructure, and resilience projects.

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to address some of the impacts of climate change.
Learn more on our webpage: <https://www.southhadley.org/1096/Climate-Resiliency>