

Title: How can I prepare my community for coastal hazards?

When: June 17, 2021; 1:00-3:30pm (virtual)

<https://cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMlde6uqDggEtlxeqGWGHQmJGFgaYIOYc0q>

Description: Our region is seeing more extreme weather events, such as seiche, intense rain, and highly fluctuating water levels in the Great Lakes. Participants will learn more about coastal threats, tools to improve community resilience and hear from a panel of practitioners and municipalities about tool application. Time will be reserved for participants to interact with presenters and panelist.

AGENDA

1-1:05 Welcome and introductions and define resilience for purpose of the training - *Shannon Dougherty, Watershed Coordinator, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation*

1:05-1:15 What hazards do communities need to plan for? - *Roy Widrig, Coastal Processes & Hazards Specialist, NY Sea Grant*

1:15- 2:20 What tools/resources can help my community prepare for coastal hazards– *Mary Austerman, Coastal Community Development Specialist, NY Sea Grant and Roy Widrig*

2:20- 3:30 Panel presentations and facilitated discussion: Each panelist will have 7 minutes to give highlights about their example. Participants will have time to ask panelists and presenters questions.

- Community Rating System: *John Gauthier, Associate Engineer, Town of Greece*
- Climate Smart Communities: *Dazzle Ekblad, Climate Policy Analyst, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation*
- Using local law to reduce flood risk: *Barbara Kendall, Coastal Resources Specialist 2, NY Department of State*
- Intermunicipal Overlay Districts: *Jayme Thomann, Senior Project Manager, Bergmann and Associates*
- Post Flood Recovery Visioning: *Dave McDowell, Mayor, Village of Sodus Point*

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

Mary E. Austerman

Great Lakes Coastal Community Specialist and Great Lakes Regional Lead
New York Sea Grant
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Mary Austerman is the Great Lakes Coastal Community Development Specialist and Great Lakes Regional Lead for New York Sea Grant/Cornell University. Her primary expertise is in community resilience, with two principal focus areas: 1) climate adaptation and 2) floodplain management. Additional expertise includes watercraft inspection, local government training, process facilitation, and collaborative network building. Examples of recent projects are the Sodus Point Post-Flood Recovery Visioning, 2017 Lake Ontario Flood Impact Survey, New York's Great Lakes Coastal Resilience Index, Lake Ontario Inundation Mapping Tools, and the [2017 Lake Ontario Flood Story Map](#). Austerman is available to meet with municipalities in the Great Lakes basin to learn more about their needs in these and related areas.

Shannon Dougherty

Watershed Coordinator, Great Lakes Program
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
270 Michigan Ave, Buffalo, NY 14203-2915
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716-851-7070

Shannon Dougherty is a Watershed Coordinator with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Great Lakes Program, serving in this position for the past nine years. She is responsible for leading implementation of New York's Great Lakes Action Agenda, and works in partnership with local, regional, and state partners to identify and implement water quality, habitat restoration, and community resilience projects across the state's Great Lakes watershed.

Dazzle Ekblad (*she/her*)

Climate Policy Analyst 2, Office of Climate Change
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Dazzle Ekblad is a Climate Policy Analyst at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Originally from Minnesota, Dazzle has worked out of the DEC's central office in Albany since 2014. She leads the community engagement team at the DEC Office of Climate Change; this team's primary focus is management of the office's two funding programs for municipalities: the Climate Smart Communities grants and the Municipal Zero-emission Vehicle program. Dazzle also coordinates the interagency Climate Smart Communities Certification program. She holds a Master of Science in Natural Resources Policy from SUNY ESF and a Master of Public Administration from Syracuse University, as well as a bachelor's degree from Prescott College in Arizona. Outside of her work at DEC, you'll find Dazzle digging in the garden, cruising the streets on her electric bike, or scanning the sky for raptors.

John Gauthier, P.E.

Town of Greece
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John Gauthier is the Acting Town Engineer for the Town of Greece and Community Rating System (CRS) Coordinator. He has been employed by The Town of Greece for the past 21 years. He holds a Bachelor of Civil Engineering from the University of Detroit, Master of Science in Civil Engineering from Wayne State University and a Juris Doctor degree from Michigan State University. His focus is regulatory compliance, hydrologic analysis and design, and community development. John is a Professional Engineer, Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM), and Member of the NYS Bar. He designs and operates major stormwater management projects. He is a Regional Director for the New York State Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association, a Member of The American Society of Civil Engineers, American Bar Association and the New York State Bar Association. Prior to joining the Town, he was employed by the Army Corps of Engineers, The NYSDEC and several Rochester Engineering and Environmental Consulting firms.

Barbara L. Kendall

Coastal Resources Specialist 2
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Barbara Kendall is a Coastal Resources Specialist with the NYS Department of State, Office of Planning, Development and Community Infrastructure. Barbara works with communities on Local Waterfront Revitalization Programs, plans, and implementation projects and the Lake Ontario Resilience and Economic Development Initiative. Prior to DOS she worked with communities, counties, state agencies and non-profit organizations on initiatives pertaining to land use, watershed planning, greenway development, stormwater management and better site design. In a volunteer capacity Barbara has served on the Planning Board, the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Conservation Advisory Council in the Town of Dover.

David McDowell

Mayor, Village of Sodus Point, NY
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Dave McDowell is currently the Mayor of Sodus Point. This community experienced severe flood in 2017 and 2019. The community was also threatened with flooding in 2018 and 2020. This year it appears we will experience very low water. After the 2017 flood the village reviewed the areas of trouble and began to make resiliency plans to stave off future troubles. This has resulted in many new and higher break walls for homeowners and businesses. It also led to 4 REDI projects within the village to put resiliency in place. We have a high water plan complete with what task are needed at what water levels. There is more to do but a good start has occurred. We have a draft of a low water plan as well. That may get tested this year. Prior to being the Mayor, Dave was a trustee and a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals. Dave's career was as an executive for Excellus BCBS.

Jayne Breschard Thomann, AICP, CFM

Senior Project Manager

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Jayne is a Senior Project Manager at Bergmann in Rochester, NY. She has nearly two decades of experience in land use and environmental planning, specializing in water resources. Her expertise in flood resilience and in such programs as the National Flood Insurance Program and Community Rating System is recognized across New York State. Examples of current work include the Coastal Lakeshore Economy and Resiliency (CLEAR) Initiative for Monroe County and the development of a matrix for the Using Hydroclimate Modeling and Social Science to Enhance Flood Resilience on Lake Ontario through the Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Program. She currently participates on the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) as Chapter Director (District 1), and has served on the Land Use and Local Government (LU/LG) Advisory Panel of the Climate Action Council and as Chair of the New York State Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association (NYSFSMA).

Roy Widrig

Great Lakes Coastal Processes and Hazards Specialist

New York Sea Grant

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Roy Widrig has served as the Great Lakes Coastal Processes and Hazards Specialist since 2017, providing shoreline flooding and erosion consultations to Great Lakes shoreline residents and contributing to regional research on coastal geologic hazards and awareness. With a range from Western Lake Erie to the St. Lawrence River, Roy has extensive experience with the geologic processes that have shaped the region. His educational background is in geology, water resources and climatology, but has worked in the fields of agriculture, forestry, water quality and invasive species previously.