



# 21st Annual Southeast New York Stormwater Conference

Session IV - Thursday, December 9th - 9 AM-12:30 PM

## Building Local Climate Resilience

- 9:00 — **Welcome and Housekeeping**  
Mike Jastremski/Lower Hudson Coalition
- 9:05 — **Building Local Climate Resilience through the Climate Smart Communities Program in Tompkins County**  
Darby Kiley/Tompkins County Department of Planning and Sustainability  
Terry Carroll/Tompkins County Department of Planning and Sustainability
- 10:05 — **A Word from our Sponsors:** Ferguson Waterworks
- 10:10 — **Equity and Justice in the Climate Smart Communities Program**  
Alanah N. Keddell-Tuckey, NYS DEC
- 11:10 — **Member District Spotlight:** Greene County
- 11:15 — **Innovative Partnerships to Support Local Resilience and the NYS Climate Smart Communities Program**  
Libby Zemaitis/NYS DEC Hudson River Estuary Program + Cornell University
- 12:15 — **Additional questions and discussion**

## Session IV Continuing Education Credit

We anticipate Session IV being approved for 3 CECs for Certified Floodplain Managers (Association of State Floodplain Managers), 1 PDH for Professional Engineers (Practicing Institute for Engineers), and 3 PDHs for Registered Landscape Architects (Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System). This information will be updated between now and the Session date. Attendance Certificates for self-certification are available upon request.

Thanks to our 2021 Sponsors!





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### ***Building Local Climate Resilience through the Climate Smart Communities Program in Tompkins County***

*Darby Kiley, Associate Planner/Tompkins County Department of Planning and Sustainability*

*Terry Carroll, Chief Sustainability Officer/Tompkins County Department of Planning and Sustainability*

The Climate Smart Communities program (CSC) can seem daunting and overwhelming with its different criteria levels and large number of actions. In this session we will reveal the reasons to participate in the CSC program (hint: funding), how to achieve CSC Certification (hint: use the work you are already doing), and who you can turn to for help (hint: community partners). We will provide examples from Tompkins County (2018 Silver Certified), Town of Ulysses (2018 Bronze Certified), and other communities on how they accumulated points by coordinating with entities within and outside of their organizations.



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## Building Local Climate Resilience through the Climate Smart Communities Program in Tompkins County

### Meet the Speakers:

*Darby Kiley, Associate Planner/Tompkins County Department of Planning and Sustainability*

Darby Kiley has nearly two decades of municipal government experience that ranges from land use planning to water resource protection to addressing energy and climate change. She has worked for an intermunicipal watershed organization, three towns, and Tompkins County, where she currently is an associate planner addressing water quality issues and community planning. Darby earned her graduate degree in natural resources from Cornell University and undergraduate degree in chemistry and environmental studies from Gettysburg College.

*Terry Carroll, Chief Sustainability Officer/Tompkins County Department of Planning and Sustainability*

Terry is the Chief Sustainability Officer for Tompkins County where he oversees the County's progress on efforts to get to net-zero emissions for County operations. Prior to working with Tompkins County, Terry was a Clean Energy Communities Coordinator at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County where we worked with municipalities across New York's Southern Tier on clean energy issues. He previously served as an AmeriCorps VISTA with Vermont's Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation. Terry is a graduate of Syracuse University's Public Diplomacy program and Geneseo's International Relations program.



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## ***Equity and Justice in the Climate Smart Communities Program***

*Alanah N. Keddell-Tuckey, Director/New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Office of Environmental Justice*

Alanah will discuss the work of the Climate Smart Communities Equity and Justice Working Group, and how the Office of Environmental Justice sees DEC and CSC partners moving forward on Equity and Justice issues as they relate to efforts to build local climate resilience.



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## ***Equity and Justice in the Climate Smart Communities Program***

### **Meet the Speaker:**

*Alanah N. Keddell-Tuckey, Director/New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Office of Environmental Justice*

As Director of DEC's Office of Environmental Justice, Alanah focuses on crafting materials and messaging to improve communications between EJ communities and the agency, as well as analyzing policies related to climate justice, adaptation, and social resiliency. Alanah currently serves as the co-chair of the Equity and Justice Working Group under the Climate Smart Communities program. In addition to her work for the Office of Environmental Justice, Alanah has served as the Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs and worked on diversity, inclusion, education, and public outreach with the Office of Communication Services.

Alanah came to state service after several years working as a Government Relations Associate with the Adirondack Council, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the Adirondack Park. Prior to this, she served as the Government Affairs Coordinator for the Empire State Pride Agenda.

Alanah holds a Juris Doctorate from Albany Law School, and a bachelor's degree in Political Science from SUNY Binghamton with a minor in Sociology. She is married with four children aged 6 to 17. In her limited free time, she enjoys hiking, nature walks with her children and kayaking.



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### ***Innovative Partnerships to Support Local Resilience and the NYS Climate Smart Communities Program***

*Libby Zemaitis, Climate Change Program Coordinator/NYS DEC Hudson River Estuary Program + Cornell University*

Communities in the Hudson Valley are leaders in the NYS Climate Smart Communities program, but they aren't achieving this success alone. Over the past five years, a network of counties, universities and partnerships have emerged that support local governments to mitigate and adapt to climate change. This talk will provide case studies on some of the leading climate adaptation and resilience programs that have helped position this region for success while furthering NYS's climate goals. Special focus will be given to Climate Smart actions relating to stormwater management and natural and nature-based solutions, as well as an update on the adaptation and resilience aspects of the NYS Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (Climate Law)



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*Libby Zemaitis, Climate Change Program Coordinator/NYS DEC Hudson River Estuary Program + Cornell University*

Libby Zemaitis leads the Climate Change Program at the NYS DEC Hudson River Estuary Program. Her team helps communities adapt to climate change and build resiliency to flooding, heat and social risks using nature-based solutions, in collaboration with the DEC Office of Climate Change and other state agency and non-profit partners. The Climate Change team is committed to incorporating environmental justice into their work and the state's Climate Smart Communities program. Libby grew up in the Hudson Valley where she has spent the last 15 years working on climate change, clean tech and sustainable business. She did her M.B.A. in Strategic Management and M.S. in Climate Science and Policy from Bard College, and a B.A. in Geology from Vassar College.