

Sustainability Summit Presenter Bios

Environmental Stewardship & How It's Evolving

Dennis Fallon, UAA Executive Director

Fallon is a Utility Arborist and Executive Director of the Utility Arborist Association. Prior to his current role he was responsible for leading vegetation management programs across several upper Midwest states on behalf of a large investor-owned utility. He's also been an adjunct professor at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, where he facilitated the Utility Vegetation Management Certificate Program – a combined effort of the Utility Arborist Association and the Utility Vegetation Management Association. Fallon has an undergraduate degree in Urban & Community Forestry and a Master's degree in Forestry from the University of Minnesota-St. Paul.

Lessons Learned from 65+ years of ROW Research

Dr. Carolyn Mahan, PSU

Carolyn G. Mahan, is a professor of biology and environmental studies at The Pennsylvania State University. She has a Ph.D. in Wildlife Science from the Pennsylvania State University and a Bachelor's of Science Degree (Natural Resources Management and Engineering) from the University of Connecticut. Her research interests include the study of biodiversity in threatened ecosystems, the effects of human-modified landscapes on wildlife, management of public lands, and behavioral ecology of squirrels and rare rodents. Her work has been published in a variety of scientific journals including *Environmental Management*, *Global Change Biology*, *Conservation Biology*, *Journal of Mammalogy*, *Plos One*, and *Journal of Wildlife Diseases*. Dr. Mahan's research has been supported by federal, state, industry, and foundation sources. Dr. Mahan has served on the board of directors of the Pennsylvania Wildlife Society, the Center for Private Forests, and The ClearWater Conservancy and she is past-president of the Pennsylvania Biological Survey. She currently serves on Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf's Advisory Council for Conservation.

Building the Business Case for IVM

Amy Murray, Davey Resource Group

Amy holds an MS in Forest Ecology from North Carolina State University, and is an ISA Certified Arborist - Utility Specialist, Tree Risk Assessment Qualified, Certified Utility Safety Professional. Amy serves utility arboriculture by volunteering as the UAA Outreach Committee chair, Treasurer for the Virginia Urban Forest Council, and member of the Right-of-Way Stewardship Council. Her utility vegetation management experience includes field transmission forester, corporate program leadership and subject matter expert, and line clearance contractor operations director. Amy is Davey Resource Group's Mid-Atlantic UVM Business Developer.



Compatible Vegetation Companion Guide & Scope of Work

Dan Salas, Cardno now Stantec

Dan Salas is a Senior Ecologist at Cardno, which is now part of Stantec. He is based in the Upper Midwest but has worked throughout the country on issues related to biodiversity, conservation, and vegetation management. Dan supported the University of Illinois Chicago's Rights-of-Way as Habitat Working Group development of the Nationwide Monarch Butterfly CCAA for Energy and Transportation Lands. He was also a co-author on the new UAA companion guide on Managing Compatible Vegetation for Targeted Species and Biodiversity. Dan enjoys hiking with his dog (a lab/terrier-mix), trout fishing, and hunting (for plants, insects, and mushrooms).

Connecting IVM to ESG

John Steelman, Grow with Trees

John is a Program Analyst for Grow With Trees and holds degrees in forestry and environmental sciences; served six years with the U.S. Forest Service as a timber cruiser and sawyer; served three years in Ethiopia with the Peace Corps working in food security and disaster risk reduction; and for the past five years has provided integrated vegetation management consultation for electric and gas utilities.

Monitoring Biodiversity on ROWs: Approaches to Methods and Metrics

Hannah Stout, Consultant

Hannah L. (Cave) Stout, Ph.D. is a freelance Conservation Entomologist and Society for Freshwater Science (SFS)-Certified Macroinvertebrate Taxonomist based in State College, Pennsylvania. Her graduate research project was an exploration of the “Eastern green drake” mayfly’s extirpation from Spring Creek (Centre County, PA) in the 1950s—for this work, she earned the SFS Graduate Student Conservation Research Award in 2009, and her Ph.D. from Penn State in 2012. Since 2016, her primary work has been focused on studies of insect diversity on transportation and utility rights-of-way (ROW). When not “flipping rocks” or chasing bees, Hannah enjoys her roles with the Association of Mid-Atlantic Aquatic Biologists (AMAAB), and the Rights-of-Way as Habitat Working Group (ROWHWG).

Phil Chen, CNUC

Philip is CNUC’s Manager of R+D. In his role he assists multiple municipal and utility clients on an array of projects. He is a member of the Rights-of-way as Habitat Working Group, the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC) Working Lands Taskforce, the Iowa Urban Tree Council, and acts as Secretary for the Iowa Society of American Foresters. Philip has been an active member of the UAA since 2014, most recently taking on the Chair role of the Environmental Stewardship Committee (2019-Present). Philip recently accepted a position on the Right-of-Way Stewardship Council.



Sara Race, ComEd

Sara Race is a Principal Environmental Program Manager for ComEd, an electric utility company that serves most of northern Illinois. In her role, Sara is responsible for managing environmental compliance programs related to wetlands, land use, and threatened and endangered species. In addition, she oversees the company's stewardship and biodiversity programs, including ComEd's prairie and pollinator program. She is currently involved working with many NGOs and government agencies to advance common stewardship and land management goals. Sara has been with ComEd since 2005 and has an MS in Environmental Management. Prior to graduate school, Sara worked in the non-profit sector focusing on environmental education and plant science education with institutions such as the Chicago Botanic Garden and The Field Museum.

The Journey from Compliance to Sustainable ROW Management

Keith Chucci, Oncor

Keith Chucci is the manager of Transmission Vegetation Management at Oncor Electric Delivery. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry from Texas A&M University and is a licensed Texas Pesticide Applicator, International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist-Utility Specialist and Tree Risk Assessment Qualified. He has over 17 years of experience in the field of arboriculture with the last 13 years focused on electric utility vegetation management. Keith is an active member of the North American Transmission Forum Vegetation Management Practices Group and currently serves on the group's Core Team.

Ronan Mason, TC Energy

Ronan Mason, Manager ROW Maintenance for TC Energy, is an ISA Certified Arborist with 13 years of experience in the oil & gas industry. During this time, Ronan has held roles in GIS, pipeline operations, and vegetation management. Throughout his 8 years at TC Energy, Ronan has helped further the development of their centralized vegetation management program. Currently, he oversees vegetation management activities across TC Energy's ~30,500-mile US natural gas pipeline network.

Chuck Sheppard, Bonneville Power Administration

After graduating with a Bachelors of Science in Resource Management from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry - Syracuse, NY, Chuck Sheppard, originally from up-state New York, worked for Dayton Power and Light in Dayton, OH; North East Utilities in Hartford, CT; Philadelphia Electric in Philadelphia, PA; Commonwealth Edison in Chicago, IL, and now Bonneville Power in Vancouver, WA. Chuck has 33 years of progressive experience in Utility Vegetation Management. He is an International Society of Arboriculture certified Arborist (Utility Specialist). His previous work experiences include Project Leader and Transmission Vegetation Business Manager at Philadelphia Electric in Philadelphia, PA, Senior Project Manager for Exelon Energy Delivery, and Manager of Vegetation Management Commonwealth Edison (ComEd), Chicago, IL. He is a past Chair of the Edison Electric Institute (EEI) Vegetation Management Task Force and served on the Board of Directors for the Pennsylvania Urban and Community Forestry Council. He served on the NERC Vegetation Management SAR Drafting Team that drafted the Transmission Vegetation Management Standard FAC-003-1. Chuck Sheppard is currently an active member of the North American Transmission Forum's Vegetation Management Practices core team and Reliability Assistance Team. He is the Manager of Vegetation Management & Forestry with Bonneville Power Administration.



Donnie Garrison; Shell Midstream US:

Donnie Garrison is an advocacy and Engagement Specialist at Shell Midstream. A southern Louisiana native holds a B.S. in Biology from Nichols State University. With 24 years of service with Shell Pipeline and over 35 years of experience working in the oil and gas industry, he has held several positions ranging from maintenance, operator, region support group, HSSE Supervisor and Operations Supervisor. His current role as Advocacy and Engagement Specialist for Shell Midstream US, allows him to connect with internal and external stakeholders on key issues for Shell and Industry. Supporting change and leading the message of the great work Shell and Industry does in the community we work and live in. With a passion for environment and conservation he currently serves as chair for API Conservation Taskforce. Working with industry leaders in developing guidelines on how the pipeline industry can use conservation work in their day-to-day operations and still provide a safe, reliable, and profitable operations.

Matt Goff, Georgia Power Authority

Matt Goff is a Vegetation Manager at Georgia Power Company. He lives in Brookhaven, GA with his wife, two daughters, and the family's Llewellyn setter.

Matt holds a BSFR from the University of Georgia in Forest Resource Management and he graduated in 1997. He has worked in the vegetation management industry for 25 years. His work experience includes six years as a procurement forester for a forest products manufacturer, and 19 years in the utility vegetation management industry with Georgia Power.

He began his career with Georgia Power as a Utility Arborist, and he has held various roles in the Forestry and Right of Way Services organization. Matt has been in his current role of Vegetation Manager since 2012 and he currently is the manager of the Transmission, Substation and Generation Vegetation Management programs at Georgia Power. He leads a team of 12 employees. The team is responsible for 12,000 corridor miles of transmission rights of way, 163,000 acres of transmission rights of way, 1850 substations, and property maintenance at 8 generation sites.

Challenges & Opportunities in ROW Conservation for Midstream Oil & Natural Gas Operators

Robin Rorick, American Petroleum Institute

Robin Rorick is the Vice President of Midstream Policy at the American Petroleum Institute, the largest trade association of roughly 600 companies, representing all aspects of America's oil and natural gas industry. In his more than twenty-five years at API, Robin has worked in various capacities throughout API in Communications, Regulatory and Scientific Affairs and Policy Analysis. Additionally, Robin has been involved with each segment of the industry—Upstream, Midstream and Downstream—and has worked on a myriad of environmental, safety, security, crisis management and other policy issues. Currently, Robin is responsible for all energy infrastructure issues for API, including the gathering, processing, storage and transportation (i.e. marine, pipeline, rail and trucking) of oil and natural gas.



Herbicides: An Integrative Tool in the Habitat Management Toolbox, Panel:

Travis Rogers, Corteva

Travis W. Rogers is a market development specialist for Corteva Agriscience in their Pasture & Land Management business. Besides serving as the interface between the commercial sales, marketing, and R&D units, he is engaged in a variety of product and market development projects. Travis has 17 years' experience working with energy companies, federal and state agencies, conservation groups, channel partners, and service contractors within the rights-of-way and forestry industries. He has contributed numerous articles for industry trade publications and presented at various regional and national conferences around the country. He is a UAA and S ISA member, State Game Lands 33 and Green Lane Cooperator board member, co-chair of the ROW13 Symposium, Certified Arborist, and Pesticide Applicator. His career with Corteva Agriscience and its heritage companies (Dow Elanco and Dow AgroSciences) spans more than 26 years.

Jon Johnson, Penn State University, Pesticide Education Program

Jon received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agronomy and a Master of Science Degree in Horticulture from Penn State. In July 2017, he became Director of Penn State Extension's Pesticide Education Program. He is currently involved with oversight of all activities related to this program. Prior to working for the Pesticide Education Program, he spent seven years in private industry providing turf care and industrial weed control services for commercial accounts mainly within the tri-state area. Then devoted twenty-three years, mostly as a Research Associate, working for Penn State on Pennsylvania's Roadside Research Project conducting research and performing education and outreach for PennDOT and the right-of-way vegetation management industry.

Lewis Payne, New York Power Authority

Lewis H. Payne is the Manager ROW/Environmental for the New York Power Authority and is responsible for all vegetation management activities throughout the Authority's transmission system. He has over 37 years of electric utility vegetation management experience and is a Certified Arborist, Utility Specialist, and a New York Certified Pesticide Applicator. Mr. Payne serves as Chairperson of the New York Category Six Pesticide Recertification Training Committee, a member of the Environmental Energy Alliance of New York's Land-use Subcommittee, EPRI ROW Steering Committee, CEATI Vegetation Management Task Force Executive Committee, and the Right-of-Way Stewardship Council committee.

Randall Miller, CNUC

Randall Miller holds an MS in Urban Forestry from the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point and is an International Society of Arboriculture Board Certified Master Arborist and Certified Utility Specialist. He has experience in commercial, institutional and utility arboriculture as well as state community forestry. He retired in 2017 after over 23 years in vegetation management at PacifiCorp where he directed a \$52M/year vegetation management program. He also served for six years on ACRT's board of directors. Before working at PacifiCorp and ACRT, Randall was the Utah state community forester. Randall serves on the International Society of Arboriculture Board as president of the Utility Arborist Association, twice chair of the Edison Electric Institute Vegetation Management Taskforce, Chair of the TREE (Tree Research and Education Endowment) Fund Board of Trustees and President of the Oregon Community Forest Council. He also served on the ISA Editorial Board (the group



responsible for peer review of articles submitted to the *Journal of Arboriculture and Urban Forestry*) the ISA Certification Test Committee and ISA Appeals Committee. He currently serves on the ISA Board of Directors. He is an accomplished speaker and writer, with over 90 publication credits, including (with Geoff Kempter, of *Utility Arboriculture: The Utility Specialist Certification Study Guide* and the ISA's *Best Management Practices: Integrated Vegetation Management*. He has received the 2005 ISA R.W. Harris Author's Citation Award among other industry recognitions.

Collaborative Conservation & Building Effective Partnerships, Panel:

Sarah Koenig, Audubon

Sarah has over 16 years of experience in project management, environmental planning, data analysis, public engagement, habitat restoration, and policy. In her role as Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania's Conservation Director, she manages conservation on and off ASWP's nature reserves, including the ROWs for Pollinators program, Certified Backyard Habitat, Audubon Center for Native Plants, Buffalo Creek Watershed and Important Bird Area Coalition, land management planning, and habitat restoration. Since joining ASWP in 2017, she has secured over \$2M in funding for avian, pollinator, and watershed conservation. Sarah has a Master's degree in Environmental Geography and previously served as the Land Use and Environment Project Manager for Grounded Strategies, Water Resource Planner for the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, and Environmental Scientist / GIS Analyst on ALCOSAN's Wet Weather Project Management Team.

Caroline Hernandez, University of Illinois Chicago, Sustainable Landscapes Program Coordinator

Caroline Hernandez is Program Coordinator for the Sustainable Landscapes program at the Energy Resources Center for the University of Illinois Chicago. Caroline supports the Rights-of-Way as Habitat Working Group and other efforts to engage energy and transportation leaders in pollinator habitat creation and conservation. Caroline is a LEED Green Associate, holds a dual master's degree in international relations and natural resources and sustainable development and has a background in globalization, sustainable development, and climate change.

Mike Retterer, Pheasants Forever/Quail Forever

Michael Retterer is a graduate from the University of Rio Grande where he obtained his Bachelor of Science degree focusing on wildlife/fish conservation and management. He currently serves as the National Rights of Way & Energy Coordinator with Pheasants Forever inc. and Quail Forever. Mike works with Rights of Way, Energy, and large corporations on strategies to manage their vegetation footprint on a more sustainable landscape. Mike also works with these large groups of diverse partners to help coordinate and enhance habitat management efforts to further the mission of Pheasants Forever.

