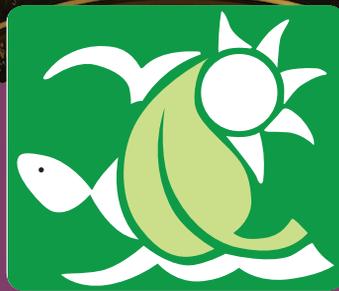


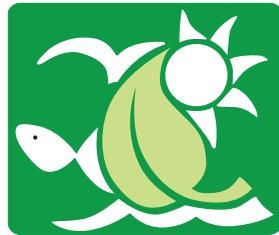
THE ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL
OF RHODE ISLAND
annual meeting



JUNE 6, 2016 | HOPE ARTISTE VILLAGE | PAWTUCKET

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**THE ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL
OF RHODE ISLAND**

The Environment Council of Rhode Island of Rhode Island (ECRI), established in 1972 as a coalition of environmental organizations and individuals, serves as a powerful voice for developing, advocating, and lobbying for policies that protect and enhance the environment.

ECRI serves as an environmental advocate on issues that come before the Governor, the General Assembly, and state agencies. ECRI is the Rhode Island affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation.

Agenda

5:30 p.m. **Reception, Exhibitions and Business Meeting**

6:30 p.m. **Welcome: Jamie Rhodes, President**
Environment Council of Rhode Island

6:45 p.m. **Presentation: Climate Justice: Providence and Paris**
Seena Chann
Environmental Justice League of Rhode Island
Dr. J. Timmons Roberts
Ittelson Professor of Sociology and Environmental Studies, Brown University

8:00 p.m. **Bar closes**

EXHIBITORS Citizens Climate Lobby RI Chapter • Interfaith Power and Light • People's Power & Light

COMMITTEE MEMBERS Paul Beaudette, Priscilla De La Cruz, Greg Gerritt, Katherine Gibson, Jesus Holguin, Eugenia Marks, Jamie Rhodes

MUSIC Rod Luther

CATERING Fireworks Catering

COMPOSTING ecoRI Earth

Dr. J. Timmons Roberts



Timmons Roberts is Ittleson Professor of Environmental Studies and Sociology at Brown University and a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution. Co-author and editor of twelve books and edited volumes, and of over eighty articles and book chapters, Timmons' current research focuses on climate change and economic development: his core focus is on how inequality affects our ability to address this complex global problem. He has worked with ECRI and teams of students and experts on three legislative efforts to address climate change: the RI Climate Change Commission was created by the Climate Risk Reduction Act of 2010, in 2014 he worked with a group that successfully passed the first comprehensive climate legislation in the state, the Resilient Rhode Island Act. And in 2015 and 2016 he's been working with the EnergizeRI coalition on carbon pricing legislation.

Seena Chann



Seena has been participating in the Environmental Justice League of Rhode Island's Community Environmental College for several years, and has been officially a youth organizer for two years now. Seena identifies as an Cambodian-American youth. Seena was diagnosed with asthma and eczema and no one really knew why. This limits her from enjoying life outside. After attending local and national environmental justice workshops and taking part in the "It Takes Roots" delegation to the climate talks in Paris, she was finally able to connect the missing dots between our Health and our Environment. Seena understood why her conditions were so bad by looking around her community and seeing all the inequalities. Seena then became very passionate about organizing and helping the community, especially growing up with refugee parents from Khmer Rouge and an immigrant grandmother from Cambodia. Her main areas of activism are around issues of environmental justice, racism, immigration and youth advocacy. Seena's goal in continuing this work is to organize in Cambodia and get justice for her community.

Climate Justice

Climate change is the crisis of our times. It will affect nearly every aspect of life from the food supply, to the weather, to international relations, and the rate of change is speeding up.

The struggle to stop investing in fossil fuel infrastructure that locks us into higher emissions for the long term is of critical importance. We must make sure our communities, especially those with the least ability to respond and cope, have a big voice about what we do around the globe and here in Rhode Island. We recognize that getting energy policies right is challenging as we must maintain strong communities and local economies while we move away from fossil fuels.



Steve Ahlquist/RI Future

Keeping global temperatures from rising more than 2 degrees Celsius over the next 80 years, the aim of the Paris COP 21 agreement, is a responsibility for all, but the poor are affected disproportionately to their input to the problem. Lacking resources for air conditioning, living in marginal coastal areas, and enduring the ramifications of energy policies based on fossil fuels, those with the least political and social power suffer most. Climate Justice is a commitment we all need to support.

Whether you are a Bengali, a Pacific Islander or a resident of the Ocean State driven from the shoreline by salting soils, rising tides, and ever larger storms, the challenges are formidable. Burrillville residents resisting a fracked gas power plant, Amazon tribe members dealing with deforestation, and refugees from the Middle East or Central America fleeing the upheaval associated with environmental causes are all dealing with the critical effects of climate change.

It is clear that the solutions to climate change must have at their core: justice, equity, and good science.

Accomplishments

ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL OF RHODE ISLAND

- Built a robust legislative agenda including supporting the Green Energy Bond, extending the Renewable Energy Standard and Growth programs, Carbon Pricing, and including bus riders on the RIPTA board.
- Supported the Cesspool Phase Out bill that finally passed after years of advocacy by ECRI and ECRI member organizations. Opposed the Drylands bill that would have weakened wetland protections.
- Demonstrated an increased presence at the Statehouse by holding a Legislative Coffee hour to introduce legislators to environmental leaders in January. During Earth Week ECRI's Lobby Day in the State Room included remarks by Senate President Teresa Paiva-Weed and other legislators.
- Actively participated in the opposition to building the Clear River Energy fracked gas power plant in Burrillville, including providing support to Burrillville residents in their opposition.
- Continued to provide public support for Deepwater Wind which should be the first US offshore wind development selling power into the grid in 2016.
- Continued to be an active participant in the National Wildlife Federation and supports its new leadership putting a high value on local affiliates as key to the success of the national organization.

ECRI EDUCATION FUND

- Organized and held the hugely successful Rhode Island Nature Video Festival with partners Roger Williams Park Zoo, Save The Bay, The Nature Conservancy, and OSBC.
- Compost Initiative held another successful compost conference and this year the new compost regulations were finalized and approved. Neighborhood and community compost facilities are now cleared for takeoff.
- Continued to provide support services to key environmental coalitions including the Green Infrastructure Coalition and Energize RI.



**Thank you to the
ECRI for all you do
to protect and
improve the
environment in
Rhode Island.**

U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse

The Loraine Tisdale

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AWARDS



Each fall the Environment Council of Rhode Island Education Fund holds an open competition for Schools in Rhode Island for the opportunity to be funded for a spring environmental project. The winning schools are awarded \$250 to carry out the projects.

This years winners were:

- **The Met School** in Providence for a study of where the rainwater in their neighborhood goes
- **Kingston Hill Academy** in South Kingstown for the construction of a rainwater system to water the school garden
- **Rogers High School** in Newport for the construction of structures to move rainwater from the roof of the school into a rainwater garden, dramatically reducing runoff

The awards are named after a long time Rhode Island educator and activist, and we honor her work by providing resources to schools for combining education with actual improvements in the environmental quality of their community. Loraine Tisdale, a native Rhode Islander, nurse, and ardent environmentalist used her skills to lead the Group for Alternatives to Spraying Pesticides (GASP) during the 1980s and 1990s and was active with the Environment Council into her 90s.

ECRI MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

- Acadia Center
- American Lung Association
New England
- American Nurses Association RI
- Apeiron Institute for Sustainable
Living
- Appalachian Mountain Club
- Arpin Group Inc
- Audubon Society of Rhode Island
- Blackstone River Watershed Council
- Buckeye Brook Coalition
- Childhood Lead Action Project
- Citizens Climate Lobby RI Chapter
- Clean Ocean Access
- Clean Water Action
- Common Fence Pt Improvement
Association
- Conservation Law Foundation
- Emerald Cities Providence
- Empire Loan
- Energize RI Coalition
- Environment Rhode Island
- Environmental Justice League of
Rhode Island
- Fossil Free Rhode Island
- Friends of the Pawtuxet
- Green Circle Design
- Groundwork Providence
- Heartwood Group Inc
- Level Solar
- Mercy Ecology
- National Education Association RI
- National Wildlife Federation
- People's Power & Light
- Providential Gardener
- RENEW
- RI Association of Railroad Passengers
- RI Committee on Occupational Safety
and Health
- RI Environmental Education
Association
- RI Interfaith Power & Light
- RI Land Trust Council
- RI Saltwater Anglers Association
- RI State Conservation Committee
- RI Student Climate Coalition
- RI Tree Council
- RI Wild Plant Society
- RIPTA Riders Alliance
- Roger Williams Park Zoo
- Save The Bay
- Save The Lakes
- Sierra Club, RI chapter
- Southside Community Land Trust
- Systems Aesthetics LLC
- The Greene School
- The MA/RI Chapter of the American
Chestnut Foundation
- The Nature Conservancy
- Toxics Action Center
- Trust for Public land
- US Green Building Council RI chapter
- Washington County Regional
Planning Council
- Westerly Land Trust
- Wood Pawcatuck Watershed
Association
- Woonasquatucket River Watershed
Council

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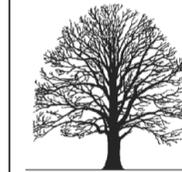
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Visit our website. We have a **Resource Library** for land and water conservation tools and Summit workshop presentations
www.landandwaterpartnership.org

Find places to paddle or hike at: www.ExploreRI.org



ANCHOR

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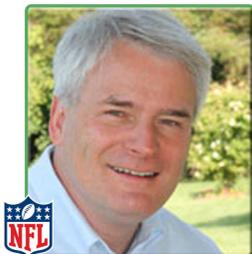
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We congratulate the Environmental Council
 of Rhode Island on its continuing work for
 climate justice.



Frederick J. Harkins, MSFP, AAMS[®], CDFATM, CRPC[®]
 Michelle Cortes-Harkins, MSW, CDFATM, CRPC[®]

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ECRI Thanks Peter Arpin, and the Paul G. Arpin Charitable Trust for their support

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