

Version date: October 15, 2025 Updated 10/16/2025 Updated 10/20/2025 Revised

**NYSACC 2025 Conference on the Environment
Innovations: Solutions for a Changing Environment**

Informal Gathering 5:00-7:00pm Thursday October 23rd, 2025
Pay Your Own Way at Blue Duck Brewing Company
79 Hurley Ave, Kingston

Conference on Friday October 24th, 2025
Field Trip on Saturday October 25th, 2025

**-----SCHEDULE FRIDAY OCTOBER 24TH, 2025-----
BEST WESTERN PLUS IN KINGSTON, NY**

7:30 am – Registration - All Day Conference Corridor

7:30 am – Exhibitor and Vendor Showcase - All Day Conference Corridor

8:00 am – Light Refreshments and Welcoming Remarks NYSACC President Simon Skolnik, County Executive Jen Metzger and Kingston Mayor Steve Noble
Uptown Ballroom

9:00 am -Sharing Successes - Roundtable Presentations with Conservation Advisory Councils and Climate Smart Committees Uptown Ballroom

10:00	TRANSITION		
	St James & Fair Street Salon	Stockade Salon	Uptown Ballroom
	Track 1- Circularity	Track 2-Open Space/Land Use	Track 3- Energy Transition
10:15	Innovating Materials Management: From Data and Policy to Community Practice § Kathryn Walker, ED, Center for Sustainable Materials Management § Melissa Young, Environmental Finance Center	New NYS Wetland Regulations § Krista Spohr, Wetlands Outreach Coordinator, NYSDEC Bureau of Ecosystem Health	PANEL 1C: Why Agrivoltaics are the Better Solution § Linda Garret, Regional Director, American Farmland Trust's NY & NJ § Jared Buono, Director, Cornell's Hudson Valley Research Laboratory § Iain Ward, CEO, Solar Agricultural Services, Inc. (SolAg) via Zoom § Kelley Buchanan, Lightstar Renewables, LLC via Zoom
11:15	Light Snacks and Refreshments- Corridor Exhibitor Showcase		

11:30	Re-POWER: A Reuse Innovation Center and Circular Economy Strategic Plan §Tim Weidemann, UCRRA Coordinator of Performance and Development	Keeping Nature Connected § Laura Heady, NYSDEC, Hudson River Estuary Program and Cornell University § Mikael Cejtin , Staying Connected Initiative	Safe and connected energy storage is the linchpin of the energy transition § Evan VanHook, Viridi Inc.
12:30	Lunch and Networking in the Washington Square with special guests		
1:30	Organics Processing Pathways Moderated by Marc Rider, Executive Director, Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency § Biochar - Bill Hilgendorf, ELDR SIX § Biogas - Kathy Puffer, Biogas Education Hub § Composting - Cary Oshins, US Composting Council	Using Community Preservation Funds to Protect Open Space § Laura Heady, NYSDEC, Hudson River Estuary Program and Cornell University § Michael Sweeton, Community Liaison for the Orange County Land Trust and Former Supervisor, Town of Warwick § Carli Fraccarolli, Government Relations Manager, Scenic Hudson § Julie Noble, Project Manager and Sustainability Coordinator, City of Kingston	Alternative fuels for a Sustainable Energy Society (hydrogen) § Chulsung Bae, PhD., Associate Director of Center for Future Energy Systems at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
2:30	Light Snacks and Refreshments- Corridor Exhibitor Showcase		

2:50	Building with Biomaterials: Revitalizing Rural Economies § Stephen Stuart, Yestermorrow Design Build School	Room Enough for Both: Why It Makes Sense for Conservationists and Affordable Housing Groups to Collaborate § Adam Bosch, President and CEO of Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress § Rebecca Gillman Crimmins, Hudson Valley Alliance for Housing & Conservation § Steve Rosenberg, Hudson Valley Alliance for Housing & Conservation	Geoengineering Climate: Fiction or necessary Fact § Beate Liepert, PhD., Environmental Studies and Physics Bard College
3:50	Networking and Exhibitor Showcase		Conference Corridor

4:00 pm - NYSACC Board and Annual Meeting (Open Meeting)

Stockade Salon

5:00 pm - Networking Happy Hour

Washington Square

6:00 pm - Dinner Banquet and Keynote Speaker

- Stephen Posner, Director of the Pathways to Planetary Health initiative at the Garrison Institute
- NYSACC Awards

8:00 pm Adjourn

----- FIELD TRIPS SATURDAY OCTOBER 25TH, 2025-----

Morning Trip 1: Mohonk Preserve Phenology- New Paltz

Morning Trip 2: HV Seed Co & Community Compost-Kerhonkson

Morning Trip 3: Urban Biodiversity - Kingston

Afternoon Trip 4: Cornell Research Lab in Highland

Afternoon Trip 5: Ulster County Green Facilities-Kingston