

Strike Team 17th Annual Conference – April 17, 2024 - Duke Farms



9:00 am – 9:15 am	Check-In, CEU Signups, Continental Breakfast
9:15 am – 9:30 am	Welcome: Margaret Waldo, Executive Director, Duke Farms
9:30 am – 9:45 am	State of New Jersey Invasive Species Michael Van Clef, Strike Team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invasive species legislation; Review of Strike Team activities
9:45 am – 10:45 am	County Parks Invasive Species Management and Restoration Case Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Mercer County Parks</u>: Michael Long and Ian Gray - Invasive species management and restoration including ongoing projects including freshwater tidal marsh restoration at Roebing Park, 50-acre deer exclusion fence at Baldpate Mountain, and restoration of Moore's Station Quarry <u>Morris County Parks</u>: Darrell Jones - Discussion on the use of a combination control methods to combat widespread and emerging invasive species including prescribed fire, native planting/seeding, mechanical and chemical control; Utilizing GIS tools to map and monitor their efforts. <u>Monmouth County Parks</u>: Maggie Wasacz and R.J. Curcio - Invasive species management and habitat restoration at Hartshorne Woods Park including step-by-step explanation of mechanical, cultural, and chemical control methods used in the restoration process along with a discussion of the successes and difficulties of the project and future plans.
10:45 am – 11:00 am	BREAK
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Engaging the Public and the Language of Invasive Species Michele Bakacs, Rutgers Cooperative Extension <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The language of invasive species can be interpreted as xenophobic or culturally problematic, complicating education and outreach. Universities and organizations have taken steps to address cultural insensitivities. Review of examples and guidelines that can be incorporated into your outreach
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	LUNCH - Provided by Strike Team
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	NRCS Invasive Species Programs and Projects Don Donnelly, NRCS State Forester <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landowner eligibility requirements and applying for assistance, contracting Conservation practices available for invasive species management with samples of landowner projects related to control and restoration
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Into the Weeds: How to Garden Like a Forager Tama Matsuoka, Author <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valuing the land and the plants that you find; Top wild weedy delicious plants and why I love them; Identifying and managing invasive plants (and eating / using them); Stewardship and gardening in the Anthropocene
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm	<u>Session A: Importance of Trees / Cool Tools and Techniques</u> Scott Breeman, Conservation Coordinator, Duke Farms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Importance of trees and arboreta with emphasis on accessibility for those that cannot easily interact with forests (e.g., ADA, urban communities); Arboretum accreditation process Beth Craighead, Senior Land Steward, Strike Team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PPE, mixing safety, & sprayer repair; Application method options by season and species; Helpful tools including short EZject, battery powered sprayers, and battery-powered hedge trimmers <u>Session B: Foraging Walk with Tama Matsuoka</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk Duke Farms and learn about identifying, harvesting, and preparing invasive plants