



# Symposium - A History of Protecting the Future: The Story of Honey Hollow Watershed



## Program

Saturday- May 04, 2013

9:30 AM to 3:30 PM

Bucks County Audubon Visitor Center at  
Honey Hollow Environmental Education Center

Presented by:



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National Park Service.



The illustration above and others used in this program booklet were copied from the book:  
*The Story of Honey Hollow*, by P. Alston Waring written in 1973

# Symposium – A History of Protecting the Future: The Story of Honey Hollow Watershed

## MORNING

9:00—9:30 AM - ARRIVAL & CHECK- IN

9:30—10:45 AM - GENERAL SESSION

History & Conservation Legacy of Honey Hollow

9:30—10:00 AM -OPENING PLENARY

**Welcome:** Jeff Marshall and Ann McCauley

**Special Guest Speaker** - Jean Cutler, Director of the Bureau of Historic Preservation for the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission



10:00—10:45 AM - HISTORY OF HONEY HOLLOW

**Moderator:** Jeff Marshall

**Speakers:** Jeff Marshall, Malcolm Crooks, Priscilla Waring and Bruce McNaught

**Description:** With settlement beginning in the early 18th Century, the area developed as original William Penn grants were subdivided into working farms that passed through several generations of local Quaker families. Today, several 18th century stone farmhouses still reflect this cultural landscape. This area is unique in that it was transformed into a 20th century Colonial Revival vision as highlighted by the dramatic Honey Hollow Education Center. A generation later, the site was elevated to national significance with the work of pioneer conservationists. This critical chapter of history will be described by members of the Crooks and Waring Families, as well as former BCAS executive director Bruce McNaught.

**SHORT BREAK 10:45 – 11:00 AM**

## 11:00—12:45 AM - CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS (2)

### WORKSHOP #1 - HONEY HOLLOW WATERSHED TOUR - ALL WEATHER EVENT

**Tour Guides:** Phil Getty and Malcolm Crooks

**Description:** A walking tour of the heart of the Honey Hollow Watershed will be led by lifetime resident of the land, Malcolm Crooks. Tour will begin at the Bucks County Audubon Visitor Center and cross into the Crooks Christmas Tree Farm. Original soil conservation features, installed in the early 1940's, will be visited along with other interesting historic features such as the bend in the power line corridor as it skirts around the Honey Hollow area. Soil profiles excavated along the way will exhibit the benefits of soil conservation to retain topsoil and provide an understanding of how soils form. The walk will also visit places of natural and cultural interest, such as the archeological dig of the original early 1700's cabin at the Crooks' Residence.

### WORKSHOP #2 - SOIL CONSERVATION, LAND STEWARDSHIP AND WATERSHED HEALTH FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

**Moderator:** Aidan Wiggin, Delaware Valley College Student

**Speakers:**

- **Mark Goodson**—State Agronomist - USDA, Natural Resource Conservation Service
- **Graham Phillips**—Agricultural Land Owner and Local Entrepreneur
- **Kent Himelright**—Agricultural Technician - Bucks County Conservation District
- **Meghan Rogalus**—Watershed Specialist - Bucks County Conservation District
- **Mary Ellen Noonan**—Environmental Educator - Bucks County Conservation District

**Description:** Join five distinguished speakers for a series of presentations on the many aspects of soil and watershed conservation from the newest soil science to the ways in which individual homeowners can help protect water resources. This workshop includes a mixture of presentation and demonstration to understand changes at the regional, county, watershed and property levels and is appropriate for all participants from scientists to students.

**Mark Goodson**—*The Road to Soil Health* – Conservation Science and Technology for the Twenty-first Century

In 1939 the landowners in Honey Hollow saw the need to change the way they farmed. By adopting state-of-the-art conservation practices, the land in their watershed began to heal and overtime became more productive, sustaining the generations that followed. Today's producers face similar challenges. Cropland must produce more and pollute less to sustain future generations' needs for healthy food and clean water. Just as the Honey Hollow farmers risked their livelihoods to change, innovative producers today are embracing new conservation concepts by implementing practices that improve the productivity of their soils and provide ecosystem benefits such as improved water quality, reduced flooding, efficient cycling of organic wastes and detoxification of noxious chemicals. This presentation will demonstrate the qualities and explain the benefits of Soil Health crop production systems and the role NRCS plays in assisting adoption of supporting conservation practices.

**Graham Phillips**—*Enhancing Soil Biology*

Graham will discuss the importance of preserving and enhancing soil biology for plant health and sustainable practices which are applicable to both commercial growers and home gardeners. Many growers are now used to a routine of feeding plants with synthetic fertilizers rather than building and encouraging biology to produce healthy plants and soils. Participants will learn about beneficial bacteria, mycorrhizae, and the soil food web and how understanding and promoting biology can lead to more sustainable practices, healthier plants and better food.

**Kent Himelright**—*Bucks County Agriculture*

Kent will take a closer look at issues like urban sprawl, wet or low yielding soils, and recent climatic/weather patterns that impact local and regional agriculture. In addition, he will also explore some of the solutions or adaptations of local agriculture when dealing with these current issues. Agricultural stormwater control and crop rotation diversity will be the highlights of his presentation.

**Meghan Rogalus**—*Streamside Land Management for Property Owners*

Meghan will briefly discuss water resource concerns attributed to streambank erosion and highlight techniques streamside landowners can utilize to prevent or remediate streambank erosion on their properties. Participants will learn about various methods and their benefits, including establishing a low-mow filter strip adjacent to the streambank, how to plan and plant a riparian buffer with native tree and shrub species, and bioengineering methods that can be used to repair and stabilize eroded streambanks.

**Mary Ellen Noonan** – *Homeowner Best Management Practices for Reducing Water Pollution – How to Make a Difference in Your Community.*

Mary Ellen will discuss practices that homeowners can utilize in their own backyards to reduce pollution. She will also elaborate on the importance of community involvement and education and include examples of current successful programs and partnerships and additional future opportunities.

## AFTERNOON

### 12:45—1:15 PM - LUNCH AND NETWORKING

Opportunity to view BCAS educational displays, partner exhibits, and soil monoliths.

### 1:15—3:00 PM - REPEAT THE CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

### 3:00—3:10 PM - BREAK - RECONVENE TO MAIN HALL.

### 3:10—3:30 PM - WRAP-UP AND SUMMARY

**Moderators:** Ann McCauley/Susan Myerov

**Description:** A wrap-up of the day's events with members of the Honey Hollow Symposium Advisory Board and speakers. We will include a brief summary of the day and provide opportunity for attendees to ask any outstanding questions.



### 3:30 PM—5:00 PM - RECEPTION

# Speaker & Advisory Board Biographies

*The planning committee gratefully acknowledges and thanks the following individuals for their willingness to participate in the planning and implementation of this symposium. Without their time, expertise and local knowledge, this symposium would not have been possible.*

## **MALCOLM CROOKS\* - SPEAKER AND TOUR GUIDE**

Malcolm Crooks is a life-long resident of Honey Hollow watershed and President of Primrose Creek Watershed Association. Malcolm is a board member of the Bucks County Conservation District, and Solebury Township Land Preservation Committee. The Crooks family has continuously lived in the Honey Hollow Watershed since 1925. They were one of the six original farms that banded together in 1939 to create the Honey Hollow Watershed Conservation Area. The Crooks family continues to operate the Tuckamony Christmas Tree Farm, one of the oldest family operated Christmas tree farms in the country.

## **JEAN H. CUTLER - KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

Ms. Cutler was hired as director of the Bureau for Historic Preservation in May 2001. As director, she manages the Commonwealth's historic preservation programs under the authority of the Pennsylvania History Code and the National Historic Preservation Act. Previous to this position, Ms. Cutler has had a broad range of employment with arts and historical organizations and government agencies. Most recently, she served as the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Federation of Museums and Historical Organizations (1988 – 2001); Program Director of the Hershey Museum; Executive Director of the Doshi Center for Contemporary Art; Public Information Officer for the Sun Inn Preservation Association; and art history instructor at Penn State University, Mt. Alto Campus.

She spent almost 10 years employed in federal government service, including assignments as assistant editor for the Central Intelligence Agency and as a Bi-lingual Research Intelligence Analyst for the Defense Intelligence Agency. She was posted to Washington, DC; Paris, France; Hong Kong, BCC; and Beirut, Lebanon.

Ms. Cutler received her undergraduate degree in Foreign Service from Mary Washington College of the University of Virginia and completed graduate work at the Pennsylvania State University in Art History. Ms. Cutler is a member of numerous professional organizations and received the 2009 Catherine Coffey Award for service excellence to museums in the mid-Atlantic Region.

## **THOMAS K FISCHER\***

Thomas Fischer is a life-long resident of Newtown Bucks County. Tom is a carpenter by trade for over 30 years and apprenticed in restoration and renovations locally. After attending the San Francisco Art Institute for design Tom started his boutique building company Thomas K Fischer Builders Inc, which is a leader in Bucks County for custom homes, additions, restorations and historical renovations. {Please see [www.tkfischerbuilder.com](http://www.tkfischerbuilder.com)} Tom is involved in many local community organizations including the Washington Crossing 2026 Historical Park Board, Heritage Conservancy, Upper Makefield Business Association and Newtown Business and Professional Association. Tom is also a corporate sponsor and member of the New Hope Historical Society and Bucks County Audubon Society. He has also earned the Historic Architectural Review Board Preservation Award from the Borough of Newtown in 2006. Tom continues to be involved in the conservation and preservation of Bucks County.

## **PHIL GETTY\* - TOUR GUIDE**

With two degrees in Geology, Philip Getty initially worked in the Gulf of Mexico for Shell Oil and Texaco in the fields of coal research and petroleum exploration. He then moved back to his native Pennsylvania where he has been working for Boucher & James, Inc. for the past 20 years as an Environmental Hydrogeologist. Mr. Getty assesses the water and soil resources of properties to determine the potential impact development would have on the surrounding environment. Mr. Getty is involved in various local organizations related to the environment. He is a Member of the Board of the Aquetong Watershed Association, which includes Honey Hollow. He served on the Board of the Friends of Peace Valley Nature Center for 15 years, four of which he was President. For the past 20 years, he has been on various Committees of the Bucks County Audubon Society.

## **MARK GOODSON - SPEAKER**

Mark Goodson is the State Agronomist for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in Harrisburg. He is a graduate of Delaware Valley College and Penn State. As an agronomist in Pennsylvania, he has worked as an independent crop consultant, a sales specialist for both natural-organic and conventional crop inputs, a Penn State Extension educator, and currently state agronomist with NRCS. Also as an agronomist, Mark has worked four years overseas in Saudi Arabia, Armenia, Georgia and Zambia.



### **KENT HIMMELRIGHT\* - SPEAKER**

Kent Himelright has been the Agricultural Conservation Technician for the Bucks County Conservation District since 2011. He provides assistance to farmers throughout the County with soil and crop management, technical guidance, and nutrient management. He studied Fisheries Science and Biology at Penn State University, and worked for the Lancaster County Conservation District as an Erosion Control Technician for 3 years. Kent raised hogs in Lancaster County for several years, and has an agricultural background in livestock production.

### **DR. LESTER R. ISBRANDT\***

Les and his wife, Pam, are residents of New Hope. Les has his doctorate in physical chemistry and has published broadly in his field of research. His career gravitated into corporate management where he was vice president of research and development for major pharmaceutical companies. After moving to the Aquetong watershed in 2000, he joined the New Hope Historical Society Board of Directors serving as treasurer, vice president and president. He is also a founding director, past president and current treasurer of the Aquetong Watershed Association. His current interest is in educating others on the importance of the safe drinking water from private sources.

### **BRIAN R. KEYES, ESQ.\***

Brian R. Keyes was born in Doylestown, PA. He obtained a B.A. from Temple University with honors (Phi Beta Kappa, Magna Cum Laude and President's Scholar) and received his law degree from Temple Law School. An attorney with offices in New Hope, Mr. Keyes has been admitted to practice in PA and NJ since 1978. His practice encompasses estate planning and administration, real estate transactions and business law. He is a member of the Bucks County Audubon Society, Solebury and New Hope Historical Societies, and sings with a local cappella choir. He is currently Chairman of the Aquetong Watershed Association, of which he is a founding director. The Aquetong Watershed - of which the Honey Hollow watershed is a part - encompasses over 8 square miles in New Hope and Solebury. Mr. Keyes has two sons and lives with his wife, Lisa Gladden Keyes, in Solebury Township.

### **JOHN LASALA\***

John LaSala is an Energy Auditor/Sustainable Building Advisor, as well as a volunteer and consultant at Heritage Conservancy.

### **JEFFREY L. MARSHALL\* - SPEAKER**

Jeffrey Marshall is the President of Heritage Conservancy in Doylestown, Pa. having been on staff at the Conservancy since 1980. He has been involved with the preservation of over five thousand acres of land and the documenting, photographing and researching of over 10,000 old buildings. Marshall serves on the Board of Directors of the National Barn Alliance, Historic Barn and Farm Foundation of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Land Trust Association.

### **BRUCE MCNAUGHT - SPEAKER**

From 1978 – 2001, Bruce was the Executive Director of the Bucks County Audubon Society, which also operates the Honey Hollow Environmental Education Center. During his tenure, he helped to successfully negotiate a real estate transaction with the PECO Energy Company that added 70 acres and buildings to the Education Center, and protected additional acreage of the Honey Hollow Watershed National Historic Landmark through conservation easements. He coordinated the \$1 million renovation of the Okie barn into a visitor center and education facility, completed in 1998. After nearly 25 years with Audubon, Bruce and his wife, Nancy relocated to Susquehanna County Pa and run an environmental consulting business. For the last 6 years, Bruce has conducted bird research on species of special concern for the PA Game Commission. He currently serves as Treasurer of Edward L. Rose Conservancy. In addition, he is an avid birder and outdoorsman.

### **MARY ELLEN NOONAN\* - SPEAKER**

Mary Ellen Noonan is the environmental educator for the Bucks County Conservation District. She holds a bachelor's degree in Agronomy from Delaware Valley College and a master's degree in Secondary Education from Arcadia University. Mary Ellen works with public, private and municipal organizations to provide for the wise use, management and development of the county's soil, water and other natural resources.

### **GRAHAM PHILLIPS - SPEAKER**

Graham is the President of BioOrganics. BioOrganics is a company focused on biology-based soil products and is a pioneer in commercial mycorrhizae products. The company has been serving growers since 1996. His background includes financial as well as operational roles in both large and emerging growth companies. His focus is to introduce cost effective and natural growing methods for sustainability in addition to performance. He writes on sustainable growing in his monthly newsletters, which can be found on the BioOrganics website. He recently moved the company from California to his family farm in New Hope, PA.

### **MEGHAN ROGALUS - SPEAKER**

Meghan Rogalus has been the Watershed Specialist at Bucks County Conservation District since 2008. Meghan holds a B.A. in Biology with an Environmental Science Concentration from Colby College and earned an M.S. in Water Resources from the University of Vermont.

### **DAVID SCHAFFER\***

David Schaffer serves as Supervisory District Conservationist for Bucks, Montgomery, Lehigh and Northampton Counties. He holds Bachelor of Science Degrees in Environmental Resource Management and Agronomy from Penn State University. He began his career for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (renamed the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service) in 1977 as a Soil Conservationist in Bedford County, PA. He has served as Soil Conservationist in Franklin, Indiana, Washington and Blair Counties, then as the District Conservationist for Mifflin County in 1985, District Conservationist for Montgomery County in 1991 and was promoted to his current position in 2003.

### **PRISCILLA A. WARING\* - SPEAKER**

Priscilla Waring is the granddaughter of Alston and Beulah Waring, and keeper of their family archives. She grew up as the Honey Hollow Watershed developed and was designated a Historic Landmark. She has carried on their legacy with a lifelong passion for history, the conservation and love of nature, landscape design and gardening, and service to her community. Formerly Senior Vice President and Director of Gallup & Robinson, Inc., an Advertising and Marketing Research firm serving Fortune 500 clients, she is currently a Realtor Associate with Weidel Realtors and licensed in NJ and PA. She has resided in Washington Crossing, PA since 2001.

### **AIDAN WIGGIN\* - SPEAKER**

Aidan Wiggin is an undergraduate honor student pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science at Delaware Valley College. She currently serves as president of the college's environmental initiatives club, Project EARTH. Aidan is passionate to make a change and to educate present and future generations about the environmental issues of today.



## About Bucks County Audubon Society at Honey Hollow

The Bucks County Audubon Society (BCAS) is a private, non-profit organization founded as a chapter of the National Audubon Society in 1969.

Since its inception, BCAS has been dedicated to conserving wildlife, promoting awareness of environmental problems watching birds, educating the community about the interdependence of humans and their world, and furthering the wise use of land, air, and water. Our trails are open every day for your responsible enjoyment, come and get outside!



Environment for the Future

**Bucks County Audubon Society**

at Honey Hollow

2877 Creamery Road

New Hope, Pennsylvania 18938

Phone: 215-297-5880

Bucks County Audubon Society promotes environmental education, the demonstration of energy and resource conservation and advocacy for local, state and national policies that support sustainability of the natural world.

To learn more, visit us at [www.BCAS.org](http://www.BCAS.org).

## About Heritage Conservancy

Based in Doylestown, Pennsylvania, Heritage Conservancy is an accredited not-for-profit conservation organization that specializes in open space preservation, planning for sustainable communities, natural resource protection, property stewardship, historic preservation, adaptive reuse of existing structures, wildlife habitat restoration and biodiversity.

Through 50+ years of professional land use planning and design, innovative land conservation and historic preservation strategies, public outreach and education, and the application of "best management practices" for property stewardship, the Conservancy has established itself as an acclaimed full-service leader.



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Our national accreditation by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission affirms Heritage Conservancy's commitment to excellence, trust and permanence.

To learn more, visit us at [HeritageConservancy.org](http://HeritageConservancy.org).