



DELAWARE
HIGHLANDS
CONSERVANCY

Roots & Branches

WOMEN AND THEIR WOODS

Confronting Climate Change on Canvas: The Art and Activism of Diane Burko

This fall, Conservancy staff attended the Schemel Forum—a symposium centered on cultural enrichment and community education—at the University of Scranton. The focus of the day was Environmental Immersion, with presenters including Conservancy Board Member Dr. Michael Cann concentrating on topics like sustainability, environmental economics, and climate change.

Though the discussion of these subjects can be polarizing, the conversation about global climate change is currently at the forefront of the scientific zeitgeist. The speakers all delivered unique perceptions on the topic, informed by their diverse professional experience. One presenter in particular tackled the theme from an unusual perspective—as an artistic medium.

While some would say that relationship between art and science is more like lines that parallel—existing side by side, but never truly connecting—for artist Diane Burko, these two worlds are inextricably linked. Her body of work brings together the disparate



Artist Diane Burko.

fields of climatology and classical painting and illustrates in vivid hues the struggles facing our warming planet. In an interview with the PBS special *Movers and Makers*, Burko explained the motivation behind her work: “What I’m interested in is melding information with aesthetics; melding data with reality, but with beauty. I enjoy learning about the world, and sharing it.”

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DelawareHighlands.org/watw

The Women and Their Woods program is administered by the Delaware Highlands Conservancy and the Center for Private Forests at Penn State with support from the US Forest Service at Grey Towers, Pennsylvania Forest Stewardship Program, and the William Penn Foundation.

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Women and Their Woods

Throughout our region, women are increasingly responsible for the stewardship of private forestlands. To be good forest stewards, landowners require accurate information and relevant knowledge about available options for managing their properties.

The Women and Their Woods initiative provides landowners with the support, knowledge, and confidence to effectively care for their lands with an emphasis on conservation and the value of intact forestlands. In addition to receiving resources such as this newsletter, participants are invited to become a part of this peer-learning network by attending field tours, hands-on workshops and the popular biennial Educational Retreat.

We encourage you to share this newsletter with other landowners. If you have a story to share about your forest, a resource that has helped you or suggestions for future information or workshops, please let us know!

Learn more and join the mailing list at DelawareHighlands.org/watw.



We Need Your Email Address!

As conservation-centered organizations, we want to conserve resources by communicating with you through email.

Please send your email to amanda@delawarehighlands.org and specify if you would like to receive our mailings electronically or continue to receive hard copies in the mail.

SPRING WORKSHOP

Planning & Managing for Increased Biodiversity in Your Woodland

Presented by Dr. Linda Rohleder, Director of Land Stewardship,
New York-New Jersey Trail Conference

March 7th, 2020 • 10:30am-2:30pm

Pike County Public Library

119 East Harford Street, Milford, PA 18337

Dr. Rohleder will discuss the steps to developing an invasive species management plan for your property, teach you to identify some common invasive species in our forests, and review the benefits and drawbacks of different management techniques. She will share her experiences writing her own forest stewardship plan for her 13-acre woodlands and some of the challenges she is trying to address as she works to restore the biodiversity of the forest.



Bring your own lunch and a dessert or side dish to share! We'll provide drinks and snacks.

The workshop is \$10 for Delaware Highlands Conservancy members or Women and Their Woods Educational Retreat graduates, and \$20 for non-members. Prior registration is required; please visit www.DelawareHighlands.org to register online, or call the Conservancy at 570-226-3164 ext. 8.

Inclement weather date: April 4th, 2020

In 2013, Dr. Rohleder received her PhD in Ecology from Rutgers University, where she studied the effects of deer on forest understories. While attending graduate school she worked as a park ranger in Monmouth County, NJ, and taught beginning Biology labs at Rutgers and Wetland Plant ID for Rutgers' Wetland Delineation certification series. Dr. Rohleder also spent more than 10 years creating a native plant wildlife habitat in her backyard.

Sponsored by:



FREE RESOURCES

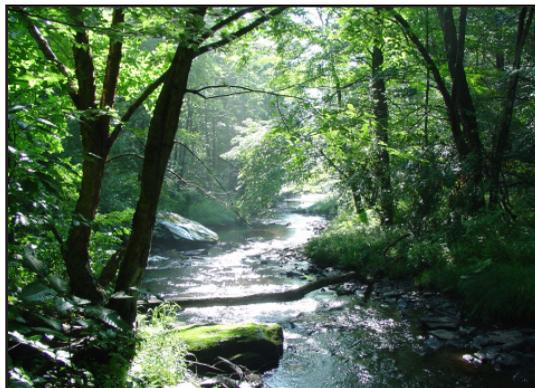
Forest Management for a Changing Planet

A new program offered through the Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science provides landowners and forest stewards with the tools to create management plans focused on adaptation and climate resiliency. Comprehensive training is offered for those interested in learning more about implementing proactive plans for managing their lands in a changing climate landscape.

Participants are provided with training on climate change and its effects on forest ecosystems. The course uses the Adaptation Workbook to consider how climate change may affect a real-world forest management project, identify challenges and opportunities for management under a changing climate, and develop actions to reduce risk and increase the ability of forests to cope with change.

Workshops and trainings are offered both in-person and online and are targeted for professionals and landowners to develop the skills to put these plans into practice. Participants will learn to:

- Identify useful resources on climate change trends, future projections, and forest impacts
- Describe regional and local effects of climate change on forest ecosystems
- Understand adaptation concepts and principles in the context of sustainable forest management
- Use Forest Adaptation Resources in real-world management projects
- Access post-training support from NIACS
- Identify potential sources of funding to help implement adaptation projects
- Receive Continuing Forestry Education Credits (pending approval from Society of American Foresters)



The **Adaptation Workbook** is available for free online, and helps guide users as they define, assess, evaluate, identify, and monitor their proposed mitigation strategies.

There is also a series of **webinars** available for free through the website at www.forestadaptation.org/learn/forest-adaptation-webinar-series

For more information on how to participate, visit www.forestadaptation.org.

SAVE THE DATE!

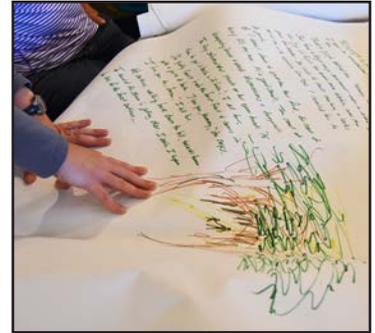
Women and Their Woods Educational Retreat

September 24-27, 2020

Highlights Workshop Facility, Boyds Mills, PA

The Women and Their Woods Educational Retreat is an in-depth, fun, engaging, and thought-provoking workshop on caring for your woodlands now and into the future. No matter the size of your woodlands or if you're not yet an owner, join us for four days and three nights of learning, networking, and applying new knowledge about good forest stewardship.

The Highlights Workshop Facility provides a spectacular 1,300-acre wooded campus complete with historic buildings, streams and hiking trails, comfortable accommodations and five-star meals. Our planning staff provide expert presenters, resources and learning opportunities. Look for retreat applications at www.DelawareHighlands.org/watw in early 2020.



Attendees explore and envision goals for their properties.



Indoor and outdoor classroom time provides opportunities for hands-on learning and experience.



The retreat facility is a beautiful place for learning, making connections, and reflecting.

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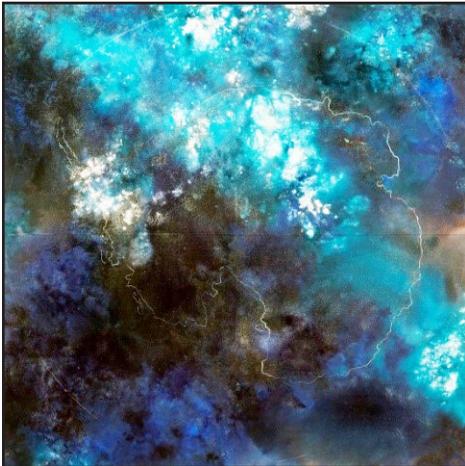
For the past thirty years, her body of work has focused on geological phenomena. From the Matterhorn to the Grand Canyon, sweeping mountain vistas, vast glaciers, and volcanoes, have all served as inspiration. It was a desire to return to earlier works and compare the changes in landscape over time that started Diane on an intercontinental odyssey of environmental activism. Rather than painting from reference images made by others, Burko is dedicated to capturing her own.

Her travels have taken her all over the globe, from the Arctic Tundra, to the coral reefs of the South Pacific, and the volcanic mountains of Iceland. Her expeditions have been in partnership with institutions like Norwegian Polar Institute, INSTAAR in Boulder, Colorado, the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies in Tasmania, the Hawaiian Institute of Marine Biology, Scripps Institution of Oceanography and the Erik Cordes Lab at Temple University in Philadelphia.



Matterhorn Icon Series 5-2007

In her World Map Series: From Glaciers to Reefs, Burko has added depth to her visual storytelling by overlaying her paintings onto Landsat maps. This juxtaposition of fine art and scientific documentation captures the viewers' attention and makes the technical information more accessible to the audience. The work is gigantic in scale—the World Map Series is 56 feet long—which helps to engage the viewer into the work. It is a confrontational approach, but one that makes a lasting impact on those who see it.



Glacial Map

Diane has published two books of her work *Endangered: From Glaciers to Reefs*, and *Diane Burko: Glacial Shifts, Changing Perspectives*, both highlighting the drastic alteration of the landscape due to warming global temperatures. Her latest work is a time-based series of lenticular, or lens-like, media. These pieces are dynamic—the fluidity of change captured spectacularly through the medium of pouring paint. Each piece is attached to a light box and moves and flows like the ocean before the viewers' eye. The immersive works of Diane Burko bring the stark realities of climate change to light, taking the audience along to bear witness to the alteration of our planet.

To learn more about the work of Diane Burko, visit her website at www.dianeburko.com.

Planning for the Future of Your Forest

At our Women and Their Woods events, we often talk about the importance of landowners having a Forest Management Plan for their property.

According to the American Forest Foundation, "While family forest owners own land for a variety of reasons and have different stories to tell about their ownerships, they all care about their land and want to do the right thing. However, many also face challenges that keep them from stewardship. They struggle with knowledge and expertise on forest management, cost, and general awareness of the resources available to them. One of the most significant barriers to stewardship is not having a forest management plan.

A forest management plan is a formal plan that outlines a landowner's goals over a long-term period, providing extensive information on tree types and soils, background on wildlife species, silviculture specifics and action the landowner should take over time. These plans are a must-have in order to conduct many forest management activities, such as apply for cost-share or become certified in the American Tree Farm System. Across the U.S., fewer than 13% of family forest owners have a written management plan."

In the Upper Delaware River region of NY and PA, the Conservancy can assist landowners to connect to funding through the Natural Resource Conservation Service for a Forest Management Plan. We can also provide guidance and support for working with professionals to ensure that the goals you have for your property are being met by your Forest Management Plan.

For the long-term health of your forest, consider getting a plan before conducting any timber harvest or other forest management activities. Contact Amanda for more information: Amanda@DelawareHighlands.org, or 570-226-3164 ext. 2.



Women and Their Woods Retreat Graduate Christine Foland reviews the Forest Management Plan for her property, prepared by a consulting forester.

WomenOwningWoodlands.net



You'll find stories from other landowners, information applicable to your forest landownership and find ways to connect through nearby events for women landowners.



Save the Dates!

March 7: Women and Their Woods Spring Workshop

Pike County Public Library, 10:30am-2:30pm

Join Dr. Linda Rohleder, Director of Land Stewardship for the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, for "Planning and Managing for Increased Biodiversity in Your Woodland." Dr. Rohleder will discuss the steps to developing an invasive species management plan for your property, teach you to identify some common invasive species in our forests, and review the benefits and drawbacks of different management techniques.

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FOREST LANDOWNER PERSPECTIVE

This newsletter is YOUR space!

Share your connections to the forest with other WaTW newsletter readers. Send an email to amanda@delawarehighlands.org with your photos, journal entries, drawings, other artwork, or stories, and we'll share it here. **We're looking forward to hearing from you!**

SERVING NEW YORK AND PENNSYLVANIA

- Confronting Climate Change on Canvas
- Spring Workshop: Planning & Managing for Increased Biodiversity
- Forest Management for a Changing Planet
- Planning for the Future of Your Forest
- Save the date! Women and Their Woods Educational Retreat, Fall 2020

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