



Hudsonia

Site Plan Design and Biodiversity Conservation



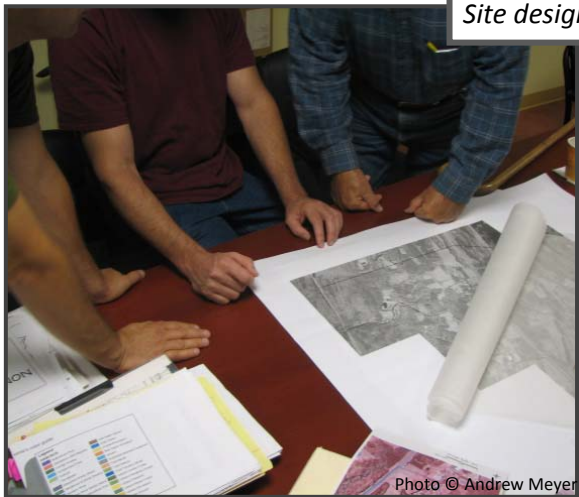
Photo © Andrew Meyer

July 21, 2009

8:00AM – 5:00PM

Norrie Point Environmental Center

Staatsburg, Dutchess County, NY



Site design

Photo © Andrew Meyer

A one-day workshop for developers, consultants, biologists, site managers, regulatory officials, and policy-makers who want to include biodiversity concerns in land use planning and site design.

Most land use planning, site design, and policy-making is conducted without the benefit of good information about the biological resources that may be affected. Consequently, many of the most sensitive habitats and species are disappearing as farms and forests are converted to residential, commercial, and transportation uses. Increasing concerns about these losses are leading to greater scrutiny of land development projects, and stricter regulatory requirements for designing projects that more effectively protect biological and water resources. Hudsonia biologists have been studying the plants, animals, and habitats of the region for over 30 years, and translating our research results for use by others in statewide, local, and site-specific land use decisions.

Hudsonia Ltd. is a not-for-profit, non-advocacy institute for research, education, and technical assistance in the environmental sciences. We conduct pure and applied research on natural and social science aspects of the environment, produce educational publications, and offer courses and seminars. We specialize in acquiring and interpreting accurate, up-to-date, site-specific information for purposes of increasing scientific knowledge, promoting informed discussion, discovering effective solutions to environmental planning and management problems, and developing effective strategies for conservation.



Eastern prickly pear

Photo © Andrew Meyer

Green heron



In this workshop:

- **Learn** about threats to native biodiversity from current development practices in the Hudson Valley.
- **Consider** siting and design measures to minimize harm to sensitive habitats and species.
- **Conduct** a remote biodiversity assessment using readily available materials to identify biological resources of concern.
- **Evaluate** development proposals and create better site designs for protecting species and landscapes.
- **Discuss** the strengths and limitations of current “green” certification.
- **See examples** of innovative and effective projects and programs initiated by developers and municipalities.

Discussing habitats



Photo © Laura Heady

Instructors:

Gretchen Stevens, Director of Hudsonia’s Biodiversity Resources Center, has been studying the natural landscapes of the Northeast for 28 years, and has particular expertise in remote sensing, habitat assessments, field botany, and other field biology. She is co-author of the *Biodiversity Assessment Manual for the Hudson River Estuary Corridor*, and has authored numerous technical articles and reports on biological assessments, rare species surveys, and other subjects. Gretchen supervises Hudsonia’s GIS laboratory, the Habitat Mapping program, and the Biodiversity Education program.

Andrew Meyer, MA, Biodiversity Educator, has conducted biological field work and environmental education in Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Oregon, and the Catskills, and his graduate

research was on the impacts of invasive mammals on wetland habitats in the Pacific Northwest. Andrew coordinates Hudsonia’s Biodiversity Education program, working directly with municipal agencies and conservation NGOs of the Hudson Valley.

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Participation is limited. Registrations will be accepted on a first-come-first-serve basis. Please complete the application below. Contact Andrew Meyer (ameyer @ bard.edu) for more information.

Fee: \$250 per person, and payable in full by check (to Hudsonia Ltd.) or credit card (call 845-758-0600) by July 10. Fee covers beverages, snacks, lunch, course materials, and a certificate of participation. Please mail your check (if paying by check) and application to: Hudsonia/Site Plan Design Workshop, PO Box 66, Red Hook, NY 12571.



Hudsonia Professional Workshop Application

Site Plan Design and Biodiversity Conservation

July 21, 2009

Name: _____

E-mail address: _____

Telephone: Day: _____ Evening: _____ Cell: _____

Employer(s)/Affiliation(s): _____

Mailing address: _____

Primary interest(s) in workshop as a:

Developer _____ Consulting Biologist _____ Site Manager _____

Regulatory Agency Staff _____ Policy-maker _____

Other _____

Geographic area of professional activity:

Environment(s) working in: Rural _____ Suburban _____ Urban _____

Experience with site design: _____

Experience with biodiversity conservation: _____

Professional workshops or conferences attended recently: _____

Why do you want to take this workshop and how will you apply what you learn?

What natural resource information do you currently use to help make land use planning decisions? _____

How did you find out about this workshop? Web ___ News from Hudsonia ___

Email from Hudsonia ___ Mailing from Hudsonia ___ Professional Society ___

Friend or Colleague ___

_____ I would like to be on the mailing list to receive *News from Hudsonia*

(Hudsonia does not give, sell, or trade personal information.)

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