

Who should attend?

Land-use decision-makers in the 10-county Hudson Valley region:

- Members of town boards, planning boards, zoning boards, and conservation commissions
- Members of municipal comprehensive plan committees and open space committees
- Other municipal representatives directly involved in environmental reviews, land-use policy-making, and planning
- Staffs of land trusts and other conservation NGOs

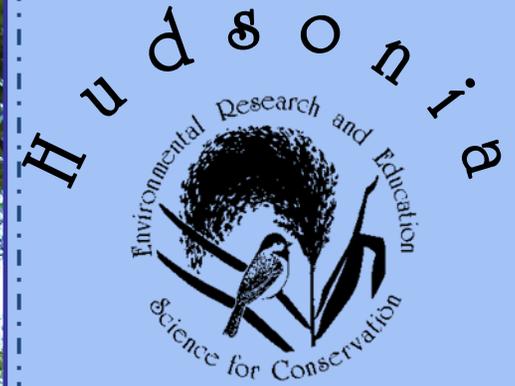


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Hudsonia Ltd. is an institute for research, education, and technical assistance in the environmental sciences. We study the plants and animals of the Northeast, their habitats, and their conservation. We conduct pure and applied research, provide non-advocacy technical assistance, and conduct educational programs on the science and practice of environmental conservation.

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Biodiversity Education Program

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Biodiversity Assessment Training

Opportunities:

This Hudsonia program instructs community leaders in science-based principles and techniques for biodiversity conservation. Through hands-on laboratory and field exercises, participants learn the value of biodiversity in their communities, how to recognize habitats of ecological significance, and how to protect important resources through sound planning and site design.



6-Month or 10-Month Biodiversity Assessment Training

A community group of 5-8 volunteers representing municipal agencies, watershed councils, land trusts, and similar organizations attends monthly or semi-monthly 4-hour laboratory and field training sessions. The team is introduced to principles of biodiversity conservation and techniques for recognizing important biological resources. Participants use remote sensing and field observations to assess a selected study area of several thousand acres in their home community and prepare a habitat map. Discussions of land-use planning for biodiversity conservation cover many issues and scenarios applicable to the overall work of municipal agencies, land trusts, and conservation NGOs.

3-Day Biodiversity Assessment Short Course

This intensive course is a condensed version of the 6- or 10-month Biodiversity Assessment Training. Participants are introduced to many of the skills and techniques taught during the longer course. Outdoor sessions teach field identification of habitats and indicators of habitat quality, and indoor lectures and exercises focus on incorporating biodiversity conservation into townwide planning and site-specific environmental reviews.



1-Day Workshops

We offer one-day workshops on specific topics related to biodiversity conservation. The offerings vary from year to year, but some examples are:

- Plants as Indicators of Ecologically Significant Habitats
- Habitat Requirements for Plants and Animals of Conservation Concern
- Biodiversity Assessment
- Biodiversity Conservation and Site Plan Review
- Incorporating Biodiversity Conservation into Local Ordinances and Procedures