

**UWFP Delaware River Location Monthly Meeting Agenda**  
**Tuesday, May 19, 2026**  
**11:00-12:00 ET on Microsoft Teams**

**Attendance:**

Eve Quinones, PDE

Kathy Klein, PDE

Haley Burns, PDE

John Harrod, PDE

Kim Hachadorian, TNC

Jordana Cutajar, DNREC

Gabriel Levitan, NPS-RCTA

Avery Lentini, DRBC

Donald Farrell, Northeast Rising

Emily Maung-Douglass, DE Sea Grant

Megan Mackey, EPA Region 3

**I. Welcome & Introductions (11:00-11:10AM)**

- Welcome
- Overview of meeting agenda

**II. Updates & Discussions (11:10 – 11:40AM)**

• **Artist-in-Residence Program Updates**

- i. The program timeline has been extended through the end of October (previously September), allowing additional time to complete final works of art.
- ii. Planning is underway for a National Estuaries Week event to showcase work completed across all program locations.
  1. Kathy Klein shared that a bus is being arranged.
  2. The event is expected to take place during National Estuaries Week, which is also the week before the Delaware River Festival
  3. Exact date is TBD, but is looking to be September 22nd, 23rd, or 24th (the Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday before the festival)
- iii. Workshops and Artist-in-Residence (AiR) participation in community events are ongoing across Camden, Chester, Wilmington, and Philadelphia:
  1. Camden:
    - a. CFET workshops concluded in April.
    - b. Planning to participate in Camden Night Gardens and Cooper River Water Trail events on May 22–23.
  2. Chester:
    - a. Participated in Chester River Festival on May 9.
    - b. Exploring a summer partnership with Ruth Bennett Community Farm, focusing on youth programming.
  3. Wilmington:
    - a. Collaborating with Westside Grows.
    - b. Hosting a workshop for community artists and pursuing permits to hold workshops at Rodney Reservoir.

4. Philadelphia:
  - a. A community paint day is planned for August to support mural completion.
  - b. Additional workshop details will be shared at a later date.
- 2026 Chester River Festival Recap
  - i. Weather concerns persisted leading up to the event, but improved on the day of.
  - ii. Attendance was approximately 150 participants, compared to around 350 last year.
  - iii. Exhibitors noted stronger one-on-one engagement with attendees and valued networking opportunities with fellow organizations.
  - iv. Coordination with Subaru improved significantly this year. However, alternative locations are still being explored to:
    1. Increase proximity to the river
    2. Provide sufficient space for exhibitors
    3. Reduce interference from generators and sound equipment
- Update on NFWF-Funded Collaborative Community Projects
  - i. A Camden-based project led by UrbanPromise has received its NEPA Categorical Exclusion (CatEx) approval and is ready to begin in-ground work.
    1. The project includes enhancements to a monarch butterfly garden and improvements to an outdoor classroom space.
  - ii. NEPA CatEx checklists are currently being developed for:
    1. Hunter Elementary
    2. Philly Thrive (first-round project)
    3. Making a Change Group
  - iii. Partnership agreements are in progress with:
    1. Bartram's Garden
    2. Riverfront North Partnership
    3. Delaware Riverkeeper Network

### **III. Partner Updates & Resource Sharing (11:40 – 12:00AM)**

- Roundtable: share updates, events, initiatives, and other opportunities
  - i. Avery Lentini provided an update on the Water Resources Resilience Plan (WRRP), currently in Phase 2 of 3.
    1. A survey has been launched to better understand community perspectives on hazards and prioritize resilience efforts.
    2. Outreach efforts will continue through the summer and into the fall.
    3. Current work includes vulnerability assessments and gap analysis for climate-related initiatives. Plan to be in every basin state and looking to spread the outreach even further
  4. Resources:
    - a. Phase 2 Survey: <https://form.jotform.com/261115637853055>
    - b. Phase 1 Report: [https://www.nj.gov/drbc/library/documents/WRRP\\_Phase1.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/drbc/library/documents/WRRP_Phase1.pdf)
    - c. Additional Information: <https://www.nj.gov/drbc/programs/flow/water-resources-resilience-plan.html>

- ii. Kathy Klein introduced PDE's Climate Resiliency Hub / new website and encouraged partners to share resources for broader visibility.
  - 1. Contact Haley Burns at [hburns@delawareestuary.org](mailto:hburns@delawareestuary.org) to contribute content.
  - 2. Website: <https://www.delawareestuary.org>
  - 3. Shared details about the upcoming Water Table Happy Hour on June 23: <https://WaterTableSummer2026.eventbrite.com>
- iii. Gabriel Levitan announced that applications are still open for Conservation or Outdoor Recreation Community Assistance through the National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (NPS-RTCA) Program.
  - 1. While no direct funding is provided, the program offers professional support for conservation and recreation projects.
  - 2. Applications are open to community groups, nonprofits, tribal governments, national parks, and government agencies.
  - 3. Apply here: <https://www.nps.gov/orgs/rtca/apply.htm>

#### **IV. Next meeting: June 16, 2026, via Microsoft Teams**