

Speaker Biographies

July 8, 2015



Chad Berginnis, CFM – Executive Director, Association of State Floodplain Managers

Chad Berginnis is the Executive Director for the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM), a national non-profit organization of over 16,000 members and 35 state chapters whose mission is to promote education, policies, and activities that mitigate current and future losses, costs, and human suffering caused by flooding; and to protect the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains - all without causing adverse impacts.

Mr. Berginnis has over 20 years of experience in various aspects of natural hazard management, flood loss reduction, and land use planning/programs at the state, local and private sector level. As a state official, Mr. Berginnis worked in the Ohio Floodplain Management Program and was Ohio's State Hazard Mitigation Officer. He has been involved in creating/administering the Appalachian Flood Risk Reduction Initiative, administered the FEMA Community Assistance Program, revised model state floodplain management regulations, oversaw state hazard mitigation operations after three Federally declared flood disasters and authored the 2008 update of Ohio's mitigation plan. As a local official, Mr. Berginnis administered land use, economic development and floodplain management programs in Perry County, Ohio. In the private Sector, Mr. Berginnis was the national Practice Leader in hazard mitigation for Michael Baker Jr. Inc.

Mr. Berginnis is a recognized national expert in floodplain management and hazard mitigation, having participated on national research/focus groups, providing agency (FEMA, USACE, OMB, CRS, IG, CBO, others) and Congressional testimony, and was selected to participate on an advisory panel to the Chinese Government on the development of a national floodplain management strategy. He is also past Insurance Committee Chair, Mitigation Policy Committees' Coordinator, Vice Chair, and Chair of ASFPM, and previously served as an appointed Planning Commissioner for Licking County Ohio. Mr. Berginnis holds a Bachelor of Science in natural resources from Ohio State University and is a Certified Floodplain Manager.

Contact: cberginnis@floods.org



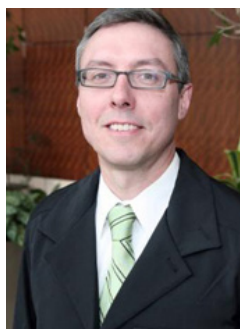
Alisa Sauvageot, CFM – Water Resources Project Manager, Michael Baker International

Alisa has 25 years of NFIP experience in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regulation compliance field and is currently a Water Resources Project Manager for Michael Baker International, LLC in Phoenix AZ. She assisted FEMA Region IX in delivering all aspects of the Risk MAP program in Arizona and Southern California. She currently supports mapping partners, CTP's and communities with the NFIP regulations, mitigation actions, outreach and compliance associated with Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRMs).

Before joining Baker in 2005, Alisa worked as an Environmental Planner for the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) as a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) planner and functioned as a liaison between ADOT and local Floodplain Managers. She has also worked as the Wyoming NFIP Coordinator and the assistant floodplain planner for Albany County, WY. Alisa has served on the ASFPM Board as the Region 8 Director, the Region 9 Director and is currently the co-chair the ASFPM NAI Committee. She has served in 2 positions on the Arizona Floodplain Management Association (AFMA) board from 2007 through 2014.

She became a Certified Floodplain Manager in 1999, has a Bachelors Degree from NC State University in Environmental Design of Architecture and completed graduate work at the University of Wyoming in Geography, Recreation Planning & Federal Lands Administration.

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Aaron Durnbaugh – Director of Sustainability, Loyola University

Aaron supports the 16,000 students, 1,100 faculty and 700 staff across 5 campuses and 3 academic centers in creating the most sustainable and transformative education experience possible. Working across the curriculum, culture and campuses of Loyola, Mr. Durnbaugh builds innovation and efficiency into the University's programs and student experience focusing on water protection, energy conservation and mission-driven sustainability action.

Previously, he served as the Deputy Commissioner with Chicago Department of Environment's Natural Resources and Water Quality Division (NRWQ). Department of Environment was the lead agency developing and implementing the Chicago Climate Action Plan. NRWQ educated the public on climate change issues through the Chicago Center for Green Technology, Chicago Conservation Corps, and Greencorps Chicago. NRWQ created mitigation opportunities through wetland protection in the Calumet region, green infrastructure financing and various urban forestry projects. Most recently, Mr. Durnbaugh oversaw the City of Chicago's climate adaptation strategy engaging stakeholders in built environment, public health and the natural environment.

He holds a Master's Degree in Geography and Environmental Studies and is a LEED™ accredited professional.

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Josh Ellis – Program Director, Metropolitan Planning Council

Josh has been with MPC since 2006. He directs MPC's sustainability initiatives, most notably in the fields of Stormwater Mitigation and Water Supply Management. Through on-the-ground initiatives like the Milwaukee Avenue Green Development Corridor, technical assistance to the Northwest Water Planning Alliance, and facilitation of diverse stakeholder groups—such as the Calumet Stormwater Collaborative—he leads MPC's multiple strategies to sustainably manage Illinois' finite water resources and reduce the harmful impacts of stormwater.

He leads many of MPC's research projects, including *Immeasurable Loss: Modernizing Lake Michigan Water Use*, *Bus Rapid Transit: Chicago's New Route to Opportunity*, and *Before the Wells Run Dry*. He also coordinates MPC's research assistant program, of which he himself is an alumnus.

Josh is a member of the Midwest Leadership Council of the National Parks Conservation Association, the Cook County Sustainability Advisory Council, and the advisory committee exploring the future of the Chicago Area Waterway System. He is President of the Board at PODER, which serves adult immigrants with a mission to provide the necessary academic tools to promote human dignity, increase employment potential, and facilitate participation in the larger community.

A New Hampshire native, Josh resides in Chicago's South Loop where he is a Board member of the Greater South Loop Association. He managed a small school in Japan before his graduate studies in public policy and Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Chicago. His honors thesis, published in *Water, Environmental Security and Sustainable Rural Development: Conflict and Cooperation in Central Eurasia*, compared the political discourse of marsh restoration in southeastern Iraq with the environmental history of the region.

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Kate Evasic – Associate Planner, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Kate Evasic is an Associate Planner at the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning. In this role, Kate works to integrate stormwater management into decisions about land use and development to help communities mitigate flooding, become more resilient in the face of climate change, and improve water quality. Previously, she focused on the application of sustainable stormwater strategies to restore ecological system health of urban and natural watersheds as a Water Resources Planner in the Philadelphia area. Kate holds a Master of Urban Planning and Policy from the University of Illinois at Chicago and a BA in Geography from West Chester University.

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Jason Berry, AICP – Deputy Director of Community Development, City of Blue Island

Jason's work is focused on community and economic development through historic preservation and housing, transit-oriented development, place-making, active transportation policy, green infrastructure and public health. Berry is a board member of the Blue Island Arts Alliance, Blue Island Historical Society, the Illinois Association for Historic Preservation Commissions and a founding member of the Calumet Waterway Stewards, an organization dedicated to promoting recreation opportunities on the Little Calumet River and Cal-Sag Channel.

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Aaron Koch – Deputy Commissioner for Sustainability, City of Chicago Department of Water Management

Aaron Koch is the Deputy Commissioner for Sustainability in Chicago's Department of Water Management. He is responsible for implementing the water initiatives in *Sustainable Chicago 2015*, Mayor Rahm Emanuel's roadmap for environmental stewardship and economic development. He is the author of the *Chicago Green Stormwater Infrastructure Strategy*, which is Mayor Emanuel's \$50 million plan to use natural systems to better manage rain-fall. Aaron previously served as a Senior Policy Advisor in the New York City Mayor's Office of Long-Term Planning and Sustainability. He was an author of the water chapters of *PlaNYC*, Mayor Michael Bloomberg's sustainability plan, as well as the *New York City Wetlands Strategy* and the *Sustainable Stormwater Management Plan*. As part of this work, he was a creator of New York City's strategy to improve stormwater management through a \$1.5 billion public investment in green infrastructure. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, a Master of City Planning from the University of Pennsylvania, and was previously a faculty member in Columbia University's Master of Sustainability Management program.

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PLANNING COMMITTEE BIOGRAPHIES



Molly Woloszyn – Extension Climate Specialist, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant and Midwestern Regional Climate Center

Molly is the extension climate specialist for Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant and the Midwestern Regional Climate Center, which are both a part of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. As the climate specialist for both programs, Molly is responsible for communicating climate-related information to various audiences throughout the Midwest. Her educational background includes a Master's in Atmospheric Science from Colorado State University and a Bachelor's Degree in Meteorology from Northern Illinois University.

Molly leads the Resilient Chicago initiative (www.resilientchicago.org), which aims to help decision makers in the greater Chicago metropolitan region incorporate climate adaptation into local planning efforts through workshops, online trainings, and other resources that address the political, logistical, and financial aspects of local climate planning. The Resilient Chicago initiative relies on partnerships with experts in the Chicago region to be successful at offering useful information for its target audiences. Some of Molly's other current projects in the Chicago region include a funded project that is focused on reducing the flooding vulnerability of critical facilities in Cook County, as well as assisting with the development of a weather and climate exhibit for a local museum.

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Jeff Stone, GISP, CFM – Senior Project & GIS Manager, Association of State Floodplain Managers

Jeff joined the Association of State Floodplain Managers in November 2007 as a Project Manager and Geographic Information System (GIS) Coordinator. As part of the Science Services Program at ASFPM, he manages research, development and outreach projects that focus on informing flood policy and resilience through science. Projects include, but are not limited to developing and evaluating tools, websites and software; researching the legal, practical and technological issues related to flood management policy and practices; and communicating effective use of GIS tools and applications aimed at floodplain management through webinars and workshops.

Jeff has over 25 years of experience developing and applying GIS technologies to a variety of public and private sector projects. Before joining ASFPM, Jeff co-founded Axis Maps, a company focused on bringing high quality cartographic design and intuitive interfaces to web-based maps. Jeff also worked for 11 years as a Sr. GIS Business Analyst in the utility sector before returning to the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2003 to complete an M.S. in Geographic Information Sciences and Cartography. While at the UW, he worked with the Wisconsin State Cartographer's Office, the National Park Service and Wisconsin Sea Grant.

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Bridget Faust – Project Research Specialist, Association of State Floodplain Managers

Bridget Faust joined the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) in January 2014. As a Project Research Specialist, her responsibilities include outreach and composition of content for the Great Lakes Coastal Resilience Planning Guide, planning and coordination of workshops on ASFPM's No Adverse Impact approach to floodplain management, as well as research on federal programs and policies including the National Flood Insurance Program and the Community Rating System. Prior to joining ASFPM, she completed a fellowship in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Great Lakes Regional Office as well as internships for U.S. Senator Al Franken and Governor Mark Dayton. Bridget has a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science Policy and Management from the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities.

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Diane Tecic – Coastal Management Program Director, Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Diane Tecic is Coastal Management Program Director for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). Diane took on this new program in 2011, after working as a biologist (1997-2001) and then a regional administrator (2001-2011) in IDNR's Division of Natural Heritage, where she focused on restoration and management of rare natural habitats and endangered species. She received her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale.

Her current charge is to focus federal, state and local resources to protect, manage and improve the State's natural resources along the Lake Michigan coast while supporting sustainable economic development and recreational uses. Diane leads a team that works with diverse partners and stakeholders to advance environmental education, sustainable coastal planning, and stormwater management through green infrastructure and to better connect urban populations with the natural wonders of our Illinois shores.

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Lisa Cotner – Natural Resources Specialist, Coastal Management Program (IDNR)

Lisa Cotner is a Natural Resources Specialist with the Coastal Management Program of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). She has a Master's Degree in Natural Resources and Environmental Science from the University of Illinois in Champaign Urbana and over 13 years' experience in wildlife conservation and environmental management. Lisa started her career as an itinerant wildlife biologist, spending her summers surveying for frogs in Maine and the Sierra Nevada Mountains of California and her winters tracking harpy eagles in Panama and coyotes in Yellowstone. She has been involved in the science and policy of green infrastructure for stormwater management since 2010 and currently leads the Coastal Management Program's Coastal Clean Waters Program. She also manages the Illinois Coastal Grants Program, which has provided funding for green infrastructure design and engineering in the Lake Michigan Watershed. On weekends, Lisa and her husband and three year old daughter enjoy hiking at local forest preserves and Illinois State Parks.

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Kara Salazar – Sustainable Communities Extension Specialist, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant and Purdue Extension

Kara joined the Purdue University Department of Forestry and Natural Resources and Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant as Sustainable Communities Extension Specialist in 2012. In this position, Kara serves as a link between Indiana communities and scientists conducting research on sustainability. She develops programs and tools that transfer new technologies and discoveries to communities that can apply this work to support informed land use and policy decisions. Working with multidisciplinary teams throughout Purdue University, Extension, and the Sea Grant college network, Kara develop products, programs, and resources that engage decision makers in evaluating, prioritizing, and implementing sustainability strategies for their communities. Focus areas include placemaking and enhancing public spaces, lawn and landscaping conservation practices and natural resources management.

Kara has a B.S. in public affairs and environmental science and a M.P.A. in natural resources management and nonprofit management from the Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs. She also received a M.S.Ed. degree from the IU School of Education at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) with concentrations in community building and science education. Kara holds a Certificate in Fundraising Management from IU and the LEED Green Associate credential. She came to Sea Grant and Purdue Extension from the Center for Earth and Environmental Science at IUPUI where she was the Assistant Director for Education and Outreach.

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Leslie Dorworth – Aquatic Ecology Specialist, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant and Purdue University-Calumet

Leslie Dorworth is an Aquatic Ecology Specialist for the Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant Program. She has a Bachelor of Science Degree from Lake Superior State University and a Master's Degree from Old Dominion University. She works with local stakeholders on problems such as river restoration, the impacts of stormwater flow, septic system impacts on water quality and tourism. Leslie also teaches courses such as Aquatic Ecology and Climate Change and the Environment at Purdue University Calumet.

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WORKSHOP SPONSORS

Association of State Floodplain Managers
NOAA Coastal Storms Program (courtesy of Wisconsin Sea Grant)

OTHER WORKSHOP PARTNERS

Metropolitan Planning Council
American Planning Association – Chicago Metro Section