



FORESTS VS. SOLAR—A FALSE CHOICE

Protecting Forests and Making Smart Solar Decisions in Your Community

Thursday, May 27, 2021 • 12:00 to 1:30 pm

RSVP (Space is limited)

The Cape Cod Climate Change Collaborative —

in partnership with the *Cape Cod Commission*, *Compact of Cape Cod Conservation Trusts*, and the *Faith Communities Environmental Network* — is pleased to present *Forests vs. Solar— A False Choice*. Featuring experts from the *Woodwell Climate Research Center*, *Mass Audubon* and the *Cape Cod Commission*, this informative virtual meeting explores the value of forests, tensions associated with large-scale solar installations, and tools for town officials and citizens to make wise planning decisions for their communities.

- **Part 1 - *The Ecology & Value of Forests***, Wayne Walker leads off with a discussion of forest values from a holistic perspective including carbon sequestration and climate change mitigation metrics, air and water filtering, recreation, habitat, and socio-spiritual values.
- **Part 2 - *Mapping & Policy Tools for Sensitive Lands and Large-Scale Solar Installations*** – Heidi Ricci and Jessica Rempel discuss state and regional planning resources for mapping sensitive lands, planning for climate resiliency, siting large-scale solar installations, developing model bylaws, and technical assistance for developing solar overlay districts.
- **Part 3 – *A lively Q&A & Survey*** will follow with audience and panelists to discuss issues, answer questions, and provide expert guidance about available tools, policies, regulations, and programs for wise solar siting.

A must-attend for conservation trust members, elected officials, citizen activists, and planning, zoning and select board members!



Panelist

DR. WAYNE WALKER, Ph.D. is the Carbon Program Director and an Associate Scientist at Woodwell Climate Research Center. He is an ecologist and remote sensing specialist with a life-long curiosity about how forests work, and a deep desire to see carbon cycle science translated into climate solutions. His work aims to identify where and how much carbon is held in forests, how that is changing due to land use and climate change, and where it would be most cost-effective to restore lost forests and the carbon they store.



Panelist

E. HEIDI RICCI, M.S. is the Director of Policy and Advocacy at Mass Audubon, with expertise in environmental policy and public engagement. She co-authored *Losing Ground: Nature's Value in a Changing Climate* and has assisted many communities in building resilience through nature-based solutions and low-impact development. She serves on the Nashua River Wild & Scenic Study Committee and on the Boards of the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions and the Massachusetts Rivers Alliance.



Panelist

JESSICA REMPEL, M.S. is Natural Resources Analyst for the Cape Cod Commission and specializes in open space, wetland, and plant and wildlife habitat planning and protection. In her role at the Commission, she assists communities with local planning work by drafting open space plans and developing planning initiatives such as the commission's solar screening tool to help guide large-scale solar installations away from environmentally sensitive areas to appropriate sites.



Moderator

EVE ZUCKOFF is a *Report for America* fellow and climate change reporter at radio station WBUR's Cape Cod bureau, CAI. She covers the environment and the human impacts of climate change, focusing not only on the challenges that climate change poses to Cape Cod communities, but on solutions and innovations that individuals and organizations seek to implement.



Emcee

MON COCHRAN is Vice President, Cape Cod Climate Change Collaborative Board of Directors. A writer and adjunct educator at the Center for Coastal Studies and a professor emeritus at Cornell University, Mon is currently focused on helping children and adults understand the earth's changing climate and how they can help manage those changes.