



12TH ANNUAL MEETING

August 19-20, 2026
Henry Horton State Park
Chapel Hill, Tennessee



A TENNESSEE RIVER BASIN WHERE AQUATIC AND
HUMAN LIFE THRIVE

DAY 1 - WEDNESDAY, AUG 19

12:00-1:00 Registration & Networking

1:00-1:05 Welcome

1:05-1:20 Introductions - Round 1

1:20-1:40



THE DUCK RIVER PARTNERSHIP: A MODEL FOR OUR STATE

April Grippo, TDEC

April is the Director of Water Resources for TDEC, a statewide role leading nearly 400 engineers and scientists in drinking water, wastewater, natural resources, and emergency response programs.

1:40-1:55



THE DUCK RIVER: OUR CHARGE, OUR CHALLENGE

David Money, Duck River Agency

As the current Executive Director of Duck River Agency and former regional manager for TDEC's drinking water program, David has more than 37 years of environmental experience in government and private industry.

1:55-2:05



DUCK RIVER HIGH DEFINITION STREAM SURVEY PROJECT UPDATE

Jim Parham, Trutta Environmental Solutions

Jim is Director of Research and Development at Trutta Environmental Solutions and developer of the High Definition Stream Survey approach. He is a Certified Fisheries Professional and hydrologist with over 30 years of experience.

2:05-2:15



WATERSHED-SCALE CONSERVATION WITH THE SOUTHERN WATERS FRAMEWORK

Josselyn Lucas, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Josselyn is the Aquatic Framework Coordinator for USDA NRCS's Working Lands for Wildlife Southern Waters Framework, leading watershed-scale conservation strategy through UGA's River Basin Center and Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources.





DAY 1 - (CONT.)



2:15-2:30 Q&A - Session 1 - Open Discussion

2:30-2:45 Introductions Round 2

2:45-3:15 Break & Networking

3:15-3:35



EXPLORING CONSERVATION STRATEGIES IN THE DUCK RIVER WATERSHED

Ryan Jackwood, Harpeth Conservancy

As Director of Watershed Science and Restoration, Ryan provides strategic direction for Harpeth Conservancy's science-based programs and implements restoration priorities based on water quality assessment.

3:35-3:50



PROTECTING THE RIVER ONE PADDLER AT A TIME

Jan Seufert & Dawn Nelson, Higher Pursuits

As co-owners of Higher Pursuits, a Duck River outfitter in Columbia, Jan and Dawn pursue their passion for paddling by offering guided canoe and kayak trips and special group events.

3:50-4:05



TENNESSEE RIVERLINE: 652 MILES OF SUPPORTING RIVER ACCESS, RECREATION, AND STEWARDSHIP

Jennifer Webster, Riverline

Jennifer serves RiverTown communities along the Tennessee River as a Program Manager with the Tennessee RiverLine, an initiative of UT Extension.

4:05-4:35



A RIVER IN PERIL, A COMMUNITY IN ACTION: DISCUSSING DOWN THE DUCK

John Guider, Down the Duck

John is an internationally recognized photographer and author who has traveled over 12,000 miles on North America's rivers and waterways in non-motorized boats. His latest journey was 28 days paddling and exploring Tennessee's renowned Duck River.

4:35-4:45 Q&A - Session 2 - Open Discussion

4:45-4:55 Introductions - Round 3

4:55-5:00 Adjourn

6:00-7:00 Social Hour

7:00-8:00 Tennessee River Champion Awards Banquet





DAY 2 - THURSDAY, AUG 20

8:00–9:00 Breakfast & Networking

9:00–9:05 Welcome Day 2

9:05–9:15



ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP AT TVA

Shannon O'Quinn, TVA

Shannon is an Environmental Resources Stewardship Program Manager at TVA. His focus is to improve and protect water quality and aquatic biodiversity in the Tennessee River Basin.

9:15-9:30



FACILITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND UPGRADES AT THE CUMBERLAND RIVER AQUATIC CENTER

Tim Lane, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency

Tim is TWRA's Mollusk Propagation Manager and oversees operations at the Cumberland River Aquatic Center in Gallatin, TN, specializing in the propagation and restoration of federally endangered species.

9:30–9:45



FISHES OF THE DUCK RIVER

Bernie Kuhajda, Tennessee Aquarium

Bernie studies freshwater fishes throughout the Southeast, especially imperiled species. He was at the University of Alabama for 25 years and has been at the Tennessee Aquarium for 14 years.

9:45-10:00



MUSSEL POWER IN THE DUCK RIVER: OPPORTUNITIES TO SET SCIENCE-BASED ECOLOGICAL FLOWS

Amanda Rosenberger, TN Tech

Amanda is the Assistant Unit Leader for the Tennessee Cooperative Fishery Research Unit, a fisheries biologist whose research interests are in the ecology and conservation of freshwater biota, including fish, mussels, and crayfish.

10:00–10:15 Q&A - Session 3 - Open Discussion

10:15–10:35 Break & Networking

10:35-10:50



NONPOINT SOURCE CONSERVATION PROGRAMS AT TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, LAND & WATER STEWARDSHIP

Heidi McIntyre-Wilkinson, TN Department of Agriculture

Heidi is the Deputy Administrator of TN Dept. of Agriculture's Land & Water Stewardship Section, which administers the State's Section 319 Nonpoint Source grant and the Agricultural Resources Conservation Fund, among other incentive programs.



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**12th Annual
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DAY 2 - (CONT.)

10:50-11:05



THE NATURE CONSERVANCY'S APPROACH TO DUCK RIVER CONSERVATION -PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

Rob Bullard, The Nature Conservancy

Rob is the Director of Water for The Nature Conservancy in Tennessee, developing projects and partnerships across the state that benefit aquatic biodiversity and the resilience of Tennessee's freshwater resources.

11:05-11:20



WATER PROGRAM INITIATIVES AT THE TENNESSEE WILDLIFE FEDERATION'S INSTITUTE FOR CONSERVATION

Brian Alford, TN Wildlife Federation

Brian is the Water Program Leader at the Tennessee Wildlife Federation's Institute for Conservation, leading conservation actions to protect and restore Tennessee's water quality and aquatic biodiversity.

11:20-11:30

Q&A - Session 4 - Open Discussion

11:30-11:50

TRBN Discussion

11:50-11:55

Group Photo

11:55-12:00

Adjourn

12:00-1:00

Boxed Lunches & Networking

1:00-2:00

Travel

2:00-5:00

Field Trip



THANK YOU, SPONSORS!

