

*Curriculum vitae*  
**Michael J. Rubbo, Ph.D.**

Clinical Associate Professor  
Department of Environmental Studies and Science  
Pace University, Pleasantville, NY 10570  
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**Education**

Ph.D. in Biology, The Pennsylvania State University, 2004.

Dissertation title “*The influence of natural and human-induced environmental change on the community composition of temporary ponds.*”

Joseph M. Kiesecker and Katriona Shea, advisors.

M.S. in Biology, The University of Louisiana at Lafayette, 2000.

Thesis title “*Ecological interactions and sensory adaptations of three species from the terrestrial leaf-litter community.*”

Robert G. Jaeger, advisor.

B.S. in Biology, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, 1995.

**Professional Positions**

Executive Director, Woodcock Nature Center, Wilton, CT, 2016-2017

- Responsible for all aspects of the management of a private nature center:
  - Strategic planning and program evaluation.
  - Developing external partnerships.
  - Budgeting and financial oversight.
  - Fundraising including donor cultivation, events, and grant writing.
  - Human resources and staff management.
  - Capital projects and grounds management.
  - Program development and implementation.

Director of Conservation Science, Teatown Lake Reservation, Ossining, NY, 2006-2016

- Management of Stewardship and Science Departments including staff oversight, strategic planning, and budgeting.
- Scientific research program including defining research priorities and measures of success as well as mentoring college and high school students, volunteers, and citizen scientists.
- Creating relationships with local communities to facilitate the conservation of natural resources.
- Development of regional research consortiums including identifying strategic partners and leadership development.
- Development and implementation of science-based education programs.
- Ecological monitoring and development of adaptive management practices (watershed conservation, deer management, invasive species control, forest management, etc.).
- GIS mapping and data management.
- Fundraising for science programs (e.g., grant writing, donor cultivation).
- Public outreach and education on conservation issues.

- Development and maintenance of trail system including associated infrastructure (kiosks, directional and interpretive signage, trail structures).

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Dept. of Biology, PACE University, Pleasantville, NY 2013-

- Instructor of field course in Natural History.
- Advisor for graduate students.

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Dept. of Biology, Fordham University, Bronx, NY 2007-

- Instructor of graduate course in Ecosystems Ecology.
- Research mentor in Fordham's Calder Summer Undergraduate Research (REU) program.

Senior Scientist, The Chazen Companies, Poughkeepsie, NY, 2005-2006

- Aquatic ecosystem assessments and rare species surveys.
- Wetland functional assessments, delineation, and permitting.
- Environmental Impact Statements (EIS).
- Ecological analysis and mitigation design.

Postdoctoral Research Associate, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA, 2004-2005

- Instructor of General Ecology course.
- Research on the influence of climate change on wetland ecosystems.

**Signature Programs**

- The Environmental Monitoring and Management Alliance ([www.emmahv.org](http://www.emmahv.org)). Consortium of 10 organizations in the Hudson Valley with a common long-term environmental monitoring program.
- The Environmental Leaders Learning Alliance ([www.ellahhh.net](http://www.ellahhh.net)). Training and education network for conservation commissions in Westchester County (120 members representing 28 municipalities) whose goal is to help communities conserve their natural resources.
- Teatown Environmental Science Academy. Field-based ecology course for high school students where participants conduct independent research.

**Teaching Experience**

*Lecture Courses*

- Natural History of the Hudson Valley, PACE University, 2015, 2016.
- Ecosystems Ecology, Fordham University, 2011, 2013, 2014.
- General Ecology, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, 2004.
- General Ecology (*Instructor of Ecosystems Unit*), Pennsylvania State University, 2000-2002.

*Guest Lecturer*

- Ecological Modeling, Pennsylvania State University, 2004.
- Population Ecology, Pennsylvania State University, 2002-2003.
- Ecology and Evolution, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, 1998-2000.

### *Teaching Assistant*

- Ecological Modeling, Pennsylvania State University, 2004.
- General Biology, Pennsylvania State University, 2000-2002.
- General Biology, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, 1998-2000.
- Ornithology, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, 2000.
- Ecology and Evolution, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, 2000.

### **Publications**

- Rubbo, M.J., L.K. Belden, S.I. Storrs, J.J. Cole, and J.M. Kiesecker. 2012. Species loss in the brown world: are heterotrophic systems inherently stable? *Aquatic Sciences* 74:397-404.
- Rubbo, M.J., J.L. Lanterman, R.C. Falco, and T.J. Daniels. 2011. The influence of amphibians on mosquitoes in seasonal pools: can wetlands protection help to minimize disease risk? *Wetlands* 31:799-804.
- Brunner, J.L., K.E. Barnett, C.J. Gosier, S.A. McNulty, M.J. Rubbo, and M.B. Kolozsvary. 2011. Ranavirus infection die-offs of vernal pool amphibians in New York, USA. *Herpetological Review* 42:76-79.
- Rubbo, M.J., L.K. Belden, and J.M. Kiesecker. 2008. Differential responses of aquatic consumers to variations in terrestrial carbon subsidies. *Hydrobiologia* 605:37-44.
- Belden, L.K., M.J. Rubbo, J.C. Wingfield, and J.M. Kiesecker. 2007. Searching for the physiological mechanism of density-dependence: does corticosterone regulate tadpole responses to density? *Physiological and Biochemical Zoology* 80: 444-451.
- Rubbo, M.J., J.J. Cole, and J.M. Kiesecker. 2006. Terrestrial subsidies of organic carbon support net ecosystem production in temporary forest ponds: evidence from an ecosystem experiment. *Ecosystems* 9: 1170-1176.
- Rubbo, M.J., K. Shea, and J.M. Kiesecker. 2006. The influence of multi-stage predation on population growth and the distribution of the pond-breeding salamander (*Ambystoma jeffersonianum*). *Canadian Journal of Zoology* 84:449-458.
- Rubbo, M.J., R.S. Mirza, L.K. Belden, J.J. Falkenbach, S.I. Storrs, and J.M. Kiesecker. 2006. Evaluating a predator-prey interaction in the field: the interaction between beetle larvae (predator) and tadpoles (prey). *Journal of Zoology* 269:1-5.
- Rubbo, M.J., and J.M. Kiesecker. 2005. Amphibian breeding distribution in an urbanized landscape. *Conservation Biology* 19:504-511.
- Rubbo, M.J., and J.M. Kiesecker. 2004. Leaf-litter composition and community structure: translating regional species changes into local dynamics. *Ecology* 85:2519-2525.
- Kiesecker, J.M., L.K. Belden, K. Shea, and M.J. Rubbo. 2004. Amphibian decline and emerging disease. *American Scientist* 92:138-147.
- Rubbo, M.J., V.R. Townsend, Jr., S.D. Smyers, and R.G. Jaeger. 2003. An experimental assessment of invertebrate/vertebrate predation: the predatory relationship between wolf spiders and terrestrial salamanders. *Journal of Zoology* 261:1-5.
- Smyers, S.D., M.J. Rubbo, V.R. Townsend, Jr., and C.S. Swart. 2002. Intra- and interspecific characterizations of burrow use and defense by juvenile ambystomatid salamanders. *Herpetologica* 58:422-429.
- Rubbo, M.J., V.R. Townsend, Jr., S.D. Smyers, and R.G. Jaeger. 2001. The potential for invertebrate-vertebrate intraguild predation: the predatory relationship between wolf spiders (*Gladicosa pulchra*) and ground skinks (*Scincella lateralis*). *Canadian Journal of Zoology* 79:1465-1471.
- Smyers, S.D., M.J. Rubbo, and R.G. Jaeger. 2001. Interactions between juvenile ambystomatid salamanders in a laboratory experiment. *Copeia* 2001:1017-1025.

## **Recent Grants Received**

- The Land Trust Alliance, New York State Conservation Partnership Program. 2016. Coordinating land trusts to galvanize public support for land conservation, \$38,000.
- The Dorr Foundation. 2015. Teacher training for independent science research, \$10,000.
- Westchester Community Foundation. 2012. Developing an on-line training and certification for program for conservation boards, \$20,000.
- The Land Trust Alliance, New York State Conservation Partnership Program. 2012. Creating a long-term data collection system for the Hudson Valley, \$37,500.
- Westchester Community Foundation. 2011. Interpreting the environmental impacts of development: a site plan training program for municipal officials, \$20,000.
- Hudson River Estuary Program. 2011. Developing an inventory and assessment protocol for vernal pools in the lower Hudson watershed, \$15,000.
- New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission. 2010. Identifying priority conservation areas in the Indian Brook-Croton Gorge watershed, \$10,000.
- Westchester Community Foundation. 2010. The ELLA Stream Conservation Initiative, \$15,000.
- The Land Trust Alliance, New York State Conservation Partnership Program. 2008. Blurring the boundaries: protecting parklands by working with adjoining landowners, \$17,000.
- New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation. 2007. Lakeside Trail Restoration Project, \$29,070.
- Hudson River Estuary Program. 2007. Integrating community education with biodiversity preservation, \$22,815.

## **Honors & Awards**

- Conservation Partner Award from the Hudson River Estuary program, 2011.
- Student travel award provided by the Society of Wetland Scientists, 2003.
- Gaige Fund award provided by the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, 2001.
- Sherman A. Minton travel award provided by the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles, 2001.
- Braddock Fellowship provided by the Eberly College of Science, Pennsylvania State University, 2000.
- Tibor T. Polgar Fellowship provided by the Hudson River Foundation, 1998.

## **Selected Presentations**

### *Invited talks*

- Preserve management and ecosystem services: the human dimensions. 2016. Northeast Natural History Conference, Springfield, MA.
- Using wildlife cameras to teach students about data. 2016. NY Department of Environmental Conservation Educator's Workshop, Hyde Park, NY.
- Why land stewardship matters, Teatown's role in protecting our landscape. 2014. Mt. Kisco Rotary, Mt. Kisco, NY.

- Disease ecology in suburbia: why biodiversity matters. 2013. Dept. of Biology, PACE University, Pleasantville, NY.
- What can local municipalities do to conserve biodiversity? 2011. Town of Cortlandt, NY.
- The science and politics of preparing a local wetlands law. 2009. Hudson River Watershed Alliance, Poughkeepsie, NY.
- Forum on Opportunities in Ecology. 2008. Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Millbrook, NY.
- Planning and development strategies for conserving woodland pool wildlife. 2008. Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Hudson River Estuary Program, Acra, NY.
- Linking terrestrial and aquatic systems: the influence of leaf-litter on community composition and ecosystem functioning in temporary forest ponds. 2007. Department of Biology, Fordham University.
- The natural history and conservation of vernal pools in the Hudson Valley. 2007. Hudson River Watershed Alliance, Poughkeepsie, NY

### **Service**

- Reviewer for: Ecology, Oecologia, Oikos, Biological Conservation, Ecological Applications, Freshwater Biology, Functional Ecology, Biological Invasions, Wetlands, Hydrobiologia, Herpetologia, Journal of Herpetology, Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology, Northeastern Naturalist, Northwestern Naturalist, Amphibia-Reptilia.
- Town of Hyde Park Conservation Advisory Council, 2007-2010.
- Co-organized Vernal Pool Symposium at Northeast Natural History Conference X, 2008.
- Undergraduate research mentor, Virginia Tech, 2004-2005.
- Undergraduate research mentor, Pennsylvania State University, 2001-2004.
- President of the Biology Department Graduate Student Association, Pennsylvania State University, 2003.
- President of the Biology Department Graduate Student Association, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, 2000.
- Co-organized inaugural graduate student research symposium at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, 1999.