

# Wildlife Leadership Academy Instructor Directory



**John Arway**

John Arway is a 30-year veteran of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) and is now the Executive Director of the organization. He is a native of North Huntingdon, PA and has served many roles in his time with the PFBC. John is an avid angler, boater, and hunter, with a passion for the outdoors and he believes that protecting aquatic resources is the underlying factor to be able to provide fishing and boating opportunities to citizens and visitors of Pennsylvania. **Contact email:** jarway@pa.gov

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**Bob Carline**

Dr. Bob Carline devoted his entire professional career to fisheries research. He came to Pennsylvania in 1984, where he was Leader of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, U.S. Geological Survey, until his retirement in 2007. He served as Adjunct Professor of Fisheries at Penn State University and began his first research project on Spring Creek in 1985 and has been actively involved in a wide variety of projects in the watershed since then. **Contact email:** m-bcarline@comcast.net

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**Doug Desmond**

Doug Desmond is the manager of the Tylersville State Fish Hatchery in Clinton County, PA. The Hatchery was originally constructed in 1963 by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Brook, brown, rainbow, and golden rainbow trout are all reared at the Hatchery. **Contact email:** dodesmond@pa.gov

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**Rebecca Holler**

Rebecca Holler works at the Education Coordinator for the Eastern Abandoned Mine Program for Trout Unlimited, National. Her work focuses on youth and adult education about the impact of historic coal mining in the West Branch of the Susquehanna River watershed. **Contact email:** rholler@tu.org

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**Greg Hoover**

Dr. Greg Hoover is widely acknowledged as the world's most knowledgeable fly fishing entomologist. Greg teaches entomology at Penn State University's main campus, where for the past 10 years, he has enjoyed his role as the faculty advisor to the Penn State Fly Fishing Club. He was the recipient of the George Harvey Award for unselfishly promoting the sport of fly fishing through teaching of others. Greg is also the co-author of "Great Rivers, Great Hatches" (Stackpole) and has written various research reports and publications. **Contact email:** gah10@psu.edu

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**Michele Kittell**

Michele Kittell is the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Institute for Conservation Education and Director of the Academy. Michele has led the Wildlife Leadership Academy for the last 5 years. She earned her bachelor's from Penn State in Biology and her master's in Zoology from Clemson University. She leads the Institute in coordinating, administering and creating partnerships to ensure the success of the Wildlife Leadership Academy. **Contact email:** mkittell@picweb.org

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**Scott Koser**

Scott Koser is the Watershed Specialist and Education Coordinator for the Clinton County Conservation District. He provides presentations to schools and the public on many conservation related topics and district programs. **Contact email:** SKoser@ClintonCountyPA.com

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**Mark Nale**

Mark Nale is an accomplished outdoor writer in Pennsylvania. He grew up in rural Bedford County, gaining an appreciation for fishing, hunting, outdoor sports, and nature. Mark is now an outdoor writer and his articles and photographs have appeared in local, state, and national publications. He is married with three grown children, and he now hunts, fishes, and writes from his home in Centre County, PA.

**Contact email:** markangler@aol.com

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**Jon Niles**

Dr. Jon Niles is the Director of Susquehanna University's Freshwater Research Initiative. He and his researchers work to document the presence of trout in previously unassessed streams, as well as assess how sedimentation can impact the recovery of trout populations. He is also working on a long term headwater stream assessment of brook trout populations and benthic macroinvertebrates.

**Contact email:** niles@susque.edu

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**Daniel Ryan**

Daniel Ryan graduated from West Virginia University with a Bachelor's degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Resources in 2008. He then acquired a Master's degrees in Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences from Purdue University in 2010. Since 2011, he has worked as a fisheries biologist with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, reviewing wetlands and waterways constructions permit for evaluation and compliance with Pennsylvania regulations. **Contact email:** daniryan@pa.gov

# Wildlife Leadership Academy Instructor Directory



**Tom Shervinskie**

Tom is a fisheries biologist for the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.

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**Wayne Sierer**

Wayne Sierer is a retired science teacher in Wilson School District in Berks County. He holds a B.S. in biology from Albright College. Mr. Sierer worked as a post-grad at Kutztown University and LaSalle University. An avid birder for over 30 years, Wayne has been associated with the Pennsylvania Chapter of the Audubon Society, as well as the Important Bird Area Program sponsored by the Audubon Society.

**Contact email:** [wcsierer@verizon.net](mailto:wcsierer@verizon.net)

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**Judy Sittler**

Born and raised in Berks County, PA, Dr. Judi Sittler raised a family in State College and attended Penn State University. She moved to Los Angeles where she lived for 30 years, teaching special education at UCLA and Beverly Hills High School. During this time, she received her Ph.D. in Psychology and set up a private practice as a licensed psychologist. After retiring in 2006, she moved back to State College and is now president of the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited and involved with a variety of environmental programs and projects. **Contact email:** [jlsittler@comcast.net](mailto:jlsittler@comcast.net)

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**John Sweka**

John graduated from Penn State Erie - The Behrend College in 1996 with a BS in general biology. He then went onto graduate school at West Virginia University where he earned both his MS and PhD. John has been employed with the USFWS at the Northeast Fishery Center since 2002 where his duties include conducting studies of fish ecology, data management, statistical analysis, and fish population dynamics modeling. **Contact email:** [John\\_Sweka@fws.gov](mailto:John_Sweka@fws.gov)

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**Brian Tripp**

Brian Tripp has a background in both sports and news radio. He currently serves as the play-by-play voice of Penn State hockey and baseball. Previously, he held a variety of positions at Forever Media, including producer, reporter and talk show host. He also works as the public relations assistant with the Wildlife For Everyone Endowment Foundation. **Contact email:** [btripp@wildlifeforevereveryone.org](mailto:btripp@wildlifeforevereveryone.org)

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**Ken Undercoffer**

Ken Undercoffer is the former president of the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited (PATU). He can often be found providing presentations to groups of environmentalists, conservations, and students. Ken remains active in PATU and involved with many Trout Unlimited projects throughout PA.

**Contact email:** [kcoffer@atlanticbb.net](mailto:kcoffer@atlanticbb.net)

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**Kim VanFleet**

Kim VanFleet is currently a visiting assistant professor of biology at Dickinson College. Kim previously worked as the Important Bird Area Coordinator in the central region for Audubon Pennsylvania. She specializes in the study of migration routes of raptors across Pennsylvania's Ridge and Valley Province. She has served as adjunct faculty in the biology departments of Shippensburg University and Penn State University teaching courses including ornithology, ecology, and environmental science.

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**Donna Wagner**

Donna Wagner is a water pollution biologist for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. **Contact email:** [donnawagne@pa.gov](mailto:donnawagne@pa.gov)

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**Sarah Whitney**

Sarah Whitney joined Pennsylvania Sea Grant in 2004 as a coastal outreach specialist. She has more than ten years of experience in the policy, research, and outreach aspects of natural resource management. Sarah earned her Master of Forestry Degree with a focus on protected area management from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. She has diverse experience working with government, academic, and nonprofit sectors. Her primary responsibilities focus on AIS, marina, and boater pollution prevention outreach, and watershed planning. **Contact email:** [swhitney@psu.edu](mailto:swhitney@psu.edu)

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**Coji Yamashita**

Coja Yamashita is the Leader of the Pathology Unit at the Benner Spring Fish Hatchery. He works closely with hatchery personnel to detect, identify, and eliminate pathogens, bacteria, and fungi that are harmful to hatchery-raised fish. **Contact Email:** [cjamashita@pa.gov](mailto:cjamashita@pa.gov)

