

Agenda: NJFA 50th Annual Meeting / Saturday, March 15, 2025 / Rutgers University (Preliminary 02.11.25)
(This meeting qualifies for three (3) NJ Urban and Community Forestry CEUs)

A Land Ethic for the 21st Century – Exploring the Interconnectedness of People and the Land

- 8:30-9:00 **Registration** and Continental Breakfast
- 9:00-9:05 **Welcome/** Elmer Platz, NJFA President
- 9:05-9:15 **Introduction** of Guests and Collaborating Organizations / Andy Bennett, NJFA Director
- 9:15-9:50 **Kier Klepzig** / Director & Entomologist / The Jones Center at Ichauway in Newton, Georgia
“Lessons from a frequent fire forest: Managing for biodiversity, forest health, fuels, carbon, and more”
- 9:50-10:05 **Matt Olson** / Assistant Professor / Stockton University
“How societal changes and values have shaped our view of forests in NJ”
- 10:05-10:20 **Todd Wycoff** / NJ Forest Service
“How have these societal changes affected the job of the NJ Forest Service”
- 10:20-10:40 **Refreshments, Vendor Tables, Door Prizes**
- 10:40-10:55 **NJ Forest Fire Service**
“Is NJ the next California? What does the Data Show? What Can We Do About it?”
- 10:55-11:30 **Michael Gallagher** / US Forest Service / Research Ecologist
“Pine Barrens Fire Ecology – the Many Benefits of Prescribed Fire”
- 11:30-12:00 **Panel Discussion** / Matt Olson, Todd Wycoff, Kier Klepzig, Mike Gallagher, NJ Forest Fire Service
- 12:00-1:15 **Lunch; NJFA Annual Business Meeting**
- 1:15-1:35 **Richard Kelsky** / Vice President, Director / NJFA
Legislative/Regulatory/NJFA
“2024 – NJFA Accomplishments and Year in Review, Where are we going in 2025? What can members do to support NJFA’s work?”
- 1:35-2:10 **Robert Somes** / NJDEP Fish & Wildlife / Pinelands Biologist / Endangered and Nongame Species
“A Wildlife Biologist’s View of the Forest”
- 2:10-2:25 **Don Donnelly** / NRCS / New Programs and Opportunities
- 2:25-2:55 **Panel Discussion** / Robert Somes, Don Donnelly, Kier Klepzig, Michael Gallagher
- 2:55-3:05 **Refreshments, Vendor Tables, Door Prizes**
- 3:05-3:35 **Panel Discussion** / Ethics in Forestry / Ryan Hasko, Allyson Salisbury, Eliot Nagele, Kier Klepzig
- 3:35-3:45 **2025 Outlook**, Member Participation, Board Membership, Awards, Etc.
- 3:45-4:00 **Wrap Up**, 50/50 Cash Raffle