



New York City Urban Field Station

a partnership between the USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station and New York City

Department of Parks & Recreation

presents

a Science in the Living City seminar on

Urban Coastal Resilience

Wednesday March 11th, 2015, 12:00 - 1:30 pm

290 Broadway, 30th floor, New York, NY 10007

Resilience to coastal storms in urban communities: The case of the Rockaways

Malgosia Madajewicz, Ph.D., Center for Climate Systems Research, Columbia University



Malgosia's talk will describe preliminary results from a study of determinants of resilience to coastal storms in urban communities. She will report on analysis of data gathered through interviews and a survey carried out in the Rockaways, NY to document the recovery from Hurricane Sandy in different communities and the role that different types of institutions played in assisting the recovery. Malgosia Madajewicz is an Associate Research Scientist at the Center for Climate Systems Research at Columbia University. She is an economist with research interests in program evaluation, adaptation to climate change with a focus on the role of formal and informal institutions, poverty, and inequality. She has particular expertise in quantitative data analysis. Her research projects include studies of resilience to a

range of climate risks in the urban Northeast in the US, research on impacts that climate information has on resilience, and evaluation of climate risk management strategies including weather index insurance. She holds a PhD in economics from Harvard University and has previously served as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics and the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University.

Metropolitan forests for coastal resiliency

Walter Meyer, LEED-AP, Local Office Landscape Architecture, LLC



Walter's talk will explore ways of retrofitting city infrastructure for storm surge protection with coastal forests. Walter Meyer is an adjunct professor at Parsons New School and founding Principal of Local Office Landscape Architecture, in Brooklyn, NY. Walter started Local Office in 2006 with Harvard GSD classmate Jennifer Bolstad. Operating between infrastructure, urbanism, and territory, the firm has won awards from across the disciplines of architecture, landscape architecture, public policy, science and art. The partners have been engaged as instructors, speakers and visiting critics at Harvard University, Yale, Columbia, Penn, MIT, Parsons New School, and Pratt Institute. Their large scale built works are internationally referenced as a benchmark for resiliency, with metrics for retrofitting city infrastructure for tsunami and storm surge protection using dunes, wetlands, and forests. After Hurricane Sandy, Local Office was awarded the

Whitehouse 'Champions of Change' Presidential award after the firm partners started 'Power Rockaways Resilience,' a non-profit dedicated to fundraising and delivery of free geothermal and solar generators to volunteer centers throughout the coastal Rockaway peninsula in Queens, NY. Currently, Local Office is consulting for the National Park Service, the City of New York, and the Army Corps of Engineers on coastal resiliency planning in the New York Bight.

Space is limited. Please RSVP, or request additional information, at michellejohnson@fs.fed.us.