

## A Natural History Forum on Ecological Restoration

Tuesday, April 14, 7 p.m. (dessert and fellowship from 6 p.m.)

Weaver Auditorium, Coastal Institute Kingston

An open discussion featuring:

Richard Enser, RIDEM natural heritage biologist (retired)

Dr. Laura Meyerson, restoration ecologist at URI, Dept. of Nat. Resources Sci.

Moderator: David Gregg, Executive Director, RINHS

*PROGRAM BEGINS WITH RINHS 2015 ANNUAL MEETING*

*Brief summary of the past year, election of directors; public welcome*

Event is free but please call or email to reserve a seat: 401-874-5800 or [kstillwell@rinhs.org](mailto:kstillwell@rinhs.org)



Millions of dollars are spent annually in Rhode Island on environmental restoration, a term which describes everything from hazardous material cleanup to dam removal to rare species to beach and dune reconstruction to invasive species removal and management of plant succession through mowing and burning. How do we decide which negative impacts to try to reverse? How do we settle on the strategies we pursue? What state are we trying to restore the environment to anyway? In a time of global climate change, is "restoration" even a relevant concept or should we just admit that we're hands-on managers of environmental features selected for a variety of

pure or not so pure reasons. Given unprecedented environmental changes, is our skill at environmental manipulation more critical now than ever before? What skills do graduates in natural resources science need to have to meet the challenges?

Join the members and friends of RINHS for a discussion of "environmental restoration" featuring retired Rhode Island natural heritage biologist and Rhode Island Distinguished Naturalist **Rick Enser** and URI associate professor **Dr. Laura Meyerson**, moderated by RINHS executive director **David Gregg**. Bring your sincere question, concern, or manifesto for a thorough airing. No conclusions will be reached but a stimulating discussion of this important issue is guaranteed. The discussion will be preceded by the RINHS annual meeting. Members and friends are welcome to attend both portions of the program.



Information: 401-874-5800, [info@rinhs.org](mailto:info@rinhs.org), [www.rinhs.org](http://www.rinhs.org)