Title: The Emerging Landscape: Solutions to Sprawl and Fragmentation

Date: 12/6/04

Lecturer: Michael Klemens

Description:
Dr. Klemens’ presentation will discuss how the ecological footprint of New York City stretches outward for up to 100 miles. He will then highlight the principles of ecological planning, and the interfaces and opportunities to make better decisions, from the earliest choices of where to build, through the issues of design and construction, as well as post-construction activities. He will discuss where specific legal and procedural mandates to manage stormwater and traffic are at cross-purposes to ecological stewardship, and will present pathways to resolve those conflicts. The presentation will be illustrated with site-specific examples, including one from the NYC watershed. Finally, Dr. Klemens will discuss how these can become models for sound development and ecological protection at a regional scale.

Bio:
Dr. Michael W. Klemens is a Senior Conservationist and Director of the Wildlife Conservation Society’s Metropolitan Conservation Alliance (MCA). Dr. Klemens founded the MCA in 1997 to bridge the gap between ecology, land use planning, and public policy. His involvement in land use planning issues is both theoretical and experiential. He has published extensively on best management and design practices, and has served for more than a decade on a local planning commission. More recently Dr. Klemens has begun to explore the ecological benefits of Traditional Neighborhood Design (TND) as a vehicle to accomplish ecological stewardship while creating livable human communities.

Suggested readings/web resources:

N/A