



Connecting People with Nature

Audubon Society of Rhode Island

CSC Project Report

October 30, 2020

Project Title: Sponsorship for 17th Annual 2020 Land & Water Summit at \$2,500

Goals: Enhance the stewardship, knowledge and capabilities of Rhode Island's grassroots conservation organizations by sponsoring RI's premier conservation conference.

The Conservation Stewardship Collaborative received the following for the \$2,500 sponsorship of the 2020 Land & Water Summit which was held on Saturday March 7 at the URI Memorial Union.

- Name and logo on the Summit program cover;
- Announcement of sponsorship during the plenary session;
- Name and logo on the Summit promotional materials plus a hotlink to the CSC website on the Summit website;
- Full page ad in the program that promotes the stewardship resources available to land trusts (see back cover of program)
- Display table
- Two (2) complimentary Summit registrations plus presenters at the workshop.

Results:

The 2020 Summit was successful with very positive overall evaluations. We were able to hold a safe event just days before the state closed down due to the pandemic. Although 330 people registered, attendance was 288 likely in response to the pandemic. We had 42 no shows – high for this event. All the display space was sold out (23 tables). Participants represented land trusts, watershed organizations, municipal conservation organizations and other local conservationists. The keynote address by Dr. Mamie Parker, with a heartfelt introduction by Director Coit was well received and set the tone for the day. A video clip from her address is available on the Land & Water Partnership web site: <https://landandwaterpartnership.org/summit2020.php>. In addition, the Summit had 30 workshop offerings focused on land protection and conservation, watershed management, youth engagement and non-profit management.

Summit evaluations were very positive. We collected 133 evaluations and on a scale of 1 (poor) – 5 (excellent), Dr. Parker received 4.7. The average response for the final three questions, ranked from 1- strongly disagree to 5 – strongly agree, were:

Participating in this event was a good use of my time: 4.6

How much did this conference increase your knowledge of land and water conservation?: 3.8

Did you learn something you will apply in your work or future decisions?: 4.8