

New Paths in the Environmental History of North America and the Ohio Valley

October 8-10, 2015

**A conference sponsored by
The Filson Historical Society and the College of Arts and Sciences at the
University of Louisville**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

6:00-7:15 pm

KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

Uwe Lübken (Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität):

"How Natural are Natural Disasters? A History of Flooding on the Ohio River"

LOCATION: Oxmoor Farm, 720 Oxmoor Avenue, Louisville, KY 40222

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9:

LOCATION: University Club, University of Louisville, 200 E. Brandeis Avenue, Louisville, KY 40208

8:45 am

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS:

A. Glenn Crothers, University of Louisville

9:00-10:30 am

SESSION 1: COAL

Megan Chew (Ohio State University), "Revisiting the Power Plant Concentration in the Lower Ohio Valley"

Lisa J. Powell (University of British Columbia/University of the Fraser Valley), "Moving Coal across Cornfields: The Coal Conveyor Belt Lines of Union County, Kentucky"

Stacy N. Roberts (University of California, Davis), "Climate Change, Water, and Society: Coal Mining's Impact on Western Kentucky Communities"

Commentator: Chad Montrie (University of Massachusetts, Lowell)

10:45 am-12:15

SESSION 2: PARKS

Jessica M. DeWitt (University of Saskatchewan), “‘Unsurpassed Natural Setting for a Great City’: An Urban Renaissance, Point State Park, the Ohio River Valley, and the National State Park Movement”

Christopher Ryan Eklund (Auburn University), “Louisville’s Parks, Public Private Partnerships, and the Legacies of Private Efforts to Conserve Land”

Alyssa D. Warrick (Mississippi State University), “Underground Wilderness? Mammoth Cave National Park and the Wilderness Act of 1964”

Commentator: Erin Stewart Mauldin (Samford University)

12:15-1:00 pm

LUNCH

1:00-2:30 pm

SESSION 3: CITIES

Matthew Smith (Miami University, Hamilton), “‘A Cinque of Pestilence’: Cincinnati, Cholera, and Public Health Reform”

Robert Gioielli (University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash), “Rethinking Porkopolis: Cincinnati, Pigs, and the Ecology of Slavery”

Angela Shope Stiefbold (University of Cincinnati), “Ohio Farmers and Land Use Regulation, 1938-1963”

Commentator: Gregory Wilson (University of Akron)

2:45-4:15 pm

SESSION 4: TECHNOLOGY

Kristen Fleming (University of Cincinnati), “Designing, Creating, and Regulating the Ohio River Valley”

Brandon Luedtke (University of Kansas), “Drilling Down, Pumping Up: A History of Center-Pivot Irrigation and Hydraulic Fracturing in Kansas”

Andrew Patrick (University of Kentucky), “Cotton Bagging and Bale Rope”: Technology of Hemp Culture in Early Statehood Kentucky, 1792-1830”

Commentator: Uwe Lübken (Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität)

6:00-9:00 pm

DINNER FOR CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10:

LOCATION: University Club, University of Louisville, 200 E. Brandeis Avenue, Louisville, KY 40208

9:00-10:00 am

KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

David Stradling (University of Cincinnati), "How the Cuyahoga River Fire Saved the World and Other True-ish Stories"

10:15-11:45 am

SESSION 5: RACE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Drew A. Swanson (Wright State University), "The Fiery Barn: The Power of Ecological Terrorism during Reconstruction"

Kevin C. Armitage (Miami University of Ohio), "'The Equality of Extinction': James L. Farmer and Environmental Justice"

Lauren Heberle (University of Louisville), "'Race, Class, and Justice in Environmental Decision Making: Louisville, KY"

Commentator: Mark Hersey (Mississippi State University)

11:45 am - 12:30 pm

LUNCH

12:30-2:00 pm

SESSION 6: AGRICULTURE

Hanno Scheerer (Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz), "No Fear of Wilderness: Land Quality Assessment and the Ordering of Nature in Early Ohio"

William Kerrigan (Muskingum University), "Creating Ohio's Fruitful Landscape, 1800-1860"

Aaron Thomas (Mississippi State University), "Growing Christmas: Origins of Western North Carolina's Fraser Fir Industry"

Commentator: John R. Henris (University of Arkansas, Monticello)