THE WILDERNESS CITY:
Nature, Culture and Economy in the Next West
The Wilderness City: Nature, Culture and Economy in the Next West has been accredited to provide AICP and CLE continuing education units (CEUs). For those seeking AICP credits, sessions providing ethics credits are indicated by E; sessions providing legal credits are indicated by L; all other sessions will provide general CM credits. For those seeking CLE credits, sessions providing ethics credits are indicated by E; all other sessions will provide general credits. CRE credits are pending.
The Rocky Mountain West is characterized by majestic peaks, rolling prairies, rugged plains and vast open spaces. At the same time, the West is home to rapidly growing cities like Denver, Las Vegas, Albuquerque, Salt Lake City, Phoenix and Boise, as well as countless small towns trying to remain viable in an increasingly urbanizing region. Interestingly, as urban centers continue to grow, they are seeking to reconnect their local cultures and economies to what remains of their native ecology. Meanwhile, rural communities are looking for ways to support economic development while maintaining their strong ties to local landscapes and natural resources.

“Wilderness Cities” like Vancouver, Canada blend the wild and the urban seamlessly, with skyscrapers and industry nestled up against rain forests, killer whales and coastal mountains. How can a Wilderness City model and other “green” development approaches not only make Western communities vibrant economic centers but also strengthen our connection with the land? How can rural communities grow successfully without having to sacrifice natural beauty and ecosystem health?

**ISSUE AREA TRACKS**

RMLUI has a new look for the conference in 2012. The conference will feature plenary sessions focused on developing the Wilderness City theme as well as Issue Area Tracks that correspond to those topics widely viewed as most important to sustainable development in the West and that present the greatest opportunities for research and innovation.

- **Cities and Social Equity**

  As the nation’s fastest urbanizing region, the West’s cities will play an increasingly important role in determining its future – economic, social and environmental. From transportation to housing, energy to open space, these sessions focus on the key challenges facing the West’s metro centers.
Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation

Receding glaciers, melting polar ice or coastal flooding may seem like distant problems, but immediate threats such as reduced snow pack in the Rocky Mountains has a direct impact on water supply, as well as the region’s ski towns and tourist economy. These panels cover the ways in which communities and adapt to climate change or plan mitigation strategies.

Cutting Edge Innovations

These sessions direct our attention to issues that are challenging cities today. Join leading experts as they discuss the role technology can have in sustainability, the balance of oversight in recycling programs, and challenge out notions of how much space we really need.

Economic Development

The fiscal health of municipalities and regional economies is vital to supporting the rapid growth and development that are the result of a rising population in the West. These sessions will address issues such as how to pay for new projects, transit-oriented development, green building and affordable housing.

Energy

Energy fuels our communities and economy, but in the United States we are contending with aging infrastructure, growing energy demand and a desire to curb our imports of foreign oil. These panels will address both the oil and gas industry as well as alternative energy sources.

Land Conservation and Ecosystem Services

Sprawl, resource extraction and other forces continue to shape the West’s landscapes. These panels focus on conservation and development strategies to address how the West’s cities can become better stewards of their urban ecosystems.

Water

The Rocky Mountain West is one of the fastest growing areas of the country and one of the driest. These sessions address the challenges municipalities and regions will face in meeting the challenges of water supply and demand.
### AGENDA AT A GLANCE: THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>SESSION 1</th>
<th>SESSION 2</th>
<th>SESSION 3</th>
<th>SESSION 4</th>
<th>SESSION 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00–8:30</td>
<td>REGISTRATION &amp; BREAKFAST - SCOL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30–10:00</td>
<td>WELCOME &amp; KEYNOTE ADDRESS - STURM HALL, DAVIS AUDITORIUM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:20 - 11:50</td>
<td>SESSION 1</td>
<td>SESSION 2</td>
<td>SESSION 3</td>
<td>SESSION 4</td>
<td>SESSION 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ethics for Planners I KNBL 229</td>
<td>Ethics for Lawyers I KNBL 231</td>
<td>Planning for Healthy Living SCOL 165</td>
<td>The Urban Frontier SCOL 280</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00–1:00</td>
<td>LUNCH - SCOL or Optional Lunch Panel: What Americans REALLY Want - KNBL Dining Room (Tickets Required)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:15–2:45</td>
<td>SESSION 1</td>
<td>SESSION 2</td>
<td>SESSION 3</td>
<td>SESSION 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00–4:30</td>
<td>SESSION 1</td>
<td>SESSION 2</td>
<td>SESSION 3</td>
<td>SESSION 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### AGENDA AT A GLANCE: FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>SESSION 1</th>
<th>SESSION 2</th>
<th>SESSION 3</th>
<th>SESSION 4</th>
<th>SESSION 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00–8:30</td>
<td>REGISTRATION &amp; BREAKFAST</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30–10:00</td>
<td>Expanding Recycling Programs: SCOL 259</td>
<td>BLM’s Oil &amp; Gas SCOL 255</td>
<td>Let It Be SCOL 165</td>
<td>Promises and Problems of Distributed Energy SCOL 155</td>
<td>Private Payment for Public Goods SCOL 125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:20–11:50</td>
<td>SESSION 1</td>
<td>SESSION 2</td>
<td>SESSION 3</td>
<td>SESSION 4</td>
<td>SESSION 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Water and Growth SCOL 180</td>
<td>Conservation Development in the West SCOL 165</td>
<td>A Practical Approach to Climate Change Adaptation SCOL 255</td>
<td>Mitigating Oil and Gas Impacts SCOL 280</td>
<td>The Economic Development of River Restoration SCOL 170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00–1:00</td>
<td>LUNCH</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:15–2:45</td>
<td>SESSION 1</td>
<td>SESSION 2</td>
<td>SESSION 3</td>
<td>SESSION 4</td>
<td>SESSION 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00–4:30</td>
<td>SESSION 1</td>
<td>SESSION 2</td>
<td>SESSION 3</td>
<td>SESSION 4</td>
<td>SESSION 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Davis** = Sturm Hall, Davis Auditorium  
**KNBL** = Fritz Knoebel School of Hospitality Management  
**SCOL** = Sturm College of Law  

- Continuing education units for Ethics  
- Continuing education units for AICP Law
7:00am – 8:30am

REGISTRATION OPENS
Sturm College of Law Forum

8:30am – 10:00am

WELCOME & KEYNOTE
Sturm Hall, Davis Auditorium

Martin Katz, Dean and Professor, University of Denver Sturm College of Law
Thomas J. Ragonetti, Chairman, Otten Johnson Robinson Neff + Ragonetti
Susan Daggett, Acting Executive Director, Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute

Keynote: Climate Change and the Search for Meaning: From Neanderthals and Extreme Skiers to the Wilderness City
Auden Schendler, Vice President of Sustainability, Aspen Skiing Company

Auden Schendler is Vice President of Sustainability at Aspen Skiing Company. He worked previously in corporate sustainability at the Rocky Mountain Institute. Auden has been a trailer insulator, burger flipper, ambulance medic, Outward Bound instructor, high school math and English teacher, freelance writer, and Forest Service goose nest island builder. His writing has been published in Harvard Business Review, the L.A. Times, Slate, Scientific American, Orion, Rock and Ice, Salon and other media, and his work has been covered in Outside, Fast Company, Travel and Leisure and Businessweek. Auden has testified to Congress on the impacts of climate change on public lands, and speaks widely on sustainability. His book Getting Green Done: Hard Truths from the Front Lines of the Sustainability Revolution was called “an antidote to greenwash” by NASA climatologist James Hansen. 1.0 CEU

10:00am – 10:20am

INTERMISSION BREAK
Fritz Knoebel School of Hospitality Management, Sturm College of Law Forum

10:20am – 11:50am

ETHICS FOR PLANNERS: A COMPARISON OF FORMAL AND INFORMAL CODES
Fritz Knoebel School of Hospitality Management, 229

This session will compare the AICP Ethical Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct, the APA Ethical Principles in Planning, and the Code of the West. Speakers will discuss their similarities, who may use and when they may be used, followed by a discussion among the audience about the appropriate application of the different ethical code provisions. This session will be repeated at 1:15pm. Capacity is limited to 100. 1.5 CEUs

Speakers:
Michael Harper, FAICP
Katie Guthrie, AICP, APA Colorado Chapter Administrator
ETHICS FOR LAWYERS
Fritz Knoebel School of Hospitality Management, 231

Learn from experienced experts in the field about land use ethics for legal professionals. This session will be repeated at 1:15pm. Capacity is limited to 50. 1.5 CEUs

Moderator:
Tom Macdonald, Director, Otten Johnson Robinson Neff + Ragonetti

Speaker:
Bryan Treu, County Attorney, Eagle County, Colorado

PLANNING FOR HEALTHY LIVING: PROMOTING HEALTH THROUGH COMMUNITY GARDENS
Sturm College of Law, 165

In this session, speakers will highlight examples of how communities have codified efforts to promote active living and access to healthy foods, and will demonstrate a searchable library of model policies and regulations. The results from a five-year-study examining the health-promoting characteristics of community gardening will also be presented. The discussion will focus on ways that urban land use regulations and other planning practices can increase people’s access to urban gardens, and show how design and programming can increase gardens’ value as both sites for urban agriculture and neighborhood green spaces. 1.5 CEUs

Moderator:
Louise Chawla, Professor, University of Colorado College of Architecture and Planning
Lisa Walvoord, Vice President of Policy, LiveWell Colorado

Speakers:
Michael Buchenau, Executive Director, Denver Urban Gardens
Jill Litt, Associate Professor, University of Colorado School of Public Health
Wendy Peters Moschetti, Principal, WPM Consulting

THE URBAN FRONTIER: MANAGING THE URBAN/OPEN SPACE INTERFACE
Sturm College of Law, 280

This session will focus on the challenges that arise at the interface of urban development and growing open space programs, such as the migration of wildlife into urbanized areas and the effects of recreational use on resources. This session will present two of the most innovative and successful open space programs. The discussion will consider recent efforts to involve different stakeholders in the management of open space, including utilities and transportation. 1.5 CEUs

Moderator:
Julia Grant, Foothills & Open Space Manager, City of Boise, Idaho
John Putnam, Partner, Kaplan Kirsch & Rockwell, LLP

Speakers:
Mike Patton, Director, City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks
John Stokes, Director, Fort Collins Natural Resources Department

Wireless Code

Outside Law School
Connect to: Law Guest Wireless
User Name: RMLUI
Password: rmlui2012

Inside Law School
Connect to: DU Guest Wireless
User Name: rmlui
Password: rmlui2012

AGENDA: THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 2011
11:50am – 1:15pm

**LUNCH**
Sturm College of Law Forum - Tickets Required

**BOOK SIGNING BY**
**AUDEN SCHENDLER**
*Getting Green Done*

**SPECIAL LUNCH PRESENTATION: WHAT AMERICANS REALLY WANT**
Fritz Knoebel School of Hospitality Management Dining Room - Tickets Required. Capacity is limited to 100.

Over the past decade numerous surveys have explored Americans’ preferences for housing, neighborhoods, mobility, and community. The panelists will synthesize the meaning of these surveys for planning, policy, and development and show what Americans prefer, what they get, and the mismatch between preference and supply. **1.0 CEU**

**Moderator:**
Arthur C. Nelson, FAICP, Presidential Professor & Director of the Metropolitan Research Center, *University of Utah College of Architecture + Planning*

**Speakers:**
Shyam Kannan, Principal, Robert Charles Lesser & Company
Gail Meakins, Research Analyst, *University of Utah*

1:15pm – 2:45pm

**ETHICS FOR PLANNERS: A COMPARISON OF FORMAL AND INFORMAL CODES**
Fritz Knoebel School of Hospitality Management, 229

This session will compare the AICP Ethical Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct, the APA Ethical Principles in Planning, and the Code of the West. Speakers will discuss their similarities, who may use and when they may be used, followed by a discussion among the audience about the appropriate application of the different ethical code provisions. **Capacity is limited to 100.** **1.5 CEUs**

**Speakers:**
Michael Harper, FAICP
Katie Guthrie, AICP, APA Colorado Chapter Administrator

**ETHICS FOR LAWYERS**
Fritz Knoebel School of Hospitality Management, 231

Learn from experienced experts in the field about land use ethics for legal professionals. **Capacity is limited to 50.** **1.5 CEUs**

**Moderator:**
Tom Macdonald, Director, *Otten Johnson Robinson Neff + Ragonetti*

**Speaker:**
Bryan Treu, County Attorney, *Eagle County, Colorado*
WHITHER THE WILDERNESS COUNTY
Sturm College of Law, 165

In most of the West, cities are freestanding. The character of the Wilderness City is found in the wilderness and rural landscape beyond the city border. This session will address the critical role of counties in developing wilderness cities. Many counties in the West have not utilized their planning authority, and those that have implemented zoning is little different from municipal zoning patterns. As a result, counties are typically in competition with cities for development. This is counter to the desire to focus development into cities. For the wilderness city to succeed, a new planning and zoning paradigm is needed. This session will present a critique of current county practices and offer a new strategic approach to achieve a Wilderness City in the West.

Moderator:
Lane Kendig, Strategic Adviser, Kendig Keast Collaborative

Speaker:
Scott Clark, Planning Director, Kootenai County, Idaho

FIRE! WILDERNESS CITIES AND WILDFIRE RISK
Sturm Hall, Davis Auditorium

In 2011, the West was hard hit by wildfires. This session will present a discussion of how land use controls did or did not mitigate impacts on rural and urban communities. The Fire Protection Research Foundation will present a new study of how local communities throughout the U.S. are managing the risk of wildfire in the Wildland-Urban Interface. Unlike earlier studies that often focused on the creation of technically correct model codes that do not get implemented, this study focuses on what officials are really doing at the local level, how they get effective tools adopted and enforced, how they do or do not work together in that process, and what are the best chances for improving performance on this critical life safety issue.

Moderator:
Anita Miller, Assistant City Attorney, City of Albuquerque, New Mexico

Speakers:
Paul Anthony, Associate Planner, Clarion Associates
Molly Mowery, AICP, Manager, Fire Adapted Communities, National Fire Protection Association
Meredith Van Horn, Esq., Heil Law & Planning, LLC

2:45pm – 3:00pm

INTERMISSION BREAK
Fritz Knoebel School of Hospitality Management, Sturm College of Law Forum
3:00pm – 4:30pm

**WESTERN WILDERNESS AND THE CITY: ARCHITECTURE AS METAPHOR AND FRAMEWORK**
Sturm Hall, Davis Auditorium

This session will present two case studies that exemplify the Wilderness City concept. The 11th & Pearl project in downtown Boulder, Colorado is a major new infill, mixed-use building concept that reflects Boulder as a wilderness city. The Twin Buttes Ecovillage, located in Durango, Colorado, will explore how developers, planners, and communities can work together to accomplish a shift from “business as usual” development to more sustainable models of living. The projects show how urban planning, architecture, energy, food production can work together to create a synergistic new model for land development in the West. 1.5 CEUs

**Moderator:**
William Shuitkin, President and CEO, Presidio Graduate School

**Speakers:**
David Barrett, Principal, Barrett Studio Architects
Victoria Canto-Ponce, Vice President of Development, Karlin Real Estate
Eric Flora, Owner and Principal, Lightner Creek Ranch
Christopher Shears, Principal, Shears Adkins Rockmore Architects

**THE ROLE FOR TECHNOLOGY IN SUSTAINABLE URBAN COMMUNITIES**
Sturm College of Law, 165

This session presents a discussion of how technology is being used to enable communities to re-balance the human and the natural, achieve environmental sustainability, and develop economies that renewable and resilient. The panelists will present case studies of innovative work on urban sustainability that utilizes smart technologies. 1.5 CEUs

**Moderator:**
Gordon Feller, Director of Urban Innovations, Cisco Systems

**Speakers:**
David Sandel, President, Sandel & Associates
Edmund Woodbury, President, McCaffery Interests

**THE FUTURE OF REALLY SMALL DWELLINGS**
Fritz Knoebel School of Hospitality Management, 229

This session will review the growing trend towards very small dwelling units – apartments in the 270 to 500 sq. ft. range – how to zone for them, and their anticipated community impacts. Examples range from Katrina Cottages to trailer cabins being placed as permanent homes on recreational vehicle sites. 1.5 CEUs

**Moderator:**
Ed Zeigler, Professor of Law & Robert B. Yegge Chair in Law, University of Denver Sturm College of Law

**Speakers:**
Don Elliott, FAICP, Senior Consultant, Clarion Associates
Jim Soules, Principal, Soules Company
The next federal surface transportation act is likely to pursue multiple goals, including stemming growth of vehicle miles traveled (VMT) in the interest of congestion relief, energy conservation, air quality, climate mitigation, traffic safety, and other public purposes. A new study expands on previous work to explain the historic growth in VMT and to test the effects of various policy and planning levers. This session will provide a basic understanding of the effects that land use, energy and transportation policies have on carbon emissions, as well as a framework for integrating these interlocking policies at local, regional and state levels.  

Moderator:
Keith Bartholomew, Associate Dean, University of Utah College of Architecture & Planning

Speaker:
Reid Ewing, Professor, Metropolitan Research Center, University of Utah College of Architecture + Planning

5:00pm – 7:00pm

RECEPTION
Sturm College of Law Forum

BOOK SIGNING SMASH
Sturm College of Law Forum

K.K. DUVIVIER
• The Renewable Energy Reader

ROBERT FREILICH
• From Sprawl to Sustainability: Smart Growth, New Urbanism, Green Development and Renewable Energy
• 21st Century Land Development Code

WILLIAM SHUTKIN
• The Land That Could Be
• A Republic of Trees: Field Notes on People, Place, and the Planet

DON ELLIOTT
• A Better Way to Zone
• The Citizens Guide to Planning
• Colorado Land Planning and Development Law

LANE KENDIG
• Community Character: Principles for Designing and Planning
• A Guide to Planning with Community Character

Thank you to our Sponsor:

OTTEN JOHNSON

AGENDA: FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2011
8:30am – 10:00am

**EXPANDING RECYCLING PROGRAMS: BALANCING STATE AND LOCAL CONTROL**
Sturm College of Law, 259

The issue of state versus local control is a cutting edge, ongoing debate that cuts across a number of areas and has practical application for an array of land use decisions in the Rocky Mountain West. Given significant initiatives to mitigate climate change and generally minimize our environmental footprint, this program, by raising the state versus local debate in the context of recycling programs, will allow participants to (1) expand their perspective regarding land use issues inherent in waste handling and the current state of recycling; (2) heighten their awareness of the issues and difficulties in expanding recycling; and (3) understand the significant land conservation and related ramifications of providing policy and legal incentives for better recycling opportunities.

**Moderator:**
Roger Freeman, Attorney, Davis Graham & Stubbs, LLC

**Speakers:**
Scott Hutchings, Manager of Public Affairs, Waste Management
Anne Peters, President, Gracestone, Inc.
Lisa Skumatz, Principal, Skumatz Economic Research Associates (SERA)

**BLM’S OIL & GAS REFORMS: MOVING FROM CONFLICT TO CONSENSUS**
Sturm College of Law, 255

This session will provide an in-depth analysis of BLM’s new oil and gas leasing reforms, how those reforms are being implemented in the field, and the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for BLM, industry, conservationists and other interested parties. Panelists will provide their perspectives of the innovative approaches to evaluating and approving leasing and developing on public land and the key requirements of the reforms. Attendees will gain an appreciation for the circumstances that led to the adoption of the reforms in 2010 and assist them in participating meaningfully in the new leasing process or in advising others who intend to do so.

**Moderator:**
Ti Hays, Associate Attorney, The Wilderness Society

**Speakers:**
Jerry Strahan, Fluid Minerals Branch Chief, Bureau of Land Management Colorado State Office
Bret Sumner, Attorney, Beatty & Wozniak, P.C.
**LET IT BE: NON-CONFORMITIES AND SUSTAINABILITY**
Sturm College of Law, 165

Most discussions of sustainable development focus on how we will build greener in the future. They ignore the sustainability impacts of living with what we have already built. This session will explore how cities are rethinking their approach to “non-conformities” – the built environment that does not meet current zoning requirements. It will discuss the potential sustainability gains in allowing nonconformities to continue in use through saved energy, materials, and labor inputs.  

**Moderator:**
Don Elliott, FAICP, Senior Consultant, Clarion Associates

**Speakers:**
Jim Lindberg, Senior Field Officer, National Trust for Historic Preservation
David Theriaque, Esq., Principal, Theriaque & Spain

**PROMISES AND PROBLEMS OF DISTRIBUTED ENERGY**
Sturm College of Law, 155

Is it time to return to our roots? Production of electricity began in smaller, decentralized ways, what is called distributed energy. Mid-way through the 20th century, we shifted to large, centralized coal plants and dams. Now, many argue for a return to our roots, as was famously advocated by Amory Lovins in his 1976 Foreign Affairs essay. And many believe that rural America can be a big part of that new energy landscape. However, development of small-scale electrical production has proven difficult in many cases. Speakers from three diverse constituencies engaged in the rural West will discuss policies, laws, and finances that frame decisions about where and how to develop small hydro, solar gardens, and other forms of distributed energy.

**Moderator:**
Allen Best, Journalist, Mountain Town News

**Speakers:**
Bill Midcap, Director of Renewable Energy Development, Rocky Mountain Farmers Union
Matt Rice, Director of Colorado Conservation, American Rivers

**PRIVATE PAYMENT FOR PUBLIC GOODS**
Sturm College of Law, 125

This session explores cities’ experience using property rights to combat private costs for public goods. Albuquerque and Santa Fe County are each attempting to provide private payments for infrastructure and operating costs. This session examines alternative revenues at a time in the United States when we have minimal federal or state government support. Panelists will present a discussion of how private revenues can be used to support public projects and which revenues can be used for capital versus operating purposes, as well as which of these funding sources have the most solid legal footing.

**Moderator:**
Robert W. Burchell, Professor, Director & Chair, Rutgers University Edward J. Bloustein School of Public Policy

**Speakers:**
Robert Freilich, Partner, Freilich & Popowitz
James Nicholas, Professor Emeritus, University of Florida
Jack Nyman, MUP, Director, City University of New York Steven L. Newman Real Estate Institute
10:00am – 10:20am

**INTERMISSION BREAK**
Sturm College of Law Forum

10:20am – 11:50am

### WATER AND GROWTH: CAN WE WRESTLE WITH THE PARADOX?

**Sturm College of Law, 180**

Across the West, the topic of water and growth presents a never-ending circular argument. On one side is the assertion that water shortages could be avoided by controlling urban growth. On the other side is the claim that in a free country you can’t stop growth and that urban growth is necessary for economic viability. Is it possible to bring both sides of the paradox together to work on a solution? This session features a focused dialogue between those responsible for planning the built environment and those responsible for planning water supplies. **1.5 CEUs**

**Moderator:**
MaryLou Smith, Policy and Collaboration Specialist, *Colorado Water Institute*

**Speakers:**
- Julio Iturreria, Long Range Planning Manager, *Arapahoe County, Colorado*
- Peter Nichols, Esq., Attorney, *Trout Raley, Montano, Witwer & Freeman, P.C.*
- Steve Ormiston, Director, *SCO Consulting; Board of Directors, Highlands Ranch Metro District and Centennial Water & Sanitation District*
- Marc Waage, Water Resource Planning Manager, *Denver Water*

### CONSERVATION DEVELOPMENT IN THE WEST: TRENDS IN REGULATION AND PRACTICE

**Sturm College of Law, 165**

Conservation development (CD) has emerged as an alternative to residential sprawl and a means to finance land conservation. Although CD accounts for a growing proportion of private land conservation and residential development activity in the West, little is known about its socioeconomic and ecological outcomes. Have CD projects lived up to their goals of protecting biodiversity, ecosystem services, and other natural resources? What are the financial risks and returns associated with CD projects in comparison to conventional subdivisions? This session will discuss results of applied multi-disciplinary research on CD, including a review of local land use regulations and incentives for CD in 11 western states and a case study of land use and home sales in 400 CD projects across Colorado. **1.5 CEUs**

**Moderator:**
Dr. Liba Pejchar, Assistant Professor and Co-Principal Investigator, *Colorado State University Global Challenges Research Team on Conservation Development*

**Speakers:**
- Dr. Sarah Reed, Smith Conservation Research Fellow and Co-Principal Investigator, *Colorado State University Global Challenges Research Team on Conservation Development; Associate Conservation Scientist, Wildlife Conservation Society*
- Lindsay Ex, MLA, Research Coordinator, *Colorado State University Global Challenges Research Team on Conservation Development; Environmental Planner, City of Fort Collins, Colorado*
A PRACTICAL APPROACH TO CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION: THE NEW IMPERATIVE & BEST PRACTICES
Sturm College of Law, 255

As evidence mounts that our climate is changing more rapidly than most predictions, communities are realizing that they must go beyond mitigation measures and take steps to adapt. Scientists predict more severe storms, extremes of drought and precipitation, heat waves, and sea level rise—with profound implications for local government. An interactive discussion will assess practical approaches for local governments to define and develop a culture of adaptability and resilience. The session will bring together a community of practice through an assessment of existing knowledge networks and will showcase real-world examples from both a local government and an eastern and western regional perspective. 1.5 CEUs

Moderator:
Chris Duerkesen, Managing Director, Clarion Associates

Speakers:
Kate Marshall, AICP, Partner & Project Director, SRA International
Stephanie Smith, Sustainability Specialist, City of Flagstaff, Arizona

MITIGATING OIL AND GAS IMPACTS ON URBAN AND RURAL LANDSCAPES
Sturm College of Law, 280

The increased pace of oil and gas development is altering the landscape of the Rocky Mountain West. Increasingly, oil and gas development is encroaching into cities and residential neighborhoods. Rural open space and wildlife habitat is threatened by the pace and scope of such development. Conservation organizations, including land trusts and government parks, open space and wildlife agencies, are grappling with these issues. Landowners seek tools to allow for oil and gas development while preserving open space and wildlife habitat. This session will explore the current context for navigating these issues. Topics to be discussed include industry techniques for mitigating impacts, the regulatory climate, surface use agreements and impacts on conservation easements. 1.5 CEUs

Speakers:
Polly Jessen, Partner, Kaplan Kirsch & Rockwell, LLP
David Neslin, Director, Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission
William Silberstein, Partner, Kaplan Kirsch & Rockwell, LLP

THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF RIVER RESTORATION
Sturm College of Law, 170

Many communities throughout the Rocky Mountain West were founded along a creek, river or stream for good reason. It was a source of energy, transportation, agriculture, sanitation and economic development. Over the years, all levels of government have necessarily regulated and protected our riverfronts to safeguard the public. Some waterfront laws and regulations are more enlightened than others. This session will clarify three related issues regarding river restoration projects, namely the technical, regulatory and engineering issues associated with riverfront development; the community planning and design issues and opportunities associated with waterfront development; and the economic, market and tourist-related opportunities for riverfront projects. 1.5 CEUs

Speakers:
Donald Brandes, Jr., RLA, President, Design Studios West
Jonathan Jones, P.E., CEO & Principal, Wright Water Engineers
Tom Martin, President, ConsultEcon
11:50am – 1:15pm

LUNCH
Sturm College of Law Forum - Tickets Required

1:15pm – 2:45pm

**WATER CONSERVATION IN THE WEST: THE NEW NORMAL**
Sturm College of Law, 180

Due to a number of factors, including population growth, climate change and financial limitations, water providers across the West are more focused than ever on conserving and reusing valuable water resources. The panel will address the institutional and practical needs for water conservation in the western United States. It will discuss the various techniques being implemented to conserve and reuse water resources and will discuss the varying levels of success of each approach. It will also address evolving regulations that more rigorously test the adequacy of water conservation measures, both from a land use and water rights perspective. 1.5 CEUs

**Moderator:**
Wayne Forman, Esq., Shareholder, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck

**Speakers:**
Sarah Bates, Senior Associate, University of Montana Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Policy
Doug Bennett, Conservation Manager, Southern Nevada Water Authority
Harold Smethills, Managing Director, Sterling Ranch

**EXPLORING ECO-SYSTEMS SERVICES POTENTIAL ON STATE TRUST LANDS**
Sturm College of Law, 170

State trust lands are a unique and often misunderstood category of land in the West. Granted to states by Congress to support public institutions, primarily public schools, the mandate governing these lands is for revenue generation for trust beneficiaries. However, some trust lands also have high conservation values. This session will explore current efforts to investigate ecosystem service markets as a means to generate value for the trust while allowing conservation of ecologically important lands. A basic overview and history of trust lands, as well as an overview of promising ecosystem service markets enabling land conservation, will be provided. Case studies will be presented where trust land managers have investigated the potential of ecosystem services on their land holdings. 1.5 CEUs

**Moderator:**
Susan Culp, Project Manager, Sonoran Institute

**Speakers:**
Adam Davis, President, Solano Partners
Mindy Gottsegen, Conservation Services Manager, Colorado State Board of Land Commissioners
**IN reclaimed DEVELOPMENT FOR SMALL CITIES: LESSONS FROM BILLINGS, MONTANA**

Sturm College of Law, 165

In April 2011, Smart Growth America partnered with the City of Billings, Montana on a two-day workshop to talk about ways that this relatively small (but regionally significant and growing) city could pursue strategies to foster more and better infill development and curb sprawl. Based on this workshop, during the course of our proposed session, our panelists would provide an overview of some of the challenges smaller, growing Western cities like Billings face in adopting good infill strategies, some of the most successful strategies being employed in these areas, and the progress Billings has made specifically in crafting and implementing an infill policy following the workshop. 1.5 CEUs

**Moderator:**
Roger Millar, AICP, Director, Smart Growth America

**Speakers:**
Candas Beaudry, AICP, Director, City of Billings Planning and Community Services Department
Marilee Utter, Executive Vice President, Urban Land Institute

**FOREST TO FAUCET & GREENWAY PARTNERSHIPS: LINKING MUNICIPALITIES TO THEIR HEADWATERS**

Sturm College of Law, 155

Many major Western cities receive the majority of their water supplies from upstream National Forests. New partnerships between the US Forest Service and the cities of Denver and Aurora in Colorado provide models for how municipalities can financially contribute to forest management and restoration in the headwaters to help protect critical water source areas. This session will explore how Forest to Faucet partnerships and riparian greenway initiatives could potentially be coordinated to help “protect and connect” the headwaters to provide many benefits to downstream municipalities, including municipalities that do not derive their domestic water from these watersheds but still can benefit from flood protection or recreation opportunities. 1.5 CEUs

**Moderator:**
Claire Harper, Water Partnership Coordinator, U.S. Forest Service

**Speakers:**
Brian Hyde, Watershed Restoration Planner, River Balance & Harmony
Michael McHugh, Permitting Coordinator, Aurora Water

**OVERPLATTED? TOOLS TO REDUCE THE IMPACT OF TOO MANY LOTS**

Sturm College of Law, 190

The session will follow up on a 2011 presentation at the RMLUI Conference that detailed the 8,000 platted, vacant lots spread throughout the unincorporated parts of Teton County, ID. This glut of lots is driving market values down in the short term and will be impossible to provide services to in the long term. Teton County officials are actively seeking solutions that will minimize the impacts of these lots and that will help Teton County break free from their 40-year history of boom-bust cycles of development. All solutions must address the possibility of a lawsuit and place the County in the most defensible position possible. This session will outline the successes and setbacks of Teton County in grappling with this problem over the past year. 1.5 CEUs

**Moderator:**
Anna Trentadue, Staff Attorney & Program Associate, Valley Advocates for Responsible Development

**Speakers:**
Angie Rutherford, Planning Administrator, Teton County, Idaho
Kathy Spitzer, Prosecuting Attorney, Teton County, Idaho
2:45pm – 3:00pm

INTERMISSION BREAK
Sturm College of Law Forum

3:00pm – 4:30pm

● CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS AND SHIFTING PRIORITIES: BLM’S ROLE IN SHAPING WILDERNESS CITIES
Sturm College of Law, 125

As the West has changed from a place focused on natural resource extraction to a region whose economy includes significant scientific, educational, recreational and tourism activity, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and its relationship with western communities has changed as well. Emblematic of that shift, the National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS) was established to conserve, protect, and restore the BLM’s nationally significant landscapes, representing a recalibration for BLM. This panel explores the economic and demographic changes that are taking place in the West, the BLM’s adaptation to those changes, and the relationships that are developing to ensure that western wilderness is connected to western communities, their culture, and their economy. 1.5 CEUs

Moderator:
Patty Limerick, Faculty Director & Chair, University of Colorado Center for the American West

Speakers:
Carl Rountree, Director, Bureau of Land Management, Office of National Landscape Conservation System and Community Partnerships

● REGIONAL SUSTAINABILITY PLANNING
Sturm College of Law, 190

Regional sustainability planning is catching on as a best practice model for sustainable development. The regional approach allows for effective use of resources that encompass areas greater than any single community while still maintaining regional distinctions intact. This session will discuss the tools and best practices used in regional sustainability planning, such as interdisciplinary and cross-sector consortiums, tool development, benchmarking and inventory practices, community engagement, sustainability indicators, and housing and workforce development components. 1.5 CEUs

Moderator:
Anna Zawisza, Education & Outreach Director, Alliance for Sustainable Colorado

Speakers:
Jeff Hirt, AICP, Sustainable Planning Project Manager, Mid America Regional Council
Robert MacDonald, Executive Director, Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments
Andris Zobs, Executive Director, The Office for Resource Efficiency
PRIVATE ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SYSTEMS: ZONING, REGULATORY AND FINANCE ISSUES
Sturm College of Law, 155

This session will provide an overview of the legal and regulatory challenges that property developers face when seeking to incorporate alternative energy systems into their buildings, and will suggest ways to meet these challenges. Demand for wind, solar and other alternate energy systems continues to grow, but zoning and engineering limitations, utility regulations, and financing valuations create a myriad of roadblocks discouraging the use and installation of these systems. Examples of creative solutions will be provided for overcoming these obstacles. 1.5 CEUs

Moderator:
K.K. DuVivier, Professor of Law, University of Denver Sturm College of Law

Speakers:
Piper Foster, Vice President, Amatis Controls
Barbara Mueller, Partner, Davis Graham & Stubbs, LLP
Susan Perkins, Attorney, Perkins Energy Law

BEST PRACTICES & LESSONS LEARNED IN SUSTAINABLE HOUSING
Sturm College of Law, 165

Can neighborhood scale projects achieve Net Zero Energy? Can they be designed to take advantage of the public spaces and rights of way to use low-impact development and green infrastructure techniques to deal with stormwater issues? Can they be programmed in such a way that they address not only the external environment, but truly create a healthy and vibrant neighborhood? This session will showcase the Denver Housing Authority’s South Lincoln project and the Partnership for Sustainable Communities (EPA, HUD, DOT) funded project that explored these issues. A second example will demonstrate how the GEOS Neighborhood, a 300 unit mixed use community in Arvada, plans to achieve attractive living conditions with minimal environmental impact. 1.5 CEUs

Moderator:
Narada Golden, Director, YR&G

Speakers:
Kimball Crangle, Senior Developer, Denver Housing Authority
Stacey Eriksen, Urban Watershed Revitalization Coordinator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Norbert Klebl, Developer, GEOS Smart Living
TOD CASE STUDY: RTD’S OLDE TOWN ARVADA PILOT PROJECT
Sturm College of Law, 180

In 2010, the Denver Regional Transportation District (RTD) updated the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Strategic Plan to reflect the EPA-DOT-HUD Partnership for Sustainable Communities livability principles, and created the TOD Pilot Program to allow RTD to proactively pursue efforts to implement joint development at key locations on RTD’s existing and planned rail system. RTD’s current TOD pilot projects are a collaboration between the transit agency, the local jurisdiction and the private sector. The session will focus on Olde Towne Arvada, and will discuss the planning efforts to date, the roles of each of the stakeholders, the challenges faced, and the solutions being pursued to bring the project to fruition, including the phasing and financing mechanisms being evaluated. 1.5 CEUs

Moderator:
Kate Iverson, Manager of Transit Oriented Development, Regional Transportation District

Speakers:
Laura Aldrete, Senior Supervising Planner, PB Placemaking
Bob Manwaring, Director of Public Works, City of Arvada
Maureen Phair, Executive Director, Arvada Urban Renewal Authority