

# Allyson B. Salisbury

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## EDUCATION

**Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ**

Ph.D in Environmental Science

May 2017

- Dissertation: *Photosynthetic capacity along a gradient of trace element contamination in a spontaneous urban forest community*

M.S. in Environmental Science

October 2013

- Master's Thesis: *Comparing the Conditions and Design of Stormwater Detention Basins Built Between 1970 and 2011 to Estimate Service Life*

**Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove, PA**

May 2008

Bachelor of Science in Earth and Environmental Science

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, IL**

Post-Doctoral Researcher, Tollway Project

June 2018 - Present

- Evaluated previously planted trees on the Illinois Tollway which were planted over a 30 year period to assess factors which influence survivorship and growth
- Assessed soil conditions and plant physiology in newly planted trees along the Tollway to improve tree planting and management practices in a highway environment
- Provided progress reports and research summaries to project sponsor

**Biology Department, Rutgers University, Newark, NJ**

Post-Doctoral Research Associate

September 2017 - May 2018

- Analyzed plant species composition collected over the course of 8 years in an abandoned industrial site to study the effects of heavy metal pollution on biodiversity
- Supervised an undergraduate research assistant conducting lab work and data entry
- Mentored undergraduate and graduate students in the lab group on issues relating to research, presentations, and career development

## Research Consultant

**I-95 Bioretention Basin Ecophysiology Project**

May 2017 - October 2017

Client: Temple University

- Assessed plant response to water and pollutant stress using photosynthesis gas exchange and fluorescence techniques in stormwater bioretention basins
- Organized and prepared photosynthesis data for further analysis

**Urban Biodiversity Database Development and Literature Review**

July 2017 - August 2017

Client: Rutgers University and Urban Biodiversity Network (UrBioNet)

- Developed a plan to create a database repository for urban biodiversity research
- Conducted a literature review of urban biodiversity studies

**Delaware River Basin Land Use/Land Cover Analysis**

April 2017 - May 2017

Client: Rutgers University and Center for Watershed Protection

- Compiled and synthesized land use, land cover, and public access data for the Delaware River Basin to identify target sites and sub-basins for future in depth water quality analysis

- Urban and Community Forestry Group, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ**  
 Research Assistant April 2017 - August 2017
- Coordinated and led a team of students to collect allometry and physiology data on a 20-year old study of street trees growing in structural soil in Brooklyn, New York
  - Analyzed data to test effects of structural soil on tree growth and condition
- Research Assistant, Ph.D. Candidate Jan. 2014 - April 2017
- Led a study about the ability of an urban forest growing on polluted soil to store carbon and prevent the movement of pollution off site
  - Collected and analyzed data on photosynthetic rates, tree growth, and soil properties
  - Taught undergraduate students how to use various research equipment, create sampling plans, and analyze data
- Research Assistant. M.S. Candidate June 2013 - Sept. 2013
- Conducted a study of tree health in stormwater detention basins in Central NJ
- NJ State Forestry Services, NJ Department of Environmental Protection, Trenton, NJ**  
 Community Forestry Intern Oct. 2013 - Apr. 2014
- Coordinated the distribution of 100,000+ tree seedlings as part of the NJ Tree Recovery Campaign, a joint program with the National Arbor Day Foundation
  - Reviewed Community Forestry Management Plans written by NJ municipalities
  - Created educational material on community forestry topics
- Douglass Project for Women in Math, Science & Engineering, Rutgers, New Brunswick, NJ**  
 Environmental Living Learning Community Graduate Mentor Sept. 2015 - May 2016
- Planned environmental themed activities for student in Living Learning Community, including field trips, documentary screenings, and educational games at other residence hall events
  - Advised students on choosing courses, majors, research, and extracurricular activities
- Environmental Science Graduate Mentor Sept. 2011 - May 2013
- Advised the Douglass Sustainability Committee, a student group, by mentoring students, planning events, and soliciting speakers for meetings
  - Coordinated a Sustainability Symposium featuring two panels of professors and graduate students discussing careers in the environmental science field and sustainable agriculture
  - Partnered with other graduate mentors to develop and provide educational events about choosing a major and related topics for residents of an all women science residence hall
- Passaic River Coalition, Morristown, NJ**  
 Environmental Specialist Sept. 2008 - Aug. 2010 (FT), Sept. 2010 - Aug. 2013 (PT)
- Wrote an Action Plan for the Water Resources Protection Report for Greenwood Lake
  - Created maps using GIS for Land Trust properties and other projects
  - Updated Natural Resource Inventories and Open Space Master Plans for several municipalities
  - Wrote content for quarterly membership newsletter
  - Obtained grant funding to preserve undeveloped properties as open space
- Douglass Science Institute, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ**  
 Class Instructor July 2011, July 2012
- Designed and taught hands-on environmental science classes at a summer science camp for high school girls

## PUBLICATIONS

- Salisbury, A.B., M. Midgley, C. Rollinson, G. Watson, C. Cannon, J. Miesbauer. "Tree selection, planting, and maintenance to improve tree health and benefits along highways." *Urban Forestry & Urban Greening*. In review.
- Salisbury, A.B., J. Grabosky. "Leaf gas exchange and foliar macronutrients vary in *Quercus bicolor* but not *Quercus phellos* between a designed soil pavement system and open lawn." *Urban Forestry & Urban Greening*. In press.
- Knapp, S., M. Aronson, ... A.B. Salisbury, et al. "A research agenda for urban ecology under global biodiversity loss." *Bioscience*. In review.
- Salisbury, A.B., F. Gallagher, H.A. Parag, L. Meneses-Florián, and C. Holzapfel. "Plant diversity increases in an urban wildland after four decades of unaided vegetation development in a post-industrial site." *Urban Ecosystems*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11252-020-01018-x>
- Salisbury, A.B., F. Gallagher, J. Caplan, and J. Grabosky (2017). "Photosynthetic capacity of field grown *Betula populifolia* in metal contaminated anthropogenic soils." *Science of the Total Environment*. 625:1615-1627.
- Salisbury, A.B., J. Reinfelder, F. Gallagher, and J. Grabosky (2017). "Long term stability of trace element concentration in a spontaneously-vegetated urban brownfield." *Soil Science*. 182(2).
- Salisbury, A.B. and C. Obropta (2016). "Potential for Existing Detention Basins to Comply with Updated Stormwater Rules: Case Study." *Journal of Hydrologic Engineering*. 21(1).

## RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS (2017-2020)

- "Tracking transplant shock recovery between small and large stock size trees planted in amended highway soils." Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting, Virtual Conference. Aug 2020
- "Twenty Years of Tree Growth in a Designed Sidewalk Soil System." Shanghai Municipal Landscape Management and Instructional Station, Shanghai, China. Nov 2019
- "Planted tree diversity decreases over time in highway right-of-ways." (Poster) Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting, Louisville, KY. Aug 2019
- "I-355 Highway Tree Research Projects: An overview of research projects from the Morton Arboretum and Illinois Tollway Authority Collaboration" Chicago Region Trees Initiative Transportation 'N Trees Workshop, Schaumburg, IL. Feb 2019.
- "Tracking urban tree growth comparing paved and non-paved root zone treatments in a working streetscape over time." The Landscape Belowground IV Conference, Lisle, IL. Oct 2018
- "Changes in plant community composition and diversity in response to metal contaminated soil." Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA. Aug. 2018.
- "Photosynthetic responses of mature *Betula populifolia* trees growing in trace element contaminated anthropogenic soil." Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting, Portland, OR. Aug 2017

## **CONTINUING EDUCATION AND ADULT LEARNING PRESENTATIONS**

### **Tree Root Biology in the Built Environment**

- New Jersey Shade Tree Federation Annual Meeting, Webinar, Oct 2020
- Midwest Tree and Shrub Conference, Webinar, Sept 2020
- Roots and Hardscape Workshop. Ohio Independent Arborists Association. Oct 2019

### **Don't Put Your Trees on the Highway to Hell: Best Practices for Growing Roadside Trees**

- Urban Tree Conference, University of Illinois, Webinar, Jan 2021
- Chicago Region Trees Initiative Tree Stewardship and Planting Work Group Telenetwork, Webinar, Jul 2020

### **Urban Soils and Trees**

- Chicago Wilderness Virtual Congress, Webinar, May 2020
- Urban Soil Regeneration Conference, Feb 2020
- Openlands Tree Stewards Intern Training, The Morton Arboretum. May 2019

### **The Wild Lives of Houseplants**

- Scotch Plains Fanwood College Club, Webinar, Oct 2020
- The Morton Arboretum, Webinar, May 2020; In person, Feb 2020

## **TECHNICAL SKILLS**

MS Office (Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Access); ArcGIS; R statistics; Adobe Creative Suite; HydroCAD; operation of LICOR 6400 and 6800 portable photosynthesis system; analysis of soil chemical, physical, and biological properties