

Strike Team 18th Annual Conference – April 16, 2025 - Duke Farms



9:00 am – 9:15 am	Check-In, CEU Signups, Continental Breakfast
9:15 am – 9:30 am	Welcome: Margaret Waldock, Executive Director, Duke Farms
9:30 am – 10:30 am	<p>Assessing Deer Population Densities in Northern New Jersey Jay Kelly, Raritan Valley Community College</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Kelly will present his ongoing research on northern NJ deer populations with the RVCC Center for Environmental Studies • Includes results of infrared drone surveys on more than 1,000 km² • Assessment of population changes over time based on research conducted by NJDEP in the mid-Twentieth Century • Local studies on the effects of intensive deer management efforts, and comparisons with other measures of deer density, including spotlight surveys, infrared surveys by fixed wing aircraft, and estimations based on harvest data.
10:30 am – 11:00 am	BREAK
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	<p>Implementation of Invasive Weed Control Program: The Planning, Tools and Tricks to achieve successful outcomes Drew O’Neill, Weeds, Inc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Real world examples of how to plan for and enact successful invasive weed control programs from a Applicators Perspective • Review various Equipment and Application techniques needed • Herbicide formulations to eliminate hard to control invasive weeds while limiting off target damage
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	LUNCH - Provided by Strike Team
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	<p>Pest and Pathogens of New Jersey’s Forest: What’s next? Ben Pisano, New Jersey Forest Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common forest pests and where they’ve been detected in New Jersey • Challenges and potential management options - What NJFS has done? • Future pests that New Jersey will likely experience in the coming years
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	<p>Wyeth-Duke Farms Forested Floodplain Restoration Project John Jengo, Stantec & Michael Bellaus, Duke Farms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data Gathering: Surveying, GPR, Soil Profiling, Permeability Testing, Well Point Gauging • Field Preparation: Invasive Tree Removal & Herbicide Treatments • Wetlands Design Summary • Wetlands Construction Scope & Performance Objectives • Projected Outcomes: Vernal Pool, Shrub & Forested Floodplain Habitat
3:00 pm – 3:15 pm	BREAK
3:15 pm – 4:00 pm	<p>State of New Jersey Invasive Species Mike Van Clef, Strike Team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status of Invasive Species Legislation and Strike Team “Do Not Plant List” • What’s new and dangerous? New plant species and worrying trends. • Building a robust Early Detection & Rapid Response Network