

CT Microfiber Working Group Members:

Dr. Vincent T. Breslin

Professor of Environment, Geography and Marine Sciences
Southern Connecticut State University
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BIO: Vincent T. Breslin is a professor in the Department of Environment, Geography, and Marine Sciences at Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven, CT. He received a BS in Marine Biology from the University of New England, ME, a MS in Marine Environmental Sciences from Stony Brook University, NY and a Ph.D. in Oceanography from the Florida Institute of Technology, FL. Dr. Breslin teaches undergraduate courses in Marine Studies, Environmental Studies, the Honors College program and the graduate Environmental Education MS program. In 2007, Dr. Breslin received the J. Philip Smith Award for Outstanding Teaching at SCSU and was elected a 2009 SENCER Leadership Fellow by the National Leadership Board of the National Center for Science and Civic Engagement. Dr. Breslin is also a member of the Long Island Sound Study Science and Technical Advisory Committee. He is also a co-founder and co-coordinator of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities Werth Center for Coastal and Marine Studies. Dr. Breslin has received funding and published papers in support of laboratory and field-based studies examining the biogeochemical behavior of contaminant metals in coastal sediments and the consequences of microplastics in the marine environment.

Louis W. Burch

Connecticut Program Director
Citizens Campaign for the Environment
Email: lburch@citizenscampaign.org

BIO: Citizens Campaign for the Environment (CCE) was formed by 1985 by a small group of concerned citizens who recognized the need to provide public involvement to advance stronger environmental policy. Today, CCE has grown to an 80,000-member organization with offices in Farmingdale, NY, Albany, NY, Syracuse, NY, and Hamden, CT. CCE continues to work to empower the public by providing members with opportunities to participate in the political process and thereby advance a strong environmental agenda. CCE engages in extensive education, research, lobbying and public outreach. One of our primary goals is to help citizens increase their influence and participation in important environmental campaigns. Through such activism, the public has a stronger voice in the development of public policies and legislative agendas. CCE's experienced program staff works to identify key environmental concerns in communities across New York State and Connecticut. By working with other organizations in diverse coalitions and through ongoing communication with local, state and federal elected officials and environmental and public health agencies, CCE has been successful in advancing programs that benefit the natural environment and public health. Our achievements through public involvement have resulted in greater awareness and protection of drinking water quality, preservation of open spaces,

protection of beaches, bays, rivers, and Great Lakes waters, advancing renewable energy and a reduction in pollutants that impair our air and water resources.

Source: <https://www.citizenscampaign.org/about.asp>

Edward A. Gribbin

Senior Advisor

Alvanon

Email: ed.gribbin@alvanon.com

BIO: Ed Gribbin is the founder and CEO of Gribbin Strategic, LLC, a boutique consultancy focused on the apparel/fashion sector and offering services in the areas of growth strategy, business development, branding and marketing, product development and supply chain innovation, executive coaching and change management. Ed is widely recognized as one of the world's leading authorities on the apparel industry and serves on numerous global boards dedicated to the success of the retail, apparel and textile sectors, including the American Apparel & Footwear Association, the International Apparel Federation, the Americas Apparel Producers Network and the Sewn Products Equipment Suppliers of the Americas. For the past seven years, Ed served as President of Alvanon, Inc., a leading innovation, technology and consulting firm serving major brands and retailers. Ed built and led Alvanon teams around the globe helping fashion industry clients develop and implement strategies and solutions in disciplines ranging from marketing and merchandising to product development and supply chain. Prior to Alvanon, Ed served as Present and COO of technology start-up Intellifit Corporation, where he co-invented the revolutionary Intellifit Body Scanner and built a data-driven consulting practice based on optimizing apparel fit and sizing strategy. As Senior Vice President at Angelica Corporation, Ed managed sales, marketing, design and production for one of the largest corporate-wear companies in the United States.

Sidney J. Holbrook

Executive Director

Greater New Haven Water Pollution Control Authority

Email: sidholbrook@gmail.com

BIO: Sidney Holbrook is the executive director of the Greater New Haven Water Pollution and Control Authority, which provides waste water services to the towns of East Haven, Hamden, New Haven, and Woodbridge. Holbrook has also served as the Commissioner for the Department of Environmental Protection from 1995 through 1997.

Kristen Kern

Government Relations Representative

American Apparel and Footwear Association (AAFA)

Email: kkern@aafaglobal.org

Bio: As a Government Relations Representative, Kristen leads the AAFA Sustainability portfolio, working with government and industry professionals to further environmental sustainability in the apparel and footwear industry. She also leads the AAFA Product Safety portfolio, collaborating with stakeholders to create best practices and regulation for safe, quality products for consumers. Kristen holds Bachelor's Degrees in Fashion Merchandising and Design, and French, with a minor in Chemistry from Virginia Tech.

Source: <https://www.aafaglobal.org/AAFA/About/Team.aspx>

Bill Lucey

Sound Keeper

Connecticut Fund for the Environment/Save the Sound

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BIO: Through regular patrols of your bays and harbors, the Soundkeeper focuses on finding, reporting, and fixing our most vexing water quality problems. In addition to being our on-the-water watchdog, the Soundkeeper speaks out on behalf of the many marine species that depend on a healthy Sound for survival. He provides a powerful voice for the lobsters, bluefish, whales and seals, and other full-time residents of the Sound. When not on the water, the Soundkeeper is busy supporting and mobilizing communities around the Sound to take action for clean water. The Soundkeeper works with Save the Sound's program staff across Connecticut and New York to develop strong environmental policies and solutions to water pollution. To make sure our clean water laws and regulations are enforced on the Sound, the Soundkeeper works closely with Save the Sound's environmental attorneys, holding polluters accountable under the law. Bill is a fish and wildlife biologist with more than two decades of experience studying and conserving marine life. He is also an experienced commercial fisherman and environmental educator. As your on-the-water watchdog, Bill upholds Save the Sound's mission to protect and restore Long Island Sound. Bill is backed by Save the Sound's expert legal team and our water monitoring program to help identify polluters and hold them accountable.

Andrew Pappas

Policy Advisor

Outdoor Industry Association

Email: apappas@outdoorindustry.org

BIO: The Outdoor Industry Association is a membership-driven trade organization for the outdoor industry. In collaboration with our members, we are a force for the industry in recreation and trade policy, sustainable business innovation and increasing outdoor participation. OIA was founded in 1989 by a group of 14 visionary outdoor industry pioneers who created the association to be a unified, collaborative, pre-competitive voice to help guide the industry. Today, OIA is the voice of the outdoor recreation

industry, both locally and in Washington D.C., serving more than 1200 manufacturers, retailers distributors, suppliers, sales representatives, nonprofits and outdoorists.

Source: <https://outdoorindustry.org/who-we-are/>

Dr. Evan J. Ward

Professor of Marine Sciences

University of Connecticut

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BIO: I am an experimental biologist whose research interests are directed toward an understanding of the dynamic interactions between marine animals and their environment. Using an integrative approach, my students and I study processes ranging from the organism to ecosystem level. We are particularly interested in the behavior and physiology of benthic, particle-feeding invertebrates. Much of our research focuses on commercially important bivalves (e.g., clams, mussels, oysters), which are key components of most coastal ecosystems. These animals provide vital ecosystem services and are an important link between oceans and human health.

Source: <http://web.uconn.edu/jevanward/>

Timnit Kefala

Graduate Student

Bren School, University of California Santa Barbara

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BIO: Timnit Kefala is a doctoral student in the Holden Lab at the Bren School, UC Santa Barbara. Her dissertation research is focused on understanding the ubiquity of microfibers, the role wastewater treatment infrastructure plays and their environmental effects. Prior to UCSB, she received her BSc in Biology (with a minor in English) and MSc in Biology from Rutgers University-Camden in New Jersey. She is actively involved in making environmental science accessible and works on numerous initiatives that focus on diversification.

Demi Fox

Northeast Regional Coordinator

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Email: demi.fox@noaa.gov

BIO: Demi Fox is the Northeast Regional Coordinator for the NOAA Marine Debris Program (MDP) and is based in Gloucester, Massachusetts. She joined NOAA, via a contract through Freestone Environmental Services, in January of this year to coordinate MDP activities in Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island. Demi works with partners to assess both existing and emerging issues, implement prevention projects, plan removal efforts, and foster collaboration across the region. Demi received her BS in Biological Science from Florida State University and Master of Environmental Management degree in Coastal Environmental Management from Duke University's Nicholas School of the Environment.

Dr. Christina Stringer

Environmental Analyst

Northeast Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission

Email: cstringer@neiwpicc.org

BIO: Dr. Christina Stringer joined NEIWPC Water Resources Protection Division in 2018 as an Environmental Analyst. She serves as the Lowell Project Manager for the New York Source Water Assessment and Protection Program. The purpose of this innovative five-year effort is to review and update more than 2,000 existing municipal source water assessment plans and, by assisting municipalities with the prioritization of their environmental protection activities, develop associated water-quality-protection plans. She also manages the Emerging Contaminants and the Ground Water and Source Water Protection Workgroups, and will be involved in other drinking water initiatives. Previously, Dr. Stringer worked with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians to establish federally recognized tribal water-quality standards and update tribal codes and regulations related to water quality. She also served as a post-doctoral research hydrologist for the U.S. Forest Service, researching carbon storage in mangroves and working to build in-country capacity in Mozambique to address carbon-science needs. Dr. Stringer also worked as the Regional Hydrologist and Natural Resources Officer for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Eastern Region, providing technical assistance to Tribes on a variety of natural resources and environmental issues. Her past research activities related to quantifying ground water and surface water interactions and investigating the role those processes play in controlling ecosystem structure and function in coastal settings.

Alicea Charamut

Connecticut River Conservancy

Email: acharamut@ctriver.org

BIO: Alicea is on staff at the Connecticut River Conservancy as the River Steward in Connecticut. In addition, she is a volunteer for the Trout Unlimited as a board member

of her local chapter, Farmington Valley, and as Chair of the Connecticut Council. She is the Secretary of the Fisheries Advisory Council, a member of the Connecticut Council on Environmental Quality, on the board of Rivers Alliance of Connecticut, and Co-Chair of the Water Planning Council Advisory Group. Alicea holds a B.S. in Biological Sciences from the University of Connecticut.

Lisa Erdle

PhD Student,

University of Toronto

Email: lerdle@gmail.com

BIO: Lisa is a PhD student in the Rochman lab at the University of Toronto and researches the effects of microfibers on a food web. In her work, Lisa collaborates with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) as well as Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) to better understand how microfibers—one of the most common types of microplastics—impact the fish through physical and chemical processes.

Margaret Miner

Executive Director

Connecticut Rivers Alliance

Email: rivers@riversalliance.org

BIO: Margaret Miner is Executive Director of Rivers Alliance of Connecticut, founded in 1992 by the state's leading river-watershed groups. Its mission is to protect all the state's waters by working to enact good environmental laws and regulations, providing education through multiple media, and helping individuals who are dealing with a water-related problem and do not know where to turn. Since 2000, with Ms. Miner as executive, Rivers Alliance worked successfully to pass state laws to protect streamflow in all water courses; to ban the water contaminant MTBE in gasoline; and to restore and protect state funding for USGS streamflow and groundwater programs.

Ms. Miner serves on the Connecticut Water Planning Council's Advisory Group, the board of the state's Natural Heritage, Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Review Board, and the board of the Connecticut League of Conservation Voters. Prior to coming to Rivers Alliance, she was Executive Director of the Roxbury Land Trust, and before that worked as a news reporter and as a book editor and writer.

Among the numerous awards to Rivers Alliance and Ms. Miner are:

- Connecticut Land Conservation Council Lifetime Achievement Award (2018)

- Connecticut River Conservancy Bud Foster Award for 2017
- US EPA New England Lifetime Merit Award, 2016
- Connecticut Council of Inland-Wetlands and Conservation Commissions Lifetime Achievement Award, 2015
- Connecticut Bar Association, Environmental Section, Clyde O. Fisher Award, 2008

David Sutherland

Director of Government Relations, The Nature Conservancy, Connecticut Chapter

Email: dsutherland@tnc.org

BIO: David Sutherland has been the Director of Government Relations for the Nature Conservancy's Connecticut Chapter for the past 19 years. He has worked with colleagues in the Connecticut Land Conservation Council to lobby for over \$350 million in state funds to preserve natural lands across the state. He has helped lead efforts for the conservation community to work with advocates for farmland preservation, affordable housing, and historic preservation to support the Community Investment Act. David has also worked with Acadia Center and other groups to lobby for legislation implementing the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative in Connecticut and establishing a state task force on the impacts of climate change. He has advocated for policies and funding to improve the water quality and health of our rivers. David has an MA in Environmental Studies from Antioch University and lives in Glastonbury, Connecticut.

Elissa Foster

Senior Manager of Product Responsibility

Patagonia

Email: elissa.foster@patagonia.com

BIO: Elissa is a Senior Manager of Product Responsibility at Patagonia. She is responsible for researching and measuring the environmental impacts of Patagonia's materials and products and implementing programs to reduce those impacts. Elissa has been working on environmental projects for Patagonia for 14 years. Elissa taught a class on Circular Economy for UCSB's Environmental Studies department in 2018. Prior to working in her current position at Patagonia, Elissa worked as an Environmental Specialist for the city of Ventura. Elissa has a BS degree in Zoology from UC Santa Barbara, Master's degree in Environmental Science and Management from the Donald Bren School of Environmental Science and Management (UCSB), and a Doctorate of Environmental Science and Engineering from UCLA.