

Workshops

Proposals are due April 15, 2019

Thank you for considering the development of a workshop for the Natural Areas Conference! We appreciate your efforts to bring the very best of your knowledge and insight to a wider audience at the conference, and to help us make this event as engaging, collaborative and cutting-edge for your colleagues as possible. We are pleased to provide a venue for you to advance a broader discussion of natural areas topics to this audience.

Please check for this year's conference theme and topics. We ask that all proposals connect to the theme and fall under the heading of one or more of our announced topics. We also ask that you consider our audience, which is primarily people involved in on-the-ground management and adaptation work, when submitting your proposal.

NOTE: We collect and retain a nominal fee from attendees for registering for a workshop, in order to encourage those registering to commit to follow through and attend. This prevents workshop organizers from taking the trouble to organize a workshop for our conference for only a few interested attendees. *For those who wish to attend a workshop who are NOT attendees of the conference, the cost will be \$50, payable to NAA.*

- **What is a Workshop?**

Workshops are events that have a greater instructional component than symposia and individual presentations, and participants typically remain in the workshop for the entire session, rather than moving between sessions. They are also more in the hands of the organizer, in the sense that while we review proposals and list them in our registration and in our conference program, organizers are responsible for communicating with participants, and we ask that they take on some of the burden of promoting their workshop themselves.

At our conference, we typically schedule workshops before our regular program, so we sometimes refer to them as Pre-conference Workshops. The proposal submission form will ask you to choose how long you want the workshop to last (half day or whole day), your prospective attendance, your attendance limit, and what times/days are available. Participants sign up in advance for a workshop, and attendance is usually limited.

- **Who should consider submitting a proposal for a Workshop?**

Workshops are perfect for organizers who are looking for a way to gather a group interested in an in-depth topic for an extended instructional experience. For example, we have had Workshops that deal with how to use tools of interest to land managers, or engage with a particular land management initiative or body of knowledge in a rigorous way. *We expect Workshop organizers to be registered attendees at the Natural Areas Conference.*

Instructions and Judgment Criteria

On this page, you'll find detailed instructions for how to put together a 2019 Natural Areas Conference Workshop Proposal.

When you have read through the instructions and are ready to submit your proposal, click back to the main Call for Proposals Page and press Submit Proposal.

Our proposal submission form will ask for the following information, so please have everything assembled before beginning your electronic submission:

- Workshop title
- Organizer contact information
- Proposed instructors/facilitators
- Paragraph summary of workshop content, purpose, and relationship to conference theme. *See below for an example **
- Half day or full day
- Indoor space, outdoor space, or both needed
- Expected number of attendees and limit to the number of participants, if any
- Invited guests only or open to all conference registrants

** Private forests, farms and ranches are increasingly vulnerable to a broad range of impacts from climate change, drought and wildfires. The risks of these unpredictable but potentially catastrophic events are profound. Building resilience on these lands can be accomplished through intentional site-specific design and management techniques. This workshop combines permaculture design principles and sustainable biomass management using affordable techniques to reduce the intensity of wildfires and drought on forest, brush, grass- and crop-lands – while enhancing ecosystem services. These techniques also improve soil quality, moisture conservation, wildlife habitat, water quality and income streams. Relying on a combination of traditional ecological and scientific practices and knowledge, practical, applicable solutions will be shared. We will also examine emerging climate change-related markets for carbon, nutrients and value-add opportunities from implemented practices. This proposal relates to the overarching conference themes of working across boundaries as the relationship between what happens on private lands and public lands is critical. Collaboration is at the heart of this effort as private landowners enhance their properties, they become contagion and leaders for changes throughout their watersheds. Most actions private landowners undertake to build resilience on their properties requires coordination and collaboration with a host of other agencies and organizations to define and support their work.*

This workshop specifically addresses conservation across boundaries, the wildland/urban interface, the value of healthy land to water resources, the importance of natural areas, ecosystem services and working landscapes and forest and range management. Agency personnel sometimes lack of practical, personal experience in the areas in which they lead. This workshop can help them ground themselves in the realities of private landowners and help them learn how to work effectively across public/private boundaries. This is an

excellent train-the-trainer opportunity as well.

Proposals will be reviewed by the program committee and accepted based on quality and relevance of proposed content, and overall fit with the conference program.