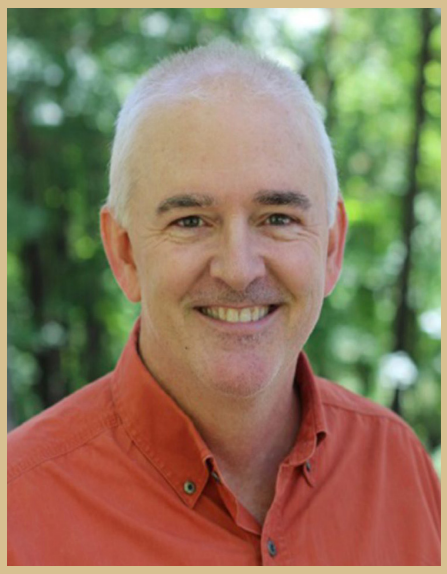
THE DEPT OF FORESTRY & NATURAL RESOURCES PRESENTS

SPRING 2025 SEMINAR SERIES

MONDAY, MARCH 3RD
WSLR 116 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

JOIN US FOR A LECTURE AND CONVERSATION WITH



Rick Relyea is the David M. Darrin '40 Senior Endowed Chair in Biological Sciences at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY.

This series aims to stimulate discussion and create opportunities for collaborations. **Everyone is welcome to attend.**

DR. RICK RELYEA

Freshwater Salinization: From Ecology & Evolution to Real-World Solutions

Around the world, freshwater habitats are experiencing salinization as a result of human activities, including mining, agriculture, saltwater intrusion, and the applications of road salts to melt ice and snow. We are rapidly discovering many unintended effects of salt-pollution in freshwater ecosystems and these effects span multiple levels of ecology, including individuals, populations, communities, and ecosystems. In addition, we are discovering fascinating examples of aquatic taxa evolving increased tolerance to salt, suggesting that some species may be able to persist while we work to mitigate salt pollution. Fortunately, as the public has learned more about the environmental and economic impacts of salt pollution, new strategies have been developed to apply road salts in smarter ways that allow up to 50% reductions in salt applications without compromising road safety. Thus, we can protect the environment while also experiencing considerable savings for transportation agencies and taxpayers.

LOCATED AT 170 S UNIVERSITY STREET, WEST LAFAYETTE, IN 47907

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN MEETING WITH RICK PLEASE CONTACT DR. JASON HOVERMAN AT JHOVERM@PURDUE.EDU.

PURDUE UNIVERSITY | Forestry and Natural Resources