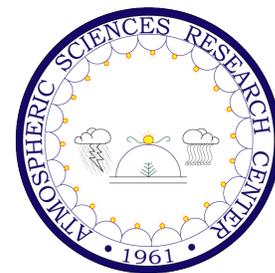




# Atmospheric Sciences Research Center's Spring 2021 Falconer Lectures



Tuesdays @ 7PM • March 30 - May 4, 2021

Open and free to the public via Zoom

Register to attend at: <http://bit.ly/2OWAxdS>

**March 30: “Big Solar,” Richard Perez, Ph.D., Senior Research Associate, Atmospheric Sciences Research Center, University at Albany.**

New York State’s Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act of 2019 sets forth some of the nation’s loftiest energy development goals, including installation of 6,000 megawatts of solar by 2025 and achieving 70% renewable energy by 2030. Dr. Perez will discuss the feasibility of such a massive undertaking and address some of the most common questions he has received regarding the State’s switch from fossil to renewable energy. For example, “Can solar energy power everything in New York State?,” “What about on cloudy days, at night, and during the winter?,” “Is there enough land available for solar farms?,” “Will renewable energy bankrupt the economy?”

**April 6: “Blame It on the Moon: Plant and Ecosystem Responses to the August 2017 Solar Eclipse,” Daniel Beverly, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Fellow, O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University.**

The 2017 total solar eclipse provided a unique opportunity to elucidate astrophysical and biophysical processes that are rarely observed in North America. Wyoming, located along the central path, provided diverse natural ecosystems for observing midday darkness and the consequences to energy balance and gas exchange at both the leaf and ecosystem scales. Dr. Beverly will discuss how the brief interruption in light led to substantial reductions in daily carbon uptake (photosynthesis) from the individual plant to the larger ecosystem scales and revealed unforeseen regulatory mechanisms of gas exchange in plants.

**April 13: “Electric Bikes, Bikeshare and More,” Paul Winkeller, Senior Advisor, Urban Cycling Solutions.**

As we emerge from the pandemic, a period in which safe and socially distanced biking, walking and other transportation modes have exploded, there is now a rapidly changing universe of green and sustainable micro-mobility in communities of all sizes in New York State and beyond. Mr. Winkeller will provide an overview of the most recent developments and future possibilities in the realm of human-scale transportation.

**April 20: “Climate Change and Extreme Weather in New York State,” Mark Wysocki, Senior Lecturer, Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Cornell.**

Extreme weather events such as droughts, cold air outbreaks, and flooding have increased in frequency and intensity worldwide. In this talk, Mr. Wysocki will address whether recent extreme events in the Northeast indicate a shift in overall storm paths, and if so, how this could affect New York State.

**April 27: “Transitioning to Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Food Supply Chains,” Xiaobo Romeiko, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health, University at Albany.**

Today’s food supply chains are facing many pressing challenges, such as climate change, more stringent environmental regulations, and increasing demand for traceability. Dr. Romeiko will discuss how the environmental impacts of food supply chains are being compounded by climate change, and which strategies can effectively improve environmental sustainability and climate resiliency.

**May 4: “Recreational Impacts and Alpine Stewardship in the Age of COVID-19,” Kayla White, Stewardship Manager, Adirondack Mountain Club.**

Over the past decade, there has been a significant increase in hiker traffic to alpine areas across the Northeast and in the Adirondack High Peaks Wilderness, that increase has been dramatic. In 2020, summit stewards saw a shift in who was recreating outdoors, with an increase in novice hikers and campers due to the coronavirus pandemic. These first-time visitors were seeking safe ways to recreate outdoors but, consequently, stewards saw an increase in recreational impacts. Ms. White will detail how stewards worked to mitigate negative impacts by instilling a wildland ethic in a whole new audience and enlisting their help in protecting our public lands.

Tax-deductible donations to sustain the Falconer Lecture Series may be made online at <https://www.albany.edu/giving>. Just click “Give Now”, then “View All Areas of Support”, and enter “Attention: Ray Falconer Fund” in the comment box.