

# Leah A. Wasser

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## education

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- 2005-Pres.      PhD; Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Ecology**  
Penn State University, current GPA 3.98  
Research Topic: Analysis of regulatory impacts on patterns of growth and development over time in Centre County, PA.
- 2001              Master of Landscape Architecture, Watershed Stewardship Option, May 2001**  
Penn State University, GPA 4.0  
Research Topic:
- 1999              Bachelor of Landscape Architecture, Spring 1999**  
Penn State University, GPA 3.6

## current professional

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- 2003-Pres.      Extension Associate**  
Penn State Cooperative Extension - Geospatial Technology Program, Land Analysis Lab
- Spring 2006    Instructor, LArch 212 - Campus Place Making**  
Penn State Department of Landscape Architecture

## previous professional

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- Spring 2005    Instructor, LArch 410 - Digital Interactive Design**  
Penn State Department of Landscape Architecture
- 2002-2003      Visiting Assistant Professor - Penn State Department of Landscape Architecture**
- 2001-2002      AmeriCorps Volunteer - Allegheny Ridge Corporation (Non-Profit)**  
Duncansville, PA
- 1997-1999      Environmental Restoration Construction Worker**  
Environmental Quality Resources (EQR), LLC - Gaithersburg, Maryland

## courses, workshops & k-12 camps

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### penn state

- LArch 60              History of landscape Architecture
- LArch 325/325a      Second-year introductory design theory studio and associated seminar
- LArch 327/327a      Second-year introductory "park and garden" studio and associated seminar
- LArch 336              Second-year design communication (InDesign, Photoshop)
- LArch 136              Freshman design communication (InDesign & Photoshop)
- LArch 497              Digital design communication (FormZ, SketchUp, Poser)

**professional**

- Oct 2005      Workshop: Introduction to ArcMap 9.1. GIS For Local Government Conference. State College, PA.  
Sept 2004      Workshop: CommunityViz. GIS For Local Government Conference. State College, PA.

**K-12**

- Summer 2006      Geospatial Technology Summer Camp. State College, PA.  
                         (target audience - high school students from rural & underprivileged areas in Pennsylvania).  
Summer 2005      Geospatial Technology Summer Camp. State College, PA.  
                         (target audience - youth and 4-H members from rural & underprivileged areas in Pennsylvania)

## honors, awards & activities

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**activities**

- 2005-pres      Secretary, Whitehall Commons Condo Association  
2003-2005      GIS For Local Government Conference (planning, speaker coordination, web site)  
2003-2005      Centre County PAWS Volunteer  
Fall 2000      Penn State Department of Landscape Architecture Web Coordination Committee

**awards**

- Spring 2001      College of Arts and Architecture Creative Achievement Award  
Spring 2001      American Society of Landscape Architects Award of Honor  
Fall 2000      Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award, Penn State University  
Spring 2000      Outstanding Leadership and Service Award, Department of Landscape Architecture  
Spring 1997      Theresa Fiscus Memorial Environmental Scholarship  
Spring 1995      Ellen Perry Academic Achievement Award, PSU Women's Varsity Swimming

## digital literacy

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**Familiar with both MAC and Windows-based PC operating systems**

- § GIS: Arcview GIS 3, ArcGIS 9.2; Spatial, Network and 3D Analyst Extensions, Basic ArcInfo Functionality, ArcReader, ArcExplorer, Vectorworks, currently learning AutoCad 2007  
§ Planning / Visualization: CommunityViz / Scenario 360, SiteBuilder 3D, Visual Nature Studio 2.75, FormZ 4, Poser 7, 3D Studio Max 9, Vue 6  
§ Graphics, Animation, Design: Adobe CS 2 Design Suite: Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator & Premiere  
§ Database: SQL Server 2000, Access 2003  
§ Other: Microsoft Office 2003 Professional, RoboDemo, RoboHelp

**Web Design / Basic Programming**

- § Macromedia MX 2004 Suite: Dreamweaver, Fireworks, Director, Flash.  
§ Standards-Compliant, Accessible Web Design using HTML, CSS, ASP
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## conference presentations and other speaking engagements

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Aug 2006	"Visualization of the Voyages of John Smith. ESRI Users Conference." San Diego, California. (co-presenter with John Wolf, National Park Service, Chesapeake Bay Program and supported by Timothy Enderlein, Penn State Geospatial Technology Program).
Apr 2006	"Landscape Visualization of the Voyages of John Smith and the Chesapeake of the Early 17th Century. Pennsylvania State GIS Conference." Camp Hill, PA. (Co-presenter with Timothy Enderlein)
Mar 2005	"Photorealistic Visualization as a Planning Tool: Using 3D Nature's Visual Nature Studio and Scene Express." Towson GIS Conference. Towson, Maryland.
Oct 2005	"Assessing and Visualizing Growth and Landscape Change Using GIS: CommunityViz and Visual Nature Studio." Pennsylvania Planners Conference. Bethlehem, PA.
Oct 2005	"GIS For Small Water Systems. GIS For Local Government Conference." State College, PA. (Prepared talk for presenters; Main Presenters: Rick Day, Director Geospatial Technology Program, Ben Pisoni, Halfmoon Township Water System Manager)
Apr 2005	Soils 510 guest lecture: "Visualization, Growth Forecasting and GIS - Visual Nature Studio and CommunityViz." University Park, PA.
Oct 2004	"Visualizing Past, Present and Future Landscapes: GIS For Local Government Conference." State College, PA. Proceedings published online.
July 2004	"Public Participation and GIS." URISA Public Participation and GIS Conference. Madison, Wisconsin.
Sept 2004	"Local Government and Community Planning." Presentation For Penn State Undergraduate, Environmental Resource Management Course. State College, PA.
Oct 2003	"County Level Buildout using CommunityViz." Rural GIS Conference: (proceedings online) (Equal Co-presenters: Bob Crum – Director Centre Region Planning Agency, Steve Suder – Director, Centre County Planning Commission, Maaike Broose, Graduate Student – Penn State Crop and Soil Sciences)
Fall 2000	Lecture: "The History of the Environmental Movement." Landscape Architecture 60.

## publication & project promotion

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In Progress	Day, Rick, Wasser, Leah, and Timothy Enderlein. "Government Web Mapping Empowers Citizens and Government with Free Data Access." Bulletin. National Consortium for Rural Geospatial Innovations Bulletin. 4 pages.
In Progress	Day, Rick, Wasser, Leah, Wu, Anmin and Mark Chien. "Vineyard Site Assessment in Pennsylvania." RGIS Bulletin. National Consortium for Rural Geospatial Innovations Bulletin. 4 pages.
Fall 2005	Day, Rick, Leah Wasser, and Cheryl Keller. "AgMap - Direct Marketing Website Promotes Pennsylvania Agriculture." National Consortium for Rural Geospatial Innovations Bulletin. 4 Pages.
Summer 2005	Day, Rick, Leah Wasser and Cheryl Keller. AgMap Fact Sheet. 2 pages.
2004	Day, Rick, et al. "AgMap: Online Direct Marketing for Your Pennsylvania Business". PLNA Magazine.
Spring 2004	Day, Rick et al. SoilMap Fact Sheet. 2 pages.
August 2004	Wasser, Leah and Michelle Brummer. "Run, Lititz Run." Landscape Architecture Magazine.

## project grants & awards

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Spring 2006	Roanoke River "Flud of Mud" Geospatial Animation Series (~\$14,000)
Spring 2002	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection GIS Grant (Allegheny Ridge Corporation)

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## development of educational material

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In Progress	Understanding Soils Data.
Fall 2006	Introduction to GIS – GIS For Small Water System Managers. 45 pages.
Fall 2006	More Advanced Techniques – Spatial Analysis: GIS For Small Water System Managers. 33 pages.
Summer 2004	GIS Basics, Working With ArcExplorer 9 (approved for distribution via ESRI's K-12 education web site) Book One - Mapping Fundamentals. 30 pages. Book Two - GIS Fundamentals. 30 pages. Book Three - Map Analysis. 56 pages. Project Leader's Guide. 30 pages.

## select projects & technical reports

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<b>Spring 2007</b>	Roanoke River, Effects of Sedimentation Over Time Visualization Project "Flood of Mud Video". (contracted through University Of Maryland).
<b>2006</b>	Penn State Continuing Education Service Area Analysis
<b>2005-2007</b>	Visualization of the Voyages of John Smith Using Visual Nature Studio. Chesapeake Bay Program Gateways Grant (~110,000)
<b>2003-2004</b>	Growth Forecasting on a Municipal Level in Centre County Using CommunityViz. (in cooperation with Centre County & Centre Region Planning Commissions)
<b>2001-2002</b>	Pittsburgh-Harrisburg Mainline Canal Greenway Project. (primary funding: PA DCNR)
<b>2001-2002</b>	Project RidgeRider - Reclaiming abandoned mine lands for responsible multi-use trail development. (Primary Funding: PA DCNR)
<b>2000-2001</b>	Kettle Creek Watershed Stewardship Plan, North Central Pennsylvania (graduate project)
<b>1999-2000</b>	Spring Creek Corridor Study (Rivers Conservation Plan) Centre County, PA (graduate project)

## select web sites (design - programming - maintenance)

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- § Penn State Geospatial Technology Program, Land Analysis Lab: <http://lal.cas.psu.edu>
  - § National Consortium for Rural Geospatial Innovations in America: <http://www.ruralgis.org>
  - § Landscape Architecture 410, Spring 2005: <http://lawasser.home.comcast.net/larch410/>
  - § Nittany Beagle Rescue: <http://www.nittanybeagle.org>
  - § The Pennsylvania Farm Premises Identification Project: <http://www.pafarms.org>
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