

Theodore Gordon Flyfishers and the  
Environmental Consortium of Hudson Valley Colleges & Universities  
present the inaugural  
TGF Founders Fund Society Spring Lecture

**EARTH'S CARETAKER: AN EVENING WITH  
NRDC CO-FOUNDER JOHN H. ADAMS AND PATRICIA ADAMS**



**INTERVIEW BY ANDREW C. REVKIN**

April 25, 2011

Columbia University  
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[www.TGF.org](http://www.TGF.org)



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**Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)** is an international nonprofit environmental organization with more than 1.3 million members and online activists. Since 1970, its lawyers, scientists, and other environmental specialists have worked to protect the world's natural resources, public health, and the environment. NRDC has offices in New York City, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, Livingston, Montana, and Beijing.  
[www.nrdc.org](http://www.nrdc.org)

**Theodore Gordon Flyfishers** is a not-for-profit, volunteer, angling organization, founded on American fly fishing traditions, promoting stream and river protection and self-sustainable salmonid populations through conservation, environmental oversight, activism, catch-and-release practices, and education. Founded by fly-fishing and conservation giants such as Lee Wulff and Ted Rogowski, TGF has a 45-year history of supporting conservation in the Catskills. Ongoing TGF activities include TGF Beaverkill Restoration, to restore trout-spawning access to Beaverkill river tributaries, and Stream Clean-Ups.  
[www.TGF.org](http://www.TGF.org)

**Environmental Consortium of Hudson Valley Colleges & Universities** was established in 2004 to advance understanding of the cultural, social, political, economic, and natural factors affecting the Hudson River Watershed, and is headquartered within Pace University's Academy for Applied Environmental Studies. The Consortium's mission is to harness higher education's intellectual and physical resources to advance regional, ecosystem-based environmental research, teaching, and learning through interdisciplinary, collaborative programs and information sharing.  
[www.environmentalconsortium.org](http://www.environmentalconsortium.org)

**The TGF Founders Fund** provides scholarships annually to outstanding students in a graduate or undergraduate environmental program. It has worked in concert with the Environmental Consortium of Hudson Valley Colleges & Universities to provide these scholarships since 2006.

**The TGF Founders Fund Society** was established to create an endowment for the Founders Fund in an effort to protect and sustain the scholarships for the years ahead.

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## BIOGRAPHIES



John H. Adams on Beaverkill River.  
Credit: Anthony Clark, NRDC

**John H. Adams** co-founded the Natural Resources Defense Council in 1970, serving as NRDC's executive director and later president from its inception until 2006 -- a tenure unparalleled by the leader of any other environmental organization. As NRDC's founding director, Adams continues to play an active role in the organization

on the local, national and international levels. In February 2011, Adams received the Presidential Medal of Freedom -- our nation's highest civilian honor -- from President Obama, who referenced Rolling Stone Magazine's description of Adams when announcing the award: "If the planet has a lawyer, it's John Adams."

In 2010, Adams and his wife Patricia co-authored *A Force for Nature*, a memoir recounting their forty years of battles and victories with NRDC. He is currently chair of the board of the Open Space Institute and sits on the boards of numerous other environmental organizations. He has also served on governmental advisory committees, including President Clinton's Council for Sustainable Development.



Patricia Adams

**Patricia Adams** is a writer and teacher who has partnered with her husband, John Adams, Founding Director of NRDC, for many years in environmental activism. She has written about travels with NRDC to such places as Alaska, Tajikistan, the Amazon and China as well as articles for the NRDC website. In addition she has published three non-fiction books.

Patricia has a short weekly program on an NPR affiliate radio station in upstate New York; a literary 'quiz' on famous writers of the world. She has written book and play reviews for the local paper. She taught literature and philosophy in the New York State Prison System for twenty years.



Credit: Paul Morse

John H. Adams  
receives the  
Presidential Medal of  
Freedom Award  
at the White House  
on February 15, 2011.



Andrew C. Revkin

**Andrew C. Revkin** is the Senior Fellow for Environmental Understanding at Pace University's Academy for Applied Environmental Studies and writes the Dot Earth blog for *The New York Times*. A prize-winning journalist, online communicator and author, he has spent nearly three decades covering subjects ranging from the assault on the Amazon to the troubled relationship of climate science and politics. From 1995 through 2009, he covered the environment for *The Times* as a staff reporter. His work on climate change has won most of the major awards for science journalism. Revkin has been a pioneer in multimedia communication, blogging and shooting still and video imagery in far-flung places.