

Heather Sage

Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy Director, Parkwaters



**Pittsburgh
Parks
Conservancy**
PittsburghParks.org

Heather Sage is a leader in the emerging field of public park improvements through green infrastructure. She serves as the **Director of Parkwaters**, a specialized unit within the non-profit **Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy** responsible for the development, planning, design, construction, monitoring and maintenance of green infrastructure projects within Pittsburgh's city park system in collaboration with the City of Pittsburgh's Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority and the Allegheny County Sanitary Authority. The Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy improves quality of life for the people of Pittsburgh by restoring the park system to excellence in partnership with government and community. **Parkwaters leverages the critical role parklands play in the management of stormwater and in promoting overall water quality in the region.**

Sage leads an experienced staff that has constructed eight green infrastructure projects in the park system and is in demand for national and regional presentation opportunities. The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) selected Sage as guest presenter for its recent national webinar on Green Infrastructure in Parks, timed to highlight the release of the Environmental Protection Agency's guide to Green Infrastructure in Parks. The NRPA selected the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy's McKinley Park project as one of four recipients of a major national competitive grant program, awarding more than \$400,000 to the project.

Prior to her work at the Parks Conservancy, Sage spent 10 years as Vice President at **Penn Future** where she was responsible for development, staff management, outreach, fundraising and communications. Previous roles at Penn Future saw Sage develop **expertise in issues including public policy campaigns and land use, transportation, air and water quality and renewable energy.** Prior to moving to Pittsburgh, Sage worked for **EarthShare of Ohio**, developing new opportunities for employees to support environmental groups through their workplace charitable giving campaigns. Her rich environmental background has included leading **community relations** for an environmental education center and farm in Ohio and work in the Cincinnati parks system as a naturalist.



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Sage graduated cum laude with a B.A. in zoology and a Master's degree in Environmental Science both from Miami University.

Deeply involved in her community, Sage chairs the Allegheny County Public Participation Panel at the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, co-chairs the grant making committee for the Three Rivers Community Foundation and **chairs the Let's Move Outside Pittsburgh steering committee, an initiative of the U.S. Department of the Interior,** the YMCA and local organizations. Sage is an active member of the Pittsburgh **Greenspace Alliance** and served on the Vacant Lot Toolkit Task Force, the Market-Based Revenue Opportunities Task Force, the Allegheny County health Department's **Air Quality Program Task Force** and on transition teams for Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto and Allegheny County executive Rich Fitzgerald.

Presentations include: "Integrated Stormwater Management from Duluth to Quebec in Detroit" co-presented with Phronesis of Kansas City, MO at the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Green Infrastructure Conference. Other awesome presentation goes here. Sage will lead an upcoming national webinar sponsored by the City Parks Alliance in Fall 2017.

For speaking engagement inquiries, please contact Beth Bodamer at 412.682-7275 ex. 200, or bbodamer@pittsburghparks.org