

Lenore P. Tedesco
Executive Director
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Dr. Lenore P. Tedesco has a PhD from the University of Miami, Rosenstiel School of Marine & Atmospheric Science, Coral Gables, Florida in 1991. She received a BA in Geology from Boston University, in Boston, Massachusetts in 1984.

She is the Executive Director of the Wetlands Institute in Stone Harbor, NJ. The Wetlands Institute is a non-profit research, conservation, and education organization studying, preserving and protecting wetlands and coastal ecosystems.

Prior to joining the Wetlands Institute, Dr. Tedesco was a Professor in the Department of Earth Sciences at Indiana University /Purdue University (IUPUI) for 20 years. She was also the Director of the Center for Earth and Environmental Science (CEES) at IUPUI.

Her research interests are in water resources, wetland, estuarine and stream restoration, and environmental education. She is the recipient of research grants from federal, state, local, corporate and philanthropic funding sources in excess of \$5.5 million and education grants totaling more than 3.6 million. Topics include: Ecosystem Restoration, Water Resources Research, Watershed Planning and Management, Flood Erosion Hazard Mitigation, Wetland and Stream Restoration and Dynamics, Climate Change, Coastal Ecosystem Development and Stability, and K-12 Science and Environmental Science Education.

Since coming to The Wetlands Institute in fall, 2011, Dr. Tedesco has focused her research and conservation activities on coastal and wetland ecosystem dynamics and restoration. She was part of a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation funded team working to restore critical shorebird and horseshoe crab habitat on the Delaware Bayshore following Hurricane Sandy. Current projects include restoring critical habitat for beach nesting and migratory shorebirds, and evaluating the impact of sea level rise on wetland and coastal ecosystems. She is also working to restore the Stone Harbor Bird Sanctuary and manage invasive plant species for habitat enhancement.

As the Director of the Center for Earth and Environmental Science, she was instrumental in elevating the center to Signature Center status in the Indiana University system and developed an international corporate research and development partnership in water resources management that is a model program for public-private partnerships. She built strong community collaborations with over 30 active community partnerships in research, education and public service including development of an ecosystem restoration research and education site network, participatory action research sites, urban ecological restoration sites in Indianapolis, and a social marketing campaign focused on behavior change to improve water resources (ClearChoiceCleanWater.org).

While a professor, she focused her scholarship on a host of environmental issues and mentored students of all ages, including more than 40 graduate theses and dissertations. She is the recipient of several environmental leadership and teaching awards, was nominated for a National Wetlands Award, received a regional Emmy Award for outstanding education programs, and received an Indiana Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence for her work in education and outreach.