

**The Dr. Elizabeth W. Thorndike  
Adirondack Achievement Award**

This award is given annually to an individual or group of individuals who have demonstrated significant contributions to the long term sustainability of the Adirondack Park, and which are in keeping with the mission and vision of the Adirondack Research Consortium.

**Recent Adirondack Achievement Awardees**

2015 – Barbara Bedford, Cornell University

2014 - Myron Mitchell, SUNY ESF

2013 - Joe Martens, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

2013 – Liz Thorndike, 20th Anniversary Leadership and Legacy Award

2012 - Charley Driscoll, Syracuse University

2011 - Jerry Jenkins, WCS Adirondack Program

2009 - Dudley Raynal, SUNY ESF

2005 - Barbara McMartin, author

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**23rd Annual Conference on the Adirondacks**  
May 25th and 26th, 2016, The Conference Center at Lake Placid

**2016 Dr. Elizabeth W. Thorndike  
Adirondack Achievement Award**

**Award Luncheon, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016**



**Presented to  
Eileen B. Allen, GIS Support Specialist  
Center for Earth and Environmental Science  
SUNY Plattsburgh**



## Elizabeth W. Thorndike

In 2016, the Adirondack Research Consortium renamed the Adirondack Achievement Award the **Dr. Elizabeth W. Thorndike Adirondack Achievement Award** honoring Liz's many contributions to the betterment of the organization and the Adirondack community.

Liz has been a member of the Consortium's Board of Directors since 2001 and has served as Vice President from 2003 to 2006 and as President from 2006-2008. Under her leadership, the Consortium has become an established 501.c.3 with a sustainable funding stream which she supports generously.

Liz has served as a Commissioner of the Adirondack Park Agency from 1980 to 1995 and as a member of Governor Mario Cuomo's Environmental Advisory Board from 1985 to 1994. Liz has been a member of the NYS Energy Research and Development Authority's Board since 1997 where she chairs the Waste and Facilities Management Committee. She was founder, executive director, president, and member of the board of the Center for Environmental Information (CEI) in Rochester, NY from 1973 to 2007.

Her past and present board affiliations include the Girl Scouts of Genesee Valley, Association for Protection of the Adirondacks, Sierra Club (Rochester Regional Group), New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell (Advisory Council), Cayuga Lake Watershed Network, Adirondack Park Institute, Paul Smith's College, and Finger Lakes Land Trust (Advisory Board).

Liz holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Stanford University and Harvard University and a doctorate in natural resource policy and planning from Cornell University.



## Eileen B. Allen

Eileen Barber Allen is the GIS Coordinator for the Center for Earth and Environmental Science at SUNY Plattsburgh specializing in geographic information system mapping technologies. She has worked in the Remote Sensing Laboratory since 1984 and has been mapping wetlands and watersheds in the Adirondacks since 1991, involving numerous undergraduates in her work.

Many of her projects have involved the creation of detailed digital watershed and wetland databases from aerial photographs and USGS topographic maps. In partnership with the NYS Adirondack Park Agency and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Eileen participated in several projects to digitally map the major river basins in the Adirondacks. These nationally awarded projects have contributed significantly to the available digital resource information that is the basis of many of the current research projects going on in the Adirondacks today.

Education has always been a high priority for Eileen. All of her projects have been springboards for educational opportunities for SUNY Plattsburgh students. "We are pleased to recognize this pioneering research which continues to benefit the Adirondack community and embodies the spirit of this award", said Dan Spada, President of the Adirondack Research Consortium.

Eileen earned her M.A. in Natural Resources at SUNY Plattsburgh and is one of the first certified GIS professionals in New York State. She is the Northeast Arc Users Group 2011 Thacher Award Recipient which recognizes individuals who demonstrate commitment and excellence utilizing GIS to achieve success in natural resource management and conservation at the local level.