

Sustainability and Resilience: How EPA Pioneered a Systems Approach in New England

Joseph Fiksel

**Executive Director, Center for Resilience
at The Ohio State University**



The unintended environmental impacts of economic development threaten the continued availability of ecosystem services that are critical to human well being. An integrated systems approach is needed to characterize these broad and complex sustainability problems and to evaluate potential solutions. The **Triple Value Model**, developed by Joseph Fiksel at Ohio State, is an innovative framework that depicts the dynamic linkages and resource flows among industrial, social, and environmental systems. The U.S. EPA has begun using this model to support transdisciplinary research projects that investigate water resource management, regional planning, and other broad sustainability themes. One recent application addresses opportunities for mitigation of nutrient impairment in New England's Narragansett Bay watershed, and resulted in a policy simulation tool that enables evaluation of alternative solutions.

**February 14, 2014
Derby Hall Room 1080
3:30 pm**



The Geography Colloquium series is funded in part through the John Nelson Endowment and the alumni, faculty, and friends of the Ohio State Geography endowment.