

Inaugural Symposium in Land Use and Ethics
SUNY ESF's Northern Forest Institute
At Huntington Wildlife Forest
June 1 – 3, 2012

Keynote Speaker and Scholar-in-Residence William Vitek



Bill Vitek is Professor of Philosophy and Chair of the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at Clarkson University in Potsdam, New York, where he has taught for twenty four years. His current research focus is on the substantial cultural and social changes that will be necessary—in our lifetimes—to live without easy access to cheap, carbon-based energy in the form of soils, forests, oil, natural gas and coal. He is the author of *Promising* and the co-editor of *Applying Philosophy*; *Rooted in the Land: Essays on Community and Place*; and *The Virtues of Ignorance: Complexity, Sustainability and the Limits of Knowledge*. He is currently writing a book titled *Where the Wild Things Are: Deep Roots for a Resilient Culture*.

Vitek was W. Ford Schumann Professor in Democratic Studies at Williams College in 2010-2011. He co-founded and directed Clarkson University's Environmental Science & Policy Program, and served as Associate Director of Clarkson's Center for the Environment. He also directed Clarkson' Campus Sustainability Initiative in 2001-2002.

Vitek is a jazz pianist. He co-wrote and co-produced three collections of jazz nursery rhymes. "Rhythm and Rhymes" (1982) was awarded an American Library Association "Notable Children's Recording," and the Oppenheim Gold Seal "Best Audio Award." "Go with the Flow" (1994) was awarded Family Life's Critic's Choice Award. He currently performs with bassist Dan Gagliardi. They recently released "A Fine Line," a collection of jazz classics.