

# LEIF FREDRICKSON

Assistant Adjunct Professor, History Department, University of Montana  
Oral History Interview Curator, Environmental Data & Governance Initiative

## EDUCATION

PhD University of Virginia, History (2017).  
MA University of Virginia, History (2014).  
MA University of Montana, History (2010).  
BA Vassar College, Departmental Honors (2000).

## DISSERTATION

The Age of Lead: Metropolitan Change, Environmental Health, and Inner-City Underdevelopment in Baltimore. University of Virginia, Department of History (2017).  
\*Winner of Council of Graduate Schools/ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award in Humanities and Fine Arts for the past two years.  
\* Winner of Michael Katz Award for Best Dissertation in Urban History, Urban History Association.

## JOURNAL ARTICLES

Marianne Sullivan, et al. “Re-envisioning EPA and its work in the post-Trump era: perspectives from EPA employees,” *Journal of Public Health Policy* (forthcoming, online ahead of print version published February 10, 2021). \*Contributing author.  
Ellen Kohl, et al., “The Problem of Accountability: Environmental Justice and the Trump Administration,” *Environmental Justice* (forthcoming, online ahead of print version published May 5, 2021). \*Contributing author.  
Leif Fredrickson, et al. “Paving the Way for Trump: Past Presidential Assaults on Environmental Health Protection,” *American Journal of Public Health* 108, no. S2, April 1, 2018. \*Lead author.  
Leif Fredrickson, “Bio-Invasions and Bio-Fixes: Mysid Shrimp Introductions in the Twentieth Century,” *Environment and History* vol. 23, no. 2, 2017.  
Leif Fredrickson, “From Ecocide to Eco-ally: Picloram, Herbicidal Warfare, and Invasive Species, 1963-2005,” in *Global Environment: A Journal of Transdisciplinary History* (Rachel Carson Center Special Issue on Hazardous Substances), vol. 7, no. 1, 2014.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

“The Riot Environment: Sanitation, Recreation, and Pacification in the Wake of Baltimore’s 1968 Uprising,” in Nicole King and Kate Drabinski, eds., *Baltimore Revisited: Rethinking and Remaking a Right to the City* (Rutgers University Press, 2019).  
“The Rise and Fall of an Ecostar: Green Technology Innovation and Marketing as Regulatory Obstruction,” in Hartmut Berghoff and Adam Rome, eds., *Green Capitalism? Business and Environment in the Twentieth Century* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2017).

## POLICY REPORTS

- [“Democratizing Data: Environmental Enforcement Watch’s Report Cards for Congressional Oversight of the EPA,”](#) (Environmental Data & Governance Initiative, October 2020). \*Co-lead author.
- [“An Embattled Landscape Series, Part 2a: Coronavirus and the Three-Year Trump Quest to Slash Science at the CDC,”](#) (Environmental Data & Governance Initiative, March 2020). \*Contributing author.
- [“An Embattled Landscape: Federal Environmental Science Integrity in the United States Today, A Three Part Series — Part 1: Targeting Scientific Influence on Policy,”](#) (Environmental Data & Governance Initiative, March 2020). \*Contributing author.
- [“Remarks by President Trump on America’s Environmental Leadership-Annotated,”](#) (Environmental Data & Governance Initiative, November 2019). \*Contributing author.
- [“EPA Enforcement Numbers in Fiscal Year 2018 in Historical Perspective,”](#) (Environmental Data & Governance Initiative, February 2019). \*Cited by the House Energy and Commerce Committee.
- [“EPA initiated fewer civil cases in 2018 than it has in over 35 years \(and other red flags of weak enforcement\)”](#) (Environmental Data & Governance Initiative, February 2019).
- [“Pollution and Hazardous Waste Reduction is the Lowest on Record Under Trump’s EPA,”](#) (Environmental Data & Governance Initiative, February 2019). \*Cited by the House Energy and Commerce Committee.
- [“A Sheep in the Closet the Erosion of Enforcement at the EPA,”](#) (Environmental Data & Governance Initiative, November 2018, updated May 2019). \*Co-lead author.
- [“EPA’s Proposed Rule Uses the Idea of Transparency to Reduce Real Transparency and Delay Protecting Environmental and Public Health”](#) (Environmental Data & Governance Initiative, August 2018). \*Contributing author.
- [“Pursuing a Toxic Agenda: Environmental Injustice in the Early Trump Administration,”](#) (Environmental Data & Governance Initiative, September 2017). \*Contributing author.

## PUBLIC WRITING

- [“Missoula’s battle for free speech and against police brutality,”](#) *Garden City Beast*, July 9, 2020.
- [“Gotta fight the bossess... and pollution,”](#) *Enviro-History*, February 8, 2020.
- [“The EPA has backed off enforcement under Trump-here are the numbers,”](#) *The Conversation*, January 3, 2019.
- [“Newly Empowered Democrats Need to Save the EPA-Again,”](#) *The Hill*, January 7, 2019.
- [“Would Firing Scott Pruitt Save the EPA?”](#) *Washington Post*, May 25, 2018.
- [“The Mysis Crisis: How Fisheries Scientists Turned an Isolated Shrimp into an ‘Invasive Species’”](#) *Enviro-History*, March 16, 2018.
- [“Planet Rock” Environmental Histories of Songs,](#) *Enviro-History*, March 14, 2018.
- [“Back to Basics, or a Departure from Environmental Protections? History Lends Perspective,”](#) *Public Lab Community Science Forum*, December 5, 2017.
- [“The Federal Agency that Few Americans Have Heard of and Which We All Need to Know,”](#) *Washington Post*, September 28, 2017.
- [“The Environmental Protection Agency Is Not the Nation’s Janitor,”](#) *The Guardian*, July 28, 2017.
- [“Scott Pruitt is Wrong About the Origins of the EPA,”](#) *Washington Post*, July 14, 2017.
- [“Suburban Commuters, Urban Polluters,”](#) *Edge Effects*, March 14, 2017.
- [“The Environment of Opportunity,”](#) *First Year 2017: Where the Next President Begins, Volume 6*, *Miller Center of Public Affairs*, November 30, 2016.

- [“Lead Poisoning: Then and Now,”](#) *We’re History*, March 29, 2016.
- [“The ‘Depression Disease’: What the United States’ First National Lead Poisoning Crisis Can Teach Us about the Flint Water Disaster,”](#) *American Historical Association Today*, March 14, 2016.
- [“The Surprising Link Between Postwar Suburban Development and Today’s Inner-City Lead Poisoning,”](#) *The Conversation*, February 25, 2016.
- [“Urban Policy-Lessons from History,”](#) *Common Place: The Anatomy and Art of Thriving Communities*, November 14, 2014.

## REPORTING

- [“The Aliens Are Coming! Strange Mussels, Fish, Plants, and Diseases-and Their Clueless Human Helpers-Could Decimate Montana Waters,”](#) feature, *Missoula Independent*, April 21, 2011.

## REVIEWS

- Benjamin Hale, *The Wild and the Wicked: On Nature and Human Nature in Environmental History*, July 2018.
- Review essay: Gerald Markowitz and David Rosner, *Lead Wars: The Politics of Science and the Fate of America’s Children in H-Enviro-Health*, February 2018.
- Michael C. Mix, *Leaded: The Poisoning of Idaho’s Silver Valley in Environmental History* January 2018.
- Keith Wailoo, *How Cancer Crossed the Color Line in Journal of African-American History*, vol. 99, no. 4, Fall 2014, 484-486.

## OTHER WRITING

- [The American Yawp](#) U.S. History Textbook (2017-2018). \*Contributing author.
- “Case Studies in Green Marketing,” *Front & Center* (John W. Hartman Center for Sales, Advertising and Marketing History), vol. 18, no. 1, Fall 2012, 3.

## FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS

- Michael Katz Award for Best Dissertation in Urban History, Urban History Association (2018).
- Council of Graduate Schools/ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award in Humanities and Fine Arts (2017).
- Monell Fellowship in Technology and Democracy, Miller Center of Public Affairs (2016-2017).
- Digital Humanities Research Fellowship, Scholar’s Lab, University of Virginia (2016-2017).
- Mellon Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, Digital Scholarship Lab, University of Richmond (2015-2016).
- Raven Fellowship, University of Virginia (2013).
- President’s Fellowship, University of Virginia, Graduate School Arts and Sciences (2011-2016).
- Susan Koch Scholarship, University of Montana (2009).
- Departmental Honors for Thesis, Vassar College (2000).

## GRANTS AND OTHER SUPPORT

- Regular Grant, Humanities Montana (2020).
- Preserving Missoula County’s History Grant, Historical Museum at Fort Missoula (2020).
- Double Hoo Research Grant, University of Virginia (2016-2107).
- Mellon Graduate Seminar: Composing the Humanities in the Digital Age (2014-2015).
- History Project Research Grant, Institute for New Economic Thinking, Harvard (2014).
- National Endowment for the Humanities, Mapping Nature Across the Americas Summer Institute, Newberry Library, Chicago (2014).

Digital Environmental History Workshop, Center for Spatial and Textual Analysis, Stanford (2014).  
Robert Huskey Travel Grant, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, University of Virginia (2013).  
Arts, Humanities, Social Science Research Grant, Graduate School, University of Virginia (2013).  
Corcoran History Department Summer Research Grant, University of Virginia (2012).  
National Science Foundation Travel Grant (2012).  
National Science Foundation Travel Grant (2011).  
Mining History Association Research Grant (2011).  
Matthew Hansen Foundation Research Grant, Wilderness Institute (2011).  
Hartman Center Research and Travel Grant, Duke University (2011).

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Environmental History, University of Montana (Winter 2020).  
COVID-19 in Perspective: Disease and Disaster in History, University of Montana (Fall 2020)  
COVID-19 in Perspective: Disease and Disaster in History, University of Montana (Summer 2020).  
Doing Local History, University of Montana (Spring 2020).  
Exploring Public History, University of Montana (Fall 2019).  
Twentieth-Century American West, University of Montana (Spring 2019)  
From Nuclear Fallout to Global Warming: The History of the U.S. Environmental Movement,  
University of Montana, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (Fall 2018).  
The Urban Environment: History, Technology, University of Virginia, School of Engineering  
(Winter 2016).  
Urban Environmental Policy, University of Virginia, Batten School of Public Policy (Spring 2015).  
The Urban Environment: History, Technology, University of Virginia, School of Engineering  
(Winter 2015).  
The Changing Context of Public Policy, University of Virginia, Batten School of Public Policy  
(Spring 2014).  
Modern U.S. History Since 1865, University of Virginia, College of Arts and Sciences (Summer  
2013).

## **PUBLIC, DIGITAL, AND ORAL HISTORY PROJECTS**

“[A People’s EPA](#),” [Public history website] (2020-present). \*Co-curator.  
“The Murder of Frank Little,” [Podcast series], [Death in the West](#) (2020-present). \*Co-creator.  
“[Gals Against Smog and Pollution: Montana Women Take on Polluters](#),” [Virtual exhibit],  
Women’s Reproductive History Alliance (October 2020). \*Curator.  
“GASP and the History of Missoula’s Environmental Movement.” [Oral history collection].  
Mansfield Archives and Special Collections, University of Montana. (2020-2021). \*Project  
creator and lead.  
“Environmental transitions and memory.” [Oral history project]. Environmental Data &  
Governance Initiative. (2017-present). \*Curator and oral historian.  
“[Montana’s Labor Temples](#),” [Virtual tour]. Historic Montana (2020).  
“Missoula Music History.” [Oral history collection]. Mansfield Archives and Special Collections,  
University of Montana. (2019-2021). \*Project creator and lead.  
“A Music Mosaic: How Missoula Built its Rockin’ Community.” [Exhibit]. Zootown Arts  
Community Center. (2019- 2020). \*Project creator and lead.  
“This Town is Full of Ghosts: Missoula Underground Music, 1960s-2000s.” [Exhibit]. Missoula  
Roots Festival. (2019). \*Project creator and lead.

- [“\*Enviro-History\*.”](#) [Public environmental humanities website]. \*Creator and developer (2018-present).
- [“\*Renewing Inequality\*.”](#) [Public history website]. *American Panorama*, Digital Scholarship Lab, University of Richmond. (2015-2016). \*Project co-developer.
- [“\*People of the Founding Era\*.”](#) [Public history website]. Documents Compass, Virginia Endowment for the Humanities. (2012). \*Geographic database project manager.

## MEDIA INTERVIEWS AND MENTIONS

- “[Missoula music oral history project offers training to get more folks involved](#),” *ABC Fox* (morning television), May 19, 2021.
- “[Training for Missoula music oral history project coming up](#),” *Missoulian*, May 9, 2021.
- “[UM oral histories dive into Missoula’s music scene](#),” *Missoulian*, March 27, 2021.
- “[How Scientists Scrambled to Stop Donald Trump’s EPA from Wiping Out Climate Data](#),” *The Verge*, March 8, 2021.
- “[The unsolved murder that shaped the US labor movement](#),” *Huck Magazine*, December 22, 2020.
- “[Making history, one memo at a time: Missoula historians preserve COVID crisis in real time](#),” *Montana Free Press*, December 3, 2020.
- “[Death in the West](#),” *New Yorker*, November 12, 2020.
- “[Seven podcasts to stream this november](#),” *Rolling Stone*, November 12, 2020.
- “[Get the lead out](#),” *Hazlitt*, October 29, 2020.
- “[True crime meets history in new podcast on the murder of Frank Little](#),” *Missoulian*, October 15, 2020.
- “[New history podcast investigates a famous murder in Montana](#),” *Portland Monthly*, October 6, 2020.
- “[EPA bails on mining case after Minnesota balks](#),” *Energy & Environment News*, September 17, 2020.
- “[Deadly exposures: COVID-19 and the slow violence of lead exposure](#),” *Toxic News*, June 19, 2020.
- “[Why We Should Ban Facial Recognition Technology](#),” *New York Magazine*, January 30, 2020.
- “[The Unequal Burden of Urban Lead](#),” *Bloomberg*, January 2, 2020.
- “[Rock and Roll exhibit opens at the ZACC in downtown Missoula](#),” *KPAX*, December 7, 2019.
- “[Missoula rock history on the walls, stage](#),” *Missoulian*, December 6, 2019.
- “[Wearing the Lead Glasses](#),” *Places Journal*, May 25, 2019.
- “[Neomi Rao is officially Brett Kavanaugh’s replacement on the DC Circuit. She’s faced scrutiny for her writings on sexual assault](#),” *Vox*, March 13, 2019.
- “[Avec Trump, la chasse aux pollueurs est au plus bas](#),” *Liberation*, March 5, 2019.
- “[Under Trump, the EPA’s Enforcement Effort Fall to a 40-Year Low in this One Key Area](#),” *MarketWatch*, March 4, 2019.
- “[Has the EPA lost its teeth? House to investigate dwindling enforcement](#),” *Christian Science Monitor*, February 20, 2019.
- “[Trump EPA's pollution, waste reduction numbers are lowest in a decade](#),” *The Hill*, February 1, 2019.
- “[Wheeler Pushes Back on Reports Claiming Lax EPA Enforcement](#),” *Bloomberg Environment*, January 16, 2019.
- “[EPA Rollbacks: Hurting Americans Where They Live](#),” *The American Prospect*, January 14, 2019.
- “[Trump’s EPA Is Reluctant to Punish Law-Breaking Polluters](#),” *High Country News*, December 28, 2018.

- [“EPA Policing of Environmental Violations Plummeted in 2018,”](#) *Pacific Standard*, November 21, 2018.
- [“EPA Officials Wrestle With Enforcement Decline Spurred By Trump Policies,”](#) *Inside EPA*, November 20, 2018.
- [“Trump team reluctant to pursue polluters-report,”](#) *E&E News*, November 16, 2018.
- [“The Deadly Donora Smog of 1948 Spurred Environmental Protection—But Have We Forgotten the Lesson?”](#) *Smithsonian*, October 26, 2018.

## **INVITED TALKS**

- “Digital Humanities Pedagogy,” Humanities Institute, University of Montana (2021)
- Discussion of *Mill Town: Reckoning with What Remains* with author Kerri arsenault, Montana Book Festival, January 28, 2021.
- “Changes at the EPA,” Institute for Journalism and Natural Resources (2020).
- “The Age of Lead: How the Suburbs Poisoned the Inner City,” University of Texas-Austin, American Studies Department (2018).
- “White Lead and White Flight: Suburbanization, Inner-City Housing Deterioration, and Slumlord Capitalism in Baltimore, 1940-1965,” Lockridge Seminar, University of Montana (2018).
- “The Age of Lead: How the Suburbs Poisoned the Inner City,” Council of Graduate Schools Annual Meeting (2017).
- “The Age of Lead: Metropolitan Change, Environmental Health, and Urban Underdevelopment in Baltimore, 1900-2000,” Environmental History Series, University of Kansas (2016).
- “Digital Humanities Maps and Public Engagement,” Miller Center of Public Affairs Fellows Conference, University of Virginia (2016).

## **PRESENTATIONS**

- “Media Training: The Nuts and Bolts of Public Engagement,” Organization of American Historians (2021).
- “Turning Environmental History into Action,” American Society for Environmental History (2021).
- “Urban Renewal, Public Health, and Code Enforcement,” Reassessing the History of the Federal Urban Renewal Program, University of Kentucky (2019).
- “The Alchemy of Automobile Commuting: Lead Poisoning in the Golden Age of the Suburbs,” Miller Center of Public Affairs (2017).
- “Commuter-Polluter Suburbs: Automobile Pollution in the Inner City Before the Interstates,” Urban History Association (2016).
- “Environmental Knowledge: Noise, Lead and Learning in the Urban Environment,” American Society for Environmental History (2016).
- “White Lead and White Flight: Suburbanization, Inner-City Housing Deterioration, and Slumlord Capitalism in Baltimore, 1940-1965,” Movements and Directions in Capitalism, University of Virginia (2016).
- “The Age of Lead: Suburbanization, Environmental Health, and Urban Underdevelopment,” History of Energy and the Environment, Center for History and Economics, Harvard University (2015).
- “The Rise and Fall of an EcoStar: Technological Innovation and Marketing as Policy Obstruction,” Green Capitalism? At the Crossroads of Environmental and Business History, Hagley Museum (2014).
- “Childhood Lead Poisoning in Twentieth-Century Baltimore: Urban Renewal, Automobiles, and Climate,” Poster, American Society for Environmental History (2014).

- “Childhood Lead Poisoning in Baltimore in the Mid-Twentieth Century: Pica, Policy and Climate,” Baltimore Ecosystem Study (2013).
- “Neuro-history: Some Theories and Methods for Getting inside the Grey Box,” Science and Method in the Humanities, Rutgers University (2012).
- “From Ecocide to Eco-ally: Picloram, Herbicidal Warfare and Invasive Species, 1963-2000,” Workshop on Hazardous Chemicals: Agents of Risk and Change, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society (2012).
- “Bio-Fixes and Bio-Invasions: The Introduction of Mysid Shrimp into Flathead Lake, Montana, 1939-2000,” American Society for Environmental History (2012).
- “From Ecocide to Eco-ally: Picloram, Invasive Species, and American Environmentalism,” Society for the History of Technology (2011).
- “Goods in the Woods: Consumerism, Marketing, and Freedom in the Rise of a New Wilderness Ethic,” Phi Alpha Theta (2009).

### **PRESENTATION ORGANIZER**

- “From Besided to Bolstered? The Biden Environmental Transition,” Environmental Data & Governance Initiative (2021).
- “Democratizing Environmental Data,” Environmental Data & Governance Initiative (2021).
- “Urban Environmental History: New Directions,” Urban History Conference (2016).
- “Mindscapes and Brainscapes: Environmental History and Psychology,” American Society for Environmental History (2016).

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- Oral history project curator, Environmental Data & Governance Initiative (2020-2021).
- Policy researcher, Environmental Data & Governance Initiative (2018-2021).
- At Large Member, Historic Preservation Commission, City of Missoula (2021).
- Board Member, Friends of the Historical Museum at Fort Missoula (2021).
- Board Member, Unseen Historical Tours, Missoula Downtown Partnership (2021).
- Certified Interpretive Guide, National Association for Interpretation (2021).
- Documenting COVID-19 in Missoula research group (2020-2021).
- Tour guide and tour developer, Unseen Missoula Downtown Historical Tours (2019-2021).
- Contract research on the history of asbestos, Professor Brian Balogh (March 2020-May 2020).
- Contract research and GIS mapping on the history of coal mines and railroads in Appalachia, Professor James Allison III (2018-2019).
- Oral historian, Environmental Data & Governance Initiative (2017-2021).
- Communications coordinator, Environmental Data & Governance Initiative (2018- 2019).
- Steering committee member, Environmental Data & Governance Initiative (2018-2019).
- Contract researcher, Clay Endowment Project on Global History of Energy and Power, Professor Edmund Russell (2012).
- Researcher, Earth Restoration Project, University of Montana (2008-2009).

### **SERVICE**

- Manuscript Reviewer: MIT Press (Urban and Industrial Environments Series).
- Coordinator: Environmental History Lab (2013-2014).

### **STUDENT MENTORING, SUPERVISION**

- Shawn Bailey, Dissertation committee, History Department, University of Montana (2020).

Patrick Swart. Thesis committee, History Department, University of Montana (2019).  
Vijay Edupuganti. Double Hoo Research Project, University of Virginia (2016-2017). A grant to collaborate with and mentor an undergraduate in a year-long research project. \*My mentee received third place in the 2017 Undergraduate Research Symposium, based on his presentation of our research.

## REFERENCES

Brian Balogh, Professor of History, University of Virginia. Department of History, Nau Hall, Charlottesville, VA 22904. Phone: 434-243-8971. Email: [balogh@virginia.edu](mailto:balogh@virginia.edu).  
Edmund P. Russell, Professor of History, Boston University. Department of History, 226 Bay State Road, Boston, MA 02215. Phone: 617-353-2550. Email: [edruss@bu.edu](mailto:edruss@bu.edu).  
Andrew W. Kahrl, Associate Professor of History, University of Virginia. Department of History, Nau Hall, Charlottesville, VA 22904. Phone: 434-243-8971. Email: [awk6n@virginia.edu](mailto:awk6n@virginia.edu).  
Christian McMillen, Professor of History. Department of History, Nau Hall, Charlottesville, VA 22904. Phone: 434-924-6416. Email: [cwm6w@virginia.edu](mailto:cwm6w@virginia.edu).  
N.D.B. Connolly, Herbert Baxter Adams Professor of History. Department of History, 301 Gilman Hall, 3400 N. Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21218. Phone: 410-516-7983. Email: [nconnol2@jhu.edu](mailto:nconnol2@jhu.edu).  
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