



# 2015 SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1:15 PM - 2:30 PM

## BUILDING A CULTURE OF HEALTH ONE COMMUNITY AT A TIME

There is a growing consensus that to be healthy and stay healthy we must build a culture of health that enables all in our diverse society to lead healthy lives now and for generations to come. Enlisting local governments and schools in creating social and physical environments that promote good health for all across all life stages is essential for reaching this goal. This session will provide a "big picture" view of the vast amount of effort focused on social equity and health issues in the state and discuss strategies for engaging communities and schools in order to realize sustainable systems changes.

### Speakers:

Robert Atkins, Ph.D., RN, FAAN, Director/Associate Professor,  
New Jersey Health Initiatives

Renee Haider, Associate Director,  
The Sustainability Institute at TCNJ and Sustainable Jersey

Toni Lewis, MPH, HO, Community Coach,  
County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, New Jersey Health Initiatives

## CHANGING THE WAY BUILDINGS AND COMMUNITIES ARE DESIGNED, BUILT, AND OPERATED

The design, construction, and maintenance of high performance buildings and communities that are environmentally responsible, cost effective, productive, and healthy places to live, learn and work is critical to a sustainable future. Learn about best practices being implemented across New Jersey, and tools and resources that can help support your community make progress in this area.

### Speakers:

Kara Agnotti, Green Schools Fellow, Center for Green Schools,  
U.S. Green Building Council

Angela Knowles, Market Development Leader, Natural Systems Utilities  
Athena Sarafides, LEED AP, Sustainability and Green Energy, NJ DEP

Frank Sherman, Director of Sustainability, Spiezle Architectural Group

## ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY: RISKS AND RESPONSES

New Jersey's ecosystems provide critical outputs (i.e. food, water, timber), regulating services (i.e. flood control, carbon storage, soil fertility), and maintenance of genetic diversity. However, much of our diverse landscapes are highly degraded or otherwise facing significant threats. In order to maintain, restore, and enhance native environments, and preserve our cultural and quality-of-life values, active management of both public and private lands is essential. During this session speakers and participants will discuss the key challenges facing New Jersey's ecosystems and what communities and schools can do to address them.

### Speakers:

Jennifer Feltis Cortese, AICP,  
Office of Water Resources Management Coordination, NJ DEP

Julie Lange-Groth, Media Director,  
Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions

Eric Stiles, President and Chief Executive Officer, New Jersey Audubon

## HOW ARTS AND CREATIVE CULTURE CONTRIBUTE TO COMMUNITY VIBRANCY AND ECONOMIC VITALITY

Learn how creativity can serve as a type of self-generating, renewable energy source to help communities become more vibrant, and at the same time, contribute to their economic vitality.

### Speakers:

Jamie Hand, Director of Research Strategies, Art Place America

Suzanne Ishee, President and Board Chairperson,  
Center for Creative Placemaking, Bloomfield College

Wendy Liscow, Program Director, Education,  
The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation

Leo Vazquez, Executive Director,  
The National Consortium for Creative Placemaking

## TOOLS FOR A SUSTAINABLE DEMOCRACY

Sustainable Jersey will be launching a new suite of Community Information and Civic Engagement actions geared towards aiding municipalities in creating and strengthening their infrastructure to support greater access to public information and citizen engagement. This session will demonstrate how strong democratic principles run through every facet of sustainability, highlight best practices from around the state and nation, and preview new actions focused on information your town should share with citizens to engage them in the decision making process.

### Speakers:

*Chris Daggett, President, Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation*

*Carol Spencer, former Information Technologist for Morris County, NJ*

*Alex Torpey, Village President, South Orange, NJ*

## WATER FOR OUR FUTURE, LEGACIES FROM THE PAST

Globally, nationally and in New Jersey, the importance of water for human consumption, recreational use, and to sustain biodiversity and ecosystems services may be the second most critical sustainability issue facing the world. Join us as we explore national and statewide water issues, along with emerging water quality and quantity issues related to combined sewer overflows, and regulatory issues focusing on storm water and green infrastructure. Share your thoughts on how to improve the slate of Sustainable Jersey actions to address the complex and sometimes competing water quality and supply issues.

### Speakers:

*Donna Drewes, Co-Director,*

*The Sustainability Institute at TCNJ and Sustainable Jersey*

*Larry Levine, Senior Attorney, Natural Resources Defense Council*

*Chris Sturm, Senior Director of State Policy, NJ Future*

## SUSTAINABLE JERSEY FOR SCHOOLS LISTENING SESSION

Building on the success of the Sustainable Jersey municipal program, Sustainable Jersey for Schools was launched in October 2014. School districts and schools have embraced the opportunity to use the program framework to build a brighter future one school at a time. Learn about this fast growing initiative which includes technical support and small grant opportunities, and provide your feedback on the program structure and action portfolio.

### Facilitated by:

*Edward Mahaney, Ed.D., Mayor, City of Cape May and Sustainable Jersey Board of Trustees Member*

*Anne-Marie Perrachio, Director,*

*Conservation and Clean Energy Policy, New Jersey Natural Gas and Vice Chairperson, Sustainable Jersey Board of Trustees*

## SUSTAINABLE STATE OF THE STATE FEEDBACK SESSION

The Sustainable State of the State Report presents state-level goals and indicators attempting to define what is collectively meant by sustainability. Our aim is to describe a vision for a sustainable state that will serve as an inspiration, stimulate discussion, and provide goalposts towards which we can orient and monitor progress. Share your feedback on these goals and indicators and discuss the most appropriate data sources to use for measuring progress.

### Facilitated by:

*Melanie McDermott, PhD, Senior Researcher, Sustainable Jersey*

## EDUCATION: SUSTAINABILITY, SKILLS AND ENRICHMENT

This session will focus on the key factors influencing a sustainable future in the area of education. Are schools and the education community moving in the right direction? Learn from existing case studies of New Jersey schools, teacher training programs, and district leaders making progress in this area, followed by a facilitated discussion of next steps for Sustainable Jersey.

### Speakers:

*Jaimie Cloud, President, Cloud Institute for Sustainability Education*

*Larry Feinsod, Ed.D., Executive Director and CEO  
NJ School Boards Association*

*Jeff Passe, Dean, School of Education, The College of New Jersey*

*Donna Drewes, Co-Director,  
The Sustainability Institute at TCNJ and Sustainable Jersey*

## FOSTERING THRIVING AND SUSTAINABLE LOCAL ECONOMIES

A strong economy that provides us with the goods, services, and jobs we need is a key pillar of sustainability. From economic development, redevelopment, jobs programs, green business recognition programs, and various incentives, there are numerous strategies that municipalities can employ to support and grow the local economy, and to ensure it fits within the vision for your community. This session will explore the resources and models available to support local economic development, and will solicit feedback on how to integrate them into Sustainable Jersey.

### Speakers:

*Jef R. Buehler, MPA, LNJ '09, Director,*

*Office of Main Street New Jersey & Improvement District Programs*

*Caroline Erlich, Chief of Staff, Woodbridge Township*

*Athena Sarafides, LEED AP, Sustainability and Green Energy, NJ DEP*

## GETTING TO THE GOLD STANDARD IN MATERIALS MANAGEMENT AFTER 28 YEARS OF MANDATORY RECYCLING

New Jersey has had mandatory recycling in place since 1987. Over this 28 year period, programs have greatly expanded in scope and tonnage recovered. A panel of experts from state, county and local government, as well as the private sector, will present their views on "taking the next step" to advance "sustainable materials management," followed by an open stakeholder discussion with the audience.

### Speakers:

*Wayne DeFeo, Solid Waste/Recycling Coordinator,  
Essex County Utilities Authority*

*Janet Pellichero, Recycling Coordinator, Princeton NJ*

*Gary Sondemeyer, Vice President, Bayshore Recycling*

*Guy Watson, Chief,  
Bureau of Recycling and Hazardous Waste Management, NJ DEP*

## READY, SET, ADAPT!

Projected sea level rise, precipitation and extreme temperatures are just a few impacts of climate change that New Jersey can expect in both the short-term and long-term. These extreme events and chronic stressors will seriously impact our quality of life if steps are not taken now to mitigate and adapt. What are experts predicting for New Jersey, and what are the actions communities can take now to become more resilient?

### Speakers:

*John Miller, P.E., CFM, CSM, Legislative Committee Chair,  
New Jersey Association for Floodplain Management*

*David A. Robinson, Ph.D., New Jersey State Climatologist*

*Linda Weber, Resiliency Program Director, Sustainable Jersey*

## STRATEGIES AND TOOLS TO SUPPORT EFFICIENT DEVELOPMENT

Informed decisions regarding residential, commercial, and other development are critical to a sustainable New Jersey. Local zoning laws, incentive programs, asset management strategies, and planning practices need to drive development choices that maximize economic and social benefits, and minimize the negative impacts on the environment. This session will discuss best practices in local land use planning and the resources available to assist municipalities in choosing the right locations for development.

### Speakers:

*Jon Carnegie, Executive Director,*

*Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center, Rutgers University*

*Teri Jover, Managing Director, NJ Future*

*Jeff LeJava, Esq., Senior Staff Attorney and Adjunct Professor of  
Law, Land Use Law Center Pace University School of Law*

## TRANSITIONING TO A MORE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FRAMEWORK

Explore where the state is, and where it is going, in the sustainable use of energy long term. Information on current state usage and mechanisms that can be used to transition to a more sustainable approach will be identified. Participants will gain a detailed understanding of the state's current energy use, what can be done to transition to a more sustainable framework as represented in the energy goals and indicators, and how the Sustainable Jersey actions can be used to accomplish those goals.

### Speakers:

*Jeanne Fox, Former Commissioner and President,*

*NJ Board of Public Utilities and Adjunct Professor,*

*Columbia School of International and Public Affairs*

*Mark Warner, Vice President, Gabel Associates*

## **SUSTAINABLE JERSEY LISTENING SESSION**

Share your thoughts on how Sustainable Jersey can work better and be more effective and discuss the obstacles and challenges you face in sustaining the movement in your town.

### **Facilitated by:**

*Richard Dovey, President, Atlantic County Utilities Authority and  
Chairperson, Sustainable Jersey Board of Trustees*

*Caroline Ehrlich, Chief of Staff, Woodbridge Township and  
Treasurer, Sustainable Jersey Board of Trustees*

## **SUSTAINABLE STATE OF THE STATE FEEDBACK SESSION**

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