



April Sustainability Hero

The April 2016 Sustainability Hero is Dr. Scott McCartney, Superintendent, Egg Harbor Township School District. Read how Dr. McCartney led all of the schools in his district to achieve Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification. See how Alder Avenue Middle School, Ursinus College, the Catawba Project and 8 million dollars in savings due to an energy management program fit into the story on the [Sustainable Jersey Heroes page](#).



To capture the stories of our local leaders, we recognize a monthly Sustainability Hero. If you have recommendations for someone on your green team, municipal staff, school staff or task force that's a sustainability hero, complete the [submission form](#) and e-mail it to us at info@sustainablejersey.com.

2016 New Jersey Sustainability Summit Registration NOW OPEN!

[REGISTER](#) Today!

Plan now to attend the 2016 New Jersey Sustainability Summit and be part of the collaborative enterprise needed to ensure a sustainable future for New Jersey and beyond!

Breakout Session: Build You Green Team's Brand

Across the state, green teams struggle to capture the community's attention and in some cases, the support of municipal leaders. Simple techniques can help the great work green teams are doing get noticed, and sometimes at no cost! This session will focus on marketing and communication strategies that will help a green team build an audience, effectively share information and events, and recruit volunteers.

Read all of the breakout session descriptions [here](#).



Don't Miss Out on 60 Points for Tree & Woodlands Management!

Do you know that up to **60 points** can be earned for Tree & Woodlands Management actions? The Community Forestry Plan and Tree Cover Goal is a prerequisite action for this suite of actions. Check out your town's 2015 Community Forestry Status Report online [here](#) by scrolling down to the appropriate page. If the Approved Status is YES, your town could be eligible to earn up to 60 points! Review the Tree and Woodlands Management category actions under Natural Resources in the [Sustainable Jersey action listing](#) and connect with your Shade Tree Commission for more information on municipal activities.

Reminder: Certification Application Deadline Sunday, June 5 at 11:59pm!

It's Now Easier than Ever to Find a Conference, Training or Webinar Presentation!

On a regular basis Sustainable Jersey holds conferences, trainings and webinars to assist green teams in the certification process and share information on new sustainability initiatives. Now all of these presentations are available in one location in an organized, easy to use manner on the [Conference, Training & Webinar Presentations page](#). The three categories of presentations are:

- Conferences
- Trainings & Workshops
- Webinar Recordings & Presentations

If you were unable to attend one of these events, this is a great opportunity to see what you missed. If you are applying for certification or recertification this year, this group of webinars will be particularly helpful.

Building Local Resilience to Climate Change: Tools & Sustainable Jersey Actions for Communities

This Sustainable Jersey Resiliency Program workshop will review tools and actionable steps that communities can take to be more prepared and resilient to the impacts of climate change. These are some of the most current resiliency tools available to New Jersey municipalities. Topics to be covered include the N.J. Municipal Resilience Cycle, coastal and tidally influenced vulnerability assessments, extreme temperature event plans, emergency preparedness self-assessments ("Getting to Resilience"), emergency communications for vulnerable populations, and more.

Tuesday, May 17, 2016 9:00am - 11:30am

Middlesex County Fire Academy
1001 Fire Academy Drive, Sayreville, NJ 08872

[REGISTER](#)

Friday, May 20, 2016 9:00am - 11:30am

ACIHA Environmental Park
600 Delilah Road, Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234

[REGISTER](#)

Other Upcoming Events

Creating, Branding and Promoting Local & Regional Destinations Workshop

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs' Main Street New Jersey and Improvement District Programs are hosting this workshop to help communities realize maximum potential in the local economy. Learn key strategies and tactics for building communities as destinations and then promoting them effectively. Topics covered during the workshop can help your town complete the four Local Economies [actions](#).

Thursday, April 27, 2016, 9:00am - 4:30pm

Grant Plaza

619 East Landis Avenue, Vineland, NJ 08360

[REGISTER](#) - 10% discount for Sustainable Jersey Green Teams

Incorporating Health into Planning and Decision-Making Training

The New Jersey Health Impact Collaborative (NJHIC) will lead an introductory training on health impact assessment as a tool to promote community health and equity in planning processes and decision-making. Participants will engage in group exercises related to HIA steps; discuss opportunities and challenges to integrating health into planning and policy processes; and learn about new statewide collaborative initiatives and emerging tools to build capacity for health advancement in planning and support health in all policies. This course will meet the requirements for Sustainable Jersey's new [Health in All Policies Professional Development](#) action. Send three people from your municipality and earn 10 points toward certification. See the action for details. For more information, visit the NJHIC [website](#).

Friday, April 29, 2016, 9:00am - 3:00pm

Rutgers University Inn & Conference Center

178 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

[REGISTER](#)

Tuesday, May 10, 2016, 9:00am - 3:00pm

Rutgers Eco Complex, Auditorium

1200 Florence-Columbus Boulevard, Bordentown, NJ 08505

[REGISTER](#)

For a list of all other upcoming events, visit the Sustainable Jersey [Events & Trainings](#) page

Funding & Technical Assistance Opportunities

2016 Cultivating Healthy Communities Grant Program

The Aetna Foundation will fund up to \$2 million in grants in the continental United States for programs that increase opportunities for health in underserved, low-income communities focusing on healthy behaviors, community safety, built environment, social/economic factors, and environmental exposures. This is a highly competitive, multi-staged funding opportunity and application process. For more information, visit their [website](#).

Stage One Application Deadline: April 15, 2016 at 3pm

2016 ANJEC Open Space Stewardship Project Grants

ANJEC is now accepting applications from environmental commissions for grants of up to \$1,500 each for local open space stewardship projects. To view samples of previous grant projects, click [here](#).

[Application Deadline: April 30, 2016 at 4:30pm](#)

New York / New Jersey Aquatic Trash Prevention 2016 Grant Program

The New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC), in cooperation with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state partners, is inviting proposals for projects to be funded under the New York / New Jersey Aquatic Trash Prevention Grant Program. EPA is providing these financial resources for projects aligned with the goal of EPA's Trash Free Waters program, for watersheds in both New York and New Jersey. NEIWPCC will distribute \$365,000 in grant funds, designed for individual grants of at least \$45,000. For more information, visit their [website](#).

Application Deadline: May 10, 2016 at 11:59pm

Healthiest Cities & Counties Challenge

Over the next several years, small and mid-sized municipalities will have the opportunity to compete in an innovative \$1.5 million challenge to develop practical strategies for measurably improving health outcomes while promoting health and wellness, equity and social interaction.

The Healthiest Cities & Counties Challenge is the product of an innovative collaboration among the Aetna Foundation, the American Public Health Association and the National Association of Counties. The competition aims to encourage communities to develop and share effective strategies that improve health across a range of domains. For more information, visit their [website](#).

Application Deadline: May 31, 2016

Green Communities Grant Application

Communities that need assistance in creating a Community Forestry Management Plan (CFMP) are eligible for the Green Communities Grant. The grant is offered every year for municipalities and counties. Currently the grants are up to \$3,000 with a 100% match, that can be made of in-kind and volunteer hours at the federal volunteer rate. For more information visit their [website](#).

For a list of other funding opportunities, visit our [Grants Portal](#)

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