



New! December Sustainability Hero

The December 2017 Sustainability Hero is Bonnie Akey, Chair of the Little Silver Environmental Commission in Monmouth County. Read about how Bonnie is providing common sense environmental leadership to Little Silver Borough. See how outdoor water bottle refilling stations, reusable bag education, the Parker Homestead, backyard composting and the University of Toledo 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.



Sustainable Jersey NJLM Session Presentations Available

Thank you to everyone who turned out in force to Sustainable Jersey sessions during the New Jersey League of Municipalities Conference. We had record attendance across all sessions, and enjoyed meeting and speaking with those of you that attended. Session presentations are now available on the [Conference Presentations page](#).

Funding Available for Municipalities and Schools



PSEG
We make things work for you.



Sustainable Jersey is pleased to announce that the PSEG Foundation is contributing \$200,000 to support a grants program cycle for municipalities and \$100,000 to support a grants program cycle for schools.

The municipal cycle will award four (4) \$20,000, eight (8) \$10,000 and twenty (20) \$2,000 grants to support efforts related to Sustainable Jersey [actions](#). For more information, click [HERE](#). **The application deadline is Wednesday, February 28, 2018.**

The schools cycle will award four (4) \$10,000 grants to school districts or schools, and thirty (30) \$2,000 grants to support efforts related to Sustainable Jersey for Schools [actions](#). For more information, click [HERE](#). **The application deadline is Friday, February 9, 2018.**

Informational Webinars

Two informational webinars will be held to review the online application process, requirements, and tips for successful applications.

Sustainable Jersey Municipal Grants Webinar

Wednesday, December 6, 2017, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

[REGISTER](#)

Sustainable Jersey for Schools Grants Webinar

View the recording and presentation [HERE](#)

Sustainable Jersey Upcoming Webinars

Moving Up to Silver Certification

Is your municipality interested in attaining silver certification? If so, then you should attend this webinar to get tips from silver certified municipalities and Sustainable Jersey staff on how to make the transition, and the actions that can set you on the fast path to silver!

Wednesday, January 31, 2018, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

[REGISTER](#)

Stay in the Game! Strategize Your Recertification

Is your town's certification expiring in 2017, and/or does your municipality wish to maintain its green team activities and certification? Now is the time to start planning for recertification! This webinar will provide helpful information to help you avoid a lapse and/or maintain your certification including: an overview of the certification cycle for the year; an update on new and existing action including a change to non-expiring actions, and an explanation of variable point actions; suggestions to prevent leaving actions "on the table"; accessing and using your online application; why actions are not approved.

Wednesday, February 7, 2018, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

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Making a Game Plan for Getting Certified

Calling all registered towns! Have you been thinking that 2018 is the year your town will join the 208 Sustainable Jersey certified municipalities that are making progress toward a more sustainable future? Would you like to receive the prestigious Sustainable Jersey certification at this year's League of Municipalities Conference? This webinar will share proven strategies and tools to help map out a path to certification within six to twelve months. Learn how to mobilize your green team, navigate the Sustainable Jersey website, select "start-up" actions, get assistance completing actions from non-profits and other groups, track your progress and more!

Wednesday, February 21, 2018, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

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Mayors' Climate Summit

Mayors and community leaders across New Jersey have taken up the challenge of addressing climate change and implementing sustainability practices at a local level. Please join us to discuss what we must achieve locally, and understand the specific steps we can take today to succeed. It is vital for our mayors and communities to take a leading role in preserving the environment and protecting the public health of our citizens. The day will consist of three panels of experts, resource organizations, and local leaders discussing a pathway forward to enable New Jersey to succeed in meeting the challenges presented by climate change. This event is hosted by Mayor Phil Kramer of Franklin Township, Mayor Bruce A. Harris of Chatham Borough, and brought to you by NJ League of Conservation Voters Education Fund, Rutgers University Bloustein School of Planning & Public Policy, and Sustainable Jersey. For more information click [HERE](#), and download the flyer [HERE](#).

Sustainable Jersey Regional Hub Event

Middlesex Hub Green Drinks

If you live in Middlesex County, join us to celebrate the accomplishments of your community with others from around the county. All municipal and school green team members, and other sustainability minded individuals are welcome to attend. This event is hosted by Sustainable Highland Park.

Monday, December 11, 2017, 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Pino's Gift Basket Shoppe and Wine Cellar
13 North 4th Avenue, Highland Park, NJ 08904

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Other Upcoming Events

Exploring Ecological Solutions for Coastal Community Hazards

The final event of this workshop series is hosted by the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary, Barnegat Bay Partnership, and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, and is designed for municipal officials, engineers, contractors, and anyone who is interested in or works on ecological projects, such as living shorelines or stormwater management. Hear from experts in the region and learn about designing, permitting, monitoring, and planning ecological projects.

Technical Planning for Ecological Projects: Tuesday, December 12, 2017, 9:00am - 3:00pm

Rutgers Center for Remote Sensing and Spatial Analysis

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Together North Jersey Transit Hub Workshop Series

The Together North Jersey Institute and the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) are co-sponsoring a series of workshops to explore the opportunities for creating vibrant transit hubs in Northern New Jersey. The workshops are open to those who want to learn more about the elements of a strong transit hub, the opportunities it can bring to the community, and the process to create it. Additional workshops are coming soon. For more information, visit their [website](#).

Friday, December 15, 2017, 8:30am - 12:30pm

North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority
One Newark Center, 17th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102

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Green Team Resources

Home Energy Upgrades for You and Your Residents

If your environmental/green team is looking to obtain points towards the Sustainable Jersey [Residential Energy Efficiency Outreach action](#) to promote Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® please contact Kimberly Hoff at Kimberly.hoff@NJCleanEnergy.com or call her at 732-218-3410. Kimberly is a Market Outreach Manager with *New Jersey's Clean Energy Program™* and can meet with your team to brainstorm on the best way to reach your residents.

New Jersey's [Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program](#) (HPwES) offers generous rebates and low-interest loans to homeowners to upgrade their homes to more energy efficient and comfortable dwellings. HPwES, which is administered by the Board of Public Utilities and its [Clean Energy Program](#), has upgraded the energy efficiency of over 30,000 homes in NJ since 2006. HPwES not only saves energy and money, it also addresses health and safety issues prior to making a home more energy efficient.

Funding Opportunities

Compressed Natural Gas Heavy Vehicle Grant Program

If your municipality has been looking to switch from traditional trucks and buses and other heavy duty vehicles to compressed natural gas (CNG) ones, now may be the right time. The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities' CNG heavy vehicle grant program helps fund the incremental cost of a CNG powered vehicle over a comparable diesel vehicle. Awards will be capped at \$20,000 per vehicle and \$40,000 per applicant and will be processed on a first-come-first-served basis until funding is exhausted. For more information, along with eligibility requirements, visit their [website](#).

Application Deadline: December 20, 2017

Volkswagen Settlement Project Proposals

New Jersey, as a potential beneficiary of the Trust established pursuant to the national Volkswagen settlement, intends to use its allocation from the mitigation trust to efficiently implement projects that reduce oxides of nitrogen (NOx) emissions in a cost effective and technically feasible manner. New Jersey has issued a solicitation for project proposals to ensure that a broad range of ideas are considered. Opportunities for public input will be provided in the coming months. For more information about eligible projects, visit the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's [website](#).

Application Deadline: January 31, 2018

Mark Your Calendars!

See below for important dates of Sustainable Jersey events, trainings, funding opportunities, and more!

- **Dec. 6:** The Grass is Greener with a Sustainable Jersey Grant Webinar
- **Dec. 11:** Middlesex Hub Green Drinks
- **Jan. 31:** Moving Up to Silver Certification Webinar
- **Feb. 3:** Mayors' Climate Summit
- **Feb. 7:** Stay in the Game! Strategize Your Recertification Webinar
- **Feb. 21:** Making a Game Plan for Getting Certified Webinar

For more information visit www.sustainablejersey.com

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