



## New! January Sustainability Hero

The January 2017 Sustainability Hero is our very own Donna Drewes, the Co-Director of Sustainable Jersey. Read about Donna's work over the last thirty-seven years as she has managed and created powerful programs that bring coalitions together to move sustainability forward, including the Sustainable Jersey program. See how the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, craft beer, Maple Shade High School and the South Branch Watershed Association 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](mailto:info@sustainablejersey.com).

### Join us for Donna's Retirement Celebration

All are welcome to attend Donna Drewes' retirement celebration on **Friday, February 3, from 5:30pm - 8:30pm** at The College of New Jersey in Ewing. You will enjoy a hearty selection of hot and cold hors d'oeuvres and non-alcoholic beverages; cash bar. The cost per ticket is \$40 per person, which includes a contribution towards a gift. It is a great way to spend some time you friends and colleagues engaged in Sustainable Jersey and help thank Donna for all she has contributed to the movement. Please [REGISTER](#) no later than Thursday, January 26.

## Don't Let Your Town Miss Out!

### We Are Pairing Your Local Need With a Technology Solution

Your town still has time to determine which local issue or need it would like to submit into the Coding for Community competition related to sustainability and public engagement. We encourage municipalities to **submit their need before our kick off event on January 27** [here](#) ([click on the "Share Your Local Issue" tab](#)). Whether you pre-submit your need or not, you can still participate in the competition. Send a representative to the kick off with an idea of your need and we will help you develop it. Regardless, technologists will be able to begin working on your need either way. And feel free to submit more than one.

Here are some examples of what has come in so far:

- An interactive tool where residents can propose an idea or submit a need and it is routed to the appropriate department, while the resident can track the progress of their request in an effort to increase citizen participation in decision making
- A school heat mapping mobile app that would allow teachers and staff to report when classrooms are too hot, which will reduce current overheating issues in schools
- A tool that allows residents to identify Emerald Ash trees on their property, link with a tree expert and get up to date information on the ash borer issue
- In order to cut down on GHG emissions from leaf blowers, a platform that would allow rakers to match up with those needing raking
- An application that maps where all community assets are, with up to date info on current projects and contact info so volunteers and active citizens can link to projects of interest and collaborate
- A digital platform that puts the town's public information online with interactive forms and applications and



- tracks OPRA requests
- and more...

Sustainable Jersey will also be submitting ideas for projects that will help your municipality track the impact of your sustainability goals related to our program.

Register for the competition and kick off event on **January 27 in Newark from 9:00am-4:00pm** [here](#). View the informational webinar recording and presentation [here](#).

## Sustainable Jersey Small Grants - The Best Odds Around

PSEG Foundation is contributing \$200,000 to support a Sustainable Jersey Small Grants Program cycle for municipalities and \$100,000 to support a Small Grants Program cycle for schools. Participating municipalities and schools are encouraged to apply, especially those that have not yet received a grant!

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. **The application deadline is Tuesday, February 27, 2017.** For more information, click [HERE](#).

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. **The application deadline is Friday, February 3, 2017.** For more information, click [HERE](#).

**At a minimum, apply for a \$2,000 grant. The chances of being awarded a grant are high and it's a great opportunity to jump start your green team efforts.**

### Informational Webinars

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

#### Sustainable Jersey Municipal Webinar

View the [Recording](#) and [Presentation](#)

#### Sustainable Jersey for Schools Webinar

View the [Recording](#) and [Presentation](#)



**PSEG**

*We make things work for you.*

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## The Time is Now to Start Planning your 2017 Certification & Recertification!

### Upcoming Webinars

#### Moving Up to Silver Certification Webinar

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!

**Tuesday, January 24, 2017, 1:00pm - 2:00pm**

[REGISTER](#)

#### Stay in the Game! Strategize Your Recertification

Is your town's certification expiring in 2017? Or even if it is not expiring, does your green team plan on applying for recertification to keep the momentum going? This webinar is for you. Gather helpful information to avoid a lapse in certification and/or recertify at a higher point level.

**Wednesday, February 15, 2017, 1:00pm - 2:00pm**

[REGISTER](#)

#### Making a Game Plan for Getting Certified

This webinar is geared toward registered but not yet certified towns. We will share proven strategies and tools to help map out a path to certification within six to twelve months.

**Wednesday, February 22, 2017, 1:00pm - 2:00pm**  
[REGISTER](#)

**Initial Application Deadline: Sunday, June 4!**

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## Have You Gotten Your Application In Yet?

### Our PIE Tech Pilots Are Getting Ready to Launch

The application deadline is drawing near for our PIE Technology Assessment pilots. Two municipalities will receive consulting over the course of two-months to support the implementation of the Public Information & Engagement actions, resulting in a roadmap of detailed recommendations for strategically incorporating government technologies into their daily operations. Our team will work to identify new systems and technologies to help each town meet their communications and public engagement goals.

If your town has not already applied to be a pilot, download the application packet [here](#). You have until **Sunday, February 5, 2017**. View the informational webinar recording and presentation [here](#).

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## Other Upcoming Events

### The "New" Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program

The New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust will hold workshops on topics related to program updates including financing program highlights and changes, intended use plan explanation, and technology/H2Loan applications. You can register for one of the three sessions [here](#).

**Tuesday, January 24, 2017, 8:30am - 12:00pm**  
Salem County Community College, Davidow Theater  
460 Hollywood Avenue, Carney's Point, NJ 08069

**Wednesday, January 25, 2017, 8:30am - 12:00pm**  
Raritan Valley Community College, Conference Center Room A-B  
118 Lamington Road, Branchburg, NJ 08876

**Thursday, January 26, 2017, 8:30am - 12:00pm**  
NJEIT Office  
3131 Princeton Pike, Building 4, Suite 216  
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

For other upcoming events, visit the [Events & Trainings Page](#)

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## Funding Opportunities

### Local Transportation Project Grants

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) is now accepting applications for State Aid grants to counties and municipalities for traditional and nontraditional transportation initiatives. Grants are available for transportation

projects in the following categories: municipal aid, transit village, bikeways, and safe streets to transit. For more information visit their website.

**Application Deadline:** February 3, 2017

## Renewable Electric Storage Program

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities is offering this program which provides financial incentives for electric energy storage systems that are integrated with Class 1 renewable energy projects installed behind-the-meter at non-residential customer sites. This program will support the installation of renewable electric storage systems in government, commercial, institutional and industrial entities for the purpose of providing emergency back-up power for essential services, offsetting peak loads, and/or helping stabilize the electric distribution system through the provision of frequency regulation services. The open enrollment program offers an incentive of \$300 per kWh of energy capacity, and the maximum incentive per project is \$300,000 or 30% of the project's total cost, whichever is less. For more information, visit their [website](#).

**Application Deadline:** Open Enrollment

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

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## Our Sponsors

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