



## New! March Sustainability Hero

The March 2017 Sustainability Hero is Wilma Morrissey, the Chair of the Wall Township Environmental Advisory Committee. Read about Wilma's work over the last 20 years protecting the environment in Monmouth County, the South Coast Region and Wall Township. See how Clean Ocean Action's Blue Star Program, Allenwood Park Native Garden, Saint Patrick's Cathedral in NYC and Monmouth County Vocational School District 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).



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## Upcoming Sustainable Jersey Webinar

### Ecological Solutions to Community Coastal Hazards

The triple bottom line benefits of green infrastructure and other ecological approaches to flood management and erosion control are becoming increasingly important given the trends in heavier precipitation events, increasingly intense storms and sea level rise. This webinar will feature a team of ecologists, engineers and planners who have been working with NJ coastal communities for the past two years on strategies to help minimize flood risks, protect fish & wildlife habitats and strengthen overall community resilience to coastal flooding.

**Wednesday, March 29, 2017, 1:00pm - 2:00pm**

[REGISTER](#)

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## Important Action Updates for 2017

### Energy

Were you able to attend the *What You Need to Know about Changes to the Energy Actions* webinar March 1? The [recording](#) and [presentation](#) are now posted so that you can make sure you stay abreast of the changes for this year. Sustainable Jersey staff is also available to help green teams sort through the energy action changes and maximize their points. Call Samantha McGraw at 609-771-2938 or email [info@sustainablejersey.com](mailto:info@sustainablejersey.com) for more information.

### Waste

The Recycling Education and Enforcement action is now retired, and replaced with the [Recycling and Waste Reduction Education and Compliance](#) action. This action recognizes municipalities that have developed and implemented a comprehensive Recycling and Waste Reduction Education and Compliance Strategy for residents aimed at increasing

the quantity and quality of recycling materials collected from residents, while reducing the amount of solid waste they generate. **This action is a Priority action worth 15 to 20 points.**

# SUSTAINABLE JERSEY SOLAR CHALLENGE

## The Competition "Heats Up"

The Sustainable Jersey Solar Challenge is starting to hit its stride. Who do you think will be crowned the Solar Challenge Champion?

- Galloway
- Highland Park
- Hoboken
- Hopewell (Mercer)
- Maplewood
- Verona
- Woodbridge

Click [here](#) to view current standings.



## Did You Know the New Jersey Prevention Network Can Assist with Completing Sustainable Jersey Actions?

The New Jersey Prevention Network (NJPN) is a public health agency working to create healthier communities by reducing the burden of substance abuse, addiction and other chronic diseases. NJPN can assist with a variety of actions such as [Smoke-Free and Tobacco-Free Public Places](#). Many towns in New Jersey have a smoke free ordinance, but may not be aware of it. The network has a list of towns that have this ordinance and is also readily available to help with the development of one. Completion of this action can earn a municipality 10 points toward its certification.

NJPN can also assist with Sustainable Jersey's priority action, [Prescription Drug Safety and Disposal](#). The Network works with Statewide Regional Substance Abuse Coalitions who have the resources to help implement this action. Regional Coalitions can help market and organize a take-back day, and establish permanent drop boxes in police departments and other locations in the community. Some coalitions may have financial resources while others can provide technical assistance to municipalities in coordinating their efforts. Call the network at 732-367-0611 to find out who your contact is.

**Take advantage of these great resources now!  
Remember the initial certification application deadline is Sunday, June 4!**

**Special Opportunity for Municipalities and  
School Districts Served by New Jersey Natural Gas!**

**FREE Technical Assistance with Energy-Related Initiatives**



Sustainable Jersey is partnering with the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) and New Jersey Natural Gas (NJNG) to provide to free technical assistance to municipalities and schools within the [NJNG service territory](#). The program will provide a trained EDF Fellow, typically a MBA or similar graduate with specialty training in energy project assessment and development, to work for 10 weeks during the summer of 2017 at **no cost** to implement Sustainable Jersey energy efficiency and/or renewable energy actions. For more information, click [HERE](#).

**Application Deadline:** Friday, April 14, 2017 at 11:59pm

## Other Upcoming Events

### Planting the Right Tree in the Right Place, the Right Way Seminar

The New Jersey Tree Foundation and Public Service Electric & Gas are offering this FREE seminar on planting the right tree, in the right place, the right way. Topics include the importance of utility mark-outs prior to planting, Emerald Ash Borer, vegetation management policies for safe and reliable delivery of electric service, and ash tree re-use. **This seminar is worth 3 Continuing Education Units needed for Sustainable Jersey's [Community Forestry Plan and Tree Cover Goal action](#).**

**Friday, March 31, 2017, 8:30am - 12:30pm**

Hopewell Municipal Complex, Auditorium  
201 Washington Crossing-Pennington Road, Titusville, NJ

REGISTER - RSVP to [LSimms@NJTreeFoundation.org](mailto:LSimms@NJTreeFoundation.org)

### New Jersey WasteWise Business Network Meeting

The next meeting of the New Jersey WasteWise Business Network will be held May 10. The meeting includes presentations on medical equipment reuse and refurbishment, municipal recycling enforcement and education strategies, what's new in glass recycling, a presentation on New Jersey's "Green Business Chamber of Commerce," and a presentation from Trex Recycled Plastic Lumber.

**Wednesday, May 10, 2017, 9:30am - 12:30pm**

NJ Forensic Science Technology Center Auditorium  
1200 Negron Drive, Hamilton, NJ 08691

REGISTER - RSVP to Steven Rinaldi at [Steven.Rinaldi@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Steven.Rinaldi@dep.nj.gov)

For a list of other upcoming events, visit our [Calendar page](#)

## Holding an Earth Day Event? NJDEP Can Help You Promote It!

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has administered the [Earth Day - New Jersey website](#) for almost 20 years! In celebration of Earth Day (April 22) and New Jersey Earth Week (April 23 - 29), you can submit details about your municipal and/or school public programs and have them featured on NJDEP's [Events Calendar page](#). This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase your environmental, green, and sustainability efforts.

# Funding Opportunities

## ANJEC Open Space Stewardship Project Grants

The Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC) is now accepting applications from environmental commissions for grants of up to \$1500 each for local open space stewardship projects. For a list of eligible projects and more information, visit their [website](#).

**Application Deadline: April 7, 2017**

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

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