



## Sustainability Grants Awarded to 31 New Jersey Municipalities

On May 19, 2017, Sustainable Jersey announced the thirty-one New Jersey municipalities selected to receive a Sustainable Jersey small grant funded by the PSEG Foundation. Five \$20,000 grants, six \$10,000 grants, and twenty \$2,000 grants were distributed to fund a variety of projects including a watershed management plan, rain and community gardens, a green pavilion with a living roof, an invertebrate conservation plan, wildlife habitat conservation, a plastic bag reduction campaign, an environmental resource inventory, and green team capacity building. Learn more about the recipients and projects funded [here](#).



Funding Provided by



## 2017 New Jersey Sustainability Summit Session Spotlight: Promoting a Clean Energy Future at the Local Level

The clean energy future is here! As costs for solar panels and electric vehicles (EV) have fallen, local policies and programs supporting the adoption of clean energy solutions have become more important than ever. Find out how to make your town 'solar friendly' and 'EV friendly' and gain insight on community-led initiatives that help residents and businesses.



Join us at the 2017 New Jersey Sustainability Summit. This event attracts over 300 diverse participants from across New Jersey. Attendees will participate in thought provoking conversations that focus on engaging government, community, schools, business and academia in sustainable action. Read all of the breakout session descriptions [here](#).

### Event Details

Wednesday, June 21, 2017, 8:30am - 4:00pm, at The College of New Jersey  
[REGISTER](#)

The New Jersey Sustainability Summit is sponsored by





## Two Weeks Left to Submit your Sustainable Jersey Certification Application!

Don't let another year pass without achieving Sustainable Jersey certification. If your municipality is thinking about getting certified or recertified in 2017, there are just a little over **two weeks left** until applications are due. All applications must be received by **June 4 at 11:59pm**.

Remember, although the majority of your actions should be completed by this date, additional documentation can be added during the application cycle.

### Do You Have Questions or Need Assistance?

There are a variety of resources to assist you on the Sustainable Jersey website, as well as the Green Team Resources page.

- [2017 Application Cycle](#) provides a timeline for review and resubmission process.
- [Moving Up to Silver Certification](#) webinar explains strategies to move from Bronze to Silver level certification.
- [Stay in the Game! Strategize your Recertification](#) webinar explains the recertification process.
- [Making a Game Plan for Getting Certified](#) webinar explains the certification process for first time applicants.
- [Application User Guide](#) provides a detailed overview of using your online application and submitting for certification.

### Countdown to Certification Webinar

This webinar will be held to review what you need to know to insure that your application process is as smooth as possible. The webinar will review: 2017 application cycle, steps for submitting an application in June, overview of uploading documentation and submitting the application, and your questions.

**Wednesday, May 31, 2017, 1:00pm-2:00pm**

[REGISTER](#)

If you have questions about your application, please do not hesitate to contact Samantha McGraw at 609-771-2938 or [info@sustainablejersey.com](mailto:info@sustainablejersey.com).



## Other Upcoming Events

### Creative Placemaking Series: Workshop #1: Introduction to Placemaking

Together North Jersey will present this first of a three-part series of workshops leading the use of Creative Placemaking to foster economic benefits in a community. This first session introduces the overarching Placemaking process to set the table for the subsequent workshops. It will show how Placemaking can be used by communities to engage residents, businesses, visitors, government and other stakeholders to develop strategies for creating exciting vibrant places to promote local growth and prosperity. Information from this workshop series can be used to help complete Sustainable Jersey's [Creative Placemaking Plan action](#). For more information, visit their [website](#).

**Wednesday, May 24, 2017, 8:30am - 1:00pm**

North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority  
One Newark Center, Newark, NJ 07102

[REGISTER](#)

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

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## SolSmart Workshops

SolSmart is a national solar designation and technical assistance program funded by the U.S. Department of Energy SunShot Initiative. The SolSmart program provides national recognition for municipalities that demonstrate that they are 'open for business' for solar by having solar-friendly zoning ordinances, solar-friendly permitting and inspection processes, as well as a willingness to promote solar to community businesses and residents, as with the Sustainable Jersey Solar Challenge.

SolSmart Workshops are intensive, action-oriented sessions designed to empower communities to make significant progress toward clearing solar market barriers and achieving SolSmart Bronze, Silver, or Gold designation. Workshops are multi-day events, the duration of which are driven by the capacity, needs, and priorities of community hosts.

SolSmart staff travel to your community for educational and working group sessions. For more information, contact them at 703-828-4531, [solsmart@solarfound.org](mailto:solsmart@solarfound.org), view the [SolSmart Workshop information sheet](#), or visit their [website](#).

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## Enter the #HealthyNJContest

The New Jersey YMCA State Alliance is hosting a social media contest to get more communities involved in promoting healthy lifestyles and building a Culture of Health in New Jersey. The #HealthyNJContest is a campaign to encourage local residents to share photos conveying their strides toward making health a shared value, creating healthier more equitable communities, and cross-sector collaboration to improve well-being. Three participants will win a \$500 grant for a charity of their choosing, to help their community build a culture of health. For more information, visit their [website](#).

**Contest Duration: April 24 - June 2**

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## Green Fair Resource

### New Jersey Clean Energy Program Event Tabling

New Jersey's Clean Energy Program is available to staff tables and/or conduct presentations at green fairs. This statewide clean energy initiative is administered by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities to promote energy efficiency and renewable sources of energy. Financial incentives are available through New Jersey's Clean Energy Program for residential, commercial, and municipal customers. Please complete an online event request form [here](#).

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