



New! December Sustainability Hero

The December 2018 Sustainability Hero is Elise Bremer-Nei, the Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator for the New Jersey Department of Transportation. Read about how for over 18 years, Elise has worked on New Jersey bicycle and pedestrian mobility projects. See how Safe Routes to School, complete streets, bicycle and pedestrian mobility, the Voorhees Transportation Center and the National Parks fit into the story on the [Sustainable Jersey Heroes page](#).

To celebrate 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.



New Funding Available for Municipalities and Schools



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 Friday, February 15, 2019.**

The schools cycle will award four (4) \$10,000 grants to schools or school districts, 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, March 15, 2019.**

Informational Webinars

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

TODAY! Sustainable Jersey Municipal Grants Webinar

Monday, December 10, 2018, 3:00pm - 4:00pm

[REGISTER](#)

Sustainable Jersey for Schools Grants Webinar

Recorded webinar and presentation available [HERE](#)

FRIDAY! Roots for Rivers Reforestation Grant and Technical Assistance Program Applications Due



The Nature Conservancy of New Jersey (TNC) is partnering with Sustainable Jersey and The Watershed Institute to offer this program to municipalities, school districts, and local non-profit and conservation organizations to support their efforts to undertake floodplain reforestation initiatives on public land. Program participants will receive technical assistance to design planting projects and funding to cover materials (only trees, tubes, and stakes) associated with plantings. Projects costing between \$1,000 and \$20,000 are eligible.

Activities resulting from this grant/technical assistance opportunity could apply to the [Tree Planting Programs](#) action. For more information, visit our [website](#).

Application Deadline: Friday, December 14, 2018

Recorded Webinar

An informational webinar was held to learn about why floodplain reforestation is important and what it involves; how to select a site and develop a planting plan; the technical assistance and funding available; and how to apply to be part of the program. The webinar recording and presentation can be found on our website [here](#).

Does Your Green Team Have a One Day Project that Could Use 10-20 Energetic Volunteers?

As part of the partnership between Sustainable Jersey and the Center for Community Engaged Learning and Research (CELR) at The College of New Jersey, we are pleased to announce an opportunity for Sustainable Jersey municipalities to enlist students from The College of New Jersey to support your green team on a specific project that contributes to your Sustainable Jersey certification. Possible projects include:

- Establishing and/or maintaining community gardens and raingardens
- Removing invasive species from a park as part of a larger community improvement plan
- Tree and shrub planting for reforestation and erosion control (such as for the [Roots for Rivers Reforestation Grant & Technical Assistance Program](#))
- Community asset mapping in neighborhoods

Projects may take place between March and April. Four to six municipalities will be selected. Municipalities may submit more than one proposal for different projects on different days. This opportunity **does not conflict** with the Sustainable Jersey Grant Program cycles. For more information, click [HERE](#).

Application Deadline: Monday, January 14, 2019

Notifications will be made by January 25



Hightstown Borough Stream Clean Up

Sustainable Jersey Upcoming Webinars

Community Solar in New Jersey

Community solar allows one solar installation to serve many customers, making it a desirable option for those whose rooftops are not well-situated for solar, including renters and multifamily residents who cannot install solar on the roof. This webinar will discuss the role municipalities can play in promoting, managing, and/or developing community solar projects.

Wednesday, December 12, 2018, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

[REGISTER](#)

Moving Up to Silver Certification

Municipalities that are interested in attaining silver certification (whether they are currently certified at the bronze level or are just beginning to work on their certification) should attend this webinar to get tips from silver certified municipalities and Sustainable Jersey staff. Hear about how other towns have achieved the prestigious silver designation, and learn about actions that can fast track you on the path to silver!

Wednesday, January 30, 2018, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

[REGISTER](#)

Stay in the Game! Strategize Your Recertification

Is your town's certification expiring in 2019, 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 actions 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 13, 2018, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

[REGISTER](#)

Wednesday, February 13, 2018, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

[REGISTER](#)

Making a Game Plan for Getting Certified

Calling all registered towns! Have you been thinking that 2019 is the year your town will join the over 200 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.

Wednesday, February 20, 2018, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

[REGISTER](#)

Green Team 2.0: Building Your Capacity & Promoting Your Team

You've got your green team - what's next? This session will talk about recruiting, training, and retaining volunteers; promoting the work of your green team; keeping your green team active during transitions; and the pros and cons of starting your own 501(c)3 non-profit. This is an extended version of the presentation from the 2018 Sustainability Summit.

Wednesday, March 6, 2018, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

[REGISTER](#)

Wednesday, March 6, 2019, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

[REGISTER](#)

Other Upcoming Events

2019 New Jersey Bike & Walk Summit

The New Jersey Bike & Walk Coalition's annual Summit is a statewide meeting of bicycle and pedestrian advocates, elected officials, and other township leaders, transportation and urban planners, and others who are interested in making New Jersey a better place to live. Attendees will learn about current state and federal legal and policy issues affecting communities, provide information on various public funding sources, and give ample opportunity to network, identify and develop mutually beneficial relationships that can help communities become more bike and pedestrian friendly, and more livable. For more information, visit the [website](#).

Saturday, February 23, 2019, 8:00am - 5:00pm

The Conference Center, Mercer County Community College
1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor, NJ 08550

[REGISTER](#) - Registration fee applies

2019 Rutgers Environmental Stewards Program

Registration is now open for the 2019 Rutgers Environmental Stewards Program. Offered by the Rutgers Cooperative Extension, this program introduces non-scientists to the science underlying the key environmental issues in the Garden State and offers them training to solve problems in their respective communities. Participants may enroll in a program in January or February 2019, in one of the following counties: Atlantic, Essex, Middlesex, and Somerset. Participants do not need to be county residents to participate in the program. This is a wonderful opportunity for green teams to gain training that will help them work on Sustainable Jersey certification for their town. For more information, visit the [website](#).

[REGISTER](#) - Select the county in which you plan to take courses. Registration fee applies.

Award Recognition Nominations

2019 New Jersey Future Smart Growth Awards

Nominations are now open for New Jersey Future's 2019 Smart Growth Awards. These awards honor projects, policies, and plans in New Jersey that embody the principles of smart growth - compact development in centers near jobs and amenities, a range of housing options, a range of transportation choices, innovative repurposing of existing buildings, preservation of valuable open space, and protection against the threat of a changing climate. For more information, visit their [website](#).

[Application Deadline](#): Friday, January 18, 2019

Green Team Resources

Pursuing Energy Actions?

Customers of [South Jersey Gas](#) can take advantage of incentive programs to upgrade equipment in homes and businesses that complement offerings of [New Jersey's Clean Energy Program](#) (NJCEP). Energy efficiency upgrades not only save energy and money and provide environmental benefits, energy efficiency measures also address health, comfort, and safety issues in homes and businesses.

Learn effective ways to obtain points towards the Sustainable Jersey Outreach actions to promote [residential](#) and [commercial](#) energy efficiency by contacting Sustainable Jersey at 609-771-2938 or via email: info@sustainablejersey.com.

Patrick McDevitt, Energy Efficiency & Conservation Program Coordinator with South Jersey Gas can meet with your green team to brainstorm the best way to reach your residents and businesses. Contact Patrick

Funding Opportunities

It Pay\$ to Plug In: New Jersey's Electric Vehicle Charging Grants Program

It Pay\$ to Plug In provides grants to offset the cost of purchasing and installing electric vehicle charging stations. The program is designed to expand New Jersey's growing network of electric vehicle infrastructure, allowing residents, businesses, and government agencies to purchase and drive electric vehicles. EVs dramatically reduce vehicle emissions and improve air quality for everyone.

It Pay\$ to Plug In has expanded its eligibility criteria to include workplaces, public places, and multi-unit dwellings (apartments, condominiums, and townhouses). The program is open to businesses, governments, non-profit organizations, and educational institutions. Private residential dwellings other than multi-unit dwellings are not eligible for grants.

Upon completion of work in accordance with the eligibility criteria, DEP will reimburse each applicant for a percentage of eligible costs up to a maximum of:

- \$750 per Level 1 charging station
- \$5,000 per single-port Level 2 charging station
- \$6,000 per dual-port Level 2 charging station

All application forms can be found on [DriveGreen NJ](http://DriveGreen.NJ). Please direct questions to the Bureau of Mobile Sources at DriveGreen@dep.nj.gov.

Installation of electric vehicle charging stations by the municipality qualifies for points under the [Public Electric Vehicle Infrastructure](#) action. Your municipality may also consider using the siting opportunity for the charging station(s) to [Make Your Town Electric Vehicle Friendly](#) for additional points.

Mark Your Calendars!

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

- **Dec. 10:** Grass is Greener with a Grant Webinar
- **Dec. 12:** Community Solar Webinar
- **Dec. 14:** Roots for Rivers Grant Application Deadline
- **Jan. 30:** Moving Up to Silver Certification Webinar
- **Feb. 13:** Stay in the Game! Strategize Your Recertification Webinars
- **Feb. 20:** Making a Game Plan for Getting Certified Webinar
- **March 6:** Green Team 2.0: Building Your Capacity & Promoting Your Team Webinars

For more information visit www.sustainablejersey.com

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