



Reflecting on 2018 and Looking Ahead to 2019



*Lambertville City
Small Sustainability Champion*



*Chatham Borough
Medium Sustainability Champion*



*Woodbridge Township
Large Sustainability Champion*

This holiday season is a good time to reflect upon all of the things for which we are grateful. And our list is certainly full this year! We are brimming with hope and energy for 2019 after the New Jersey League of Municipalities Conference. Congratulations to the 63 towns that were certified and recertified within the last year, and thank you for coming out in force to the Sustainable Jersey Annual Luncheon.

Thank you to all the panel speakers and everyone that attended the Sustainable Jersey sessions to learn how we can move sustainability initiatives forward in New Jersey. You can view all of the session presentations [HERE](#). Thank you to the Board of Trustees, the green teams, task force members and everyone that makes the Sustainable Jersey program possible.

Finally, we offer sincere gratitude to our underwriters, sponsors, and partners. This has been a stand-out year! New Jersey communities are showing no signs of slowing in their commitment to sustainability. We will keep moving forward with your continued participation, and look forward to celebrating the 10th anniversary of Sustainable Jersey in 2019!

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.

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](#).

Roots for Rivers Reforestation Grant and Technical Assistance Program



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

Jersey Water Works Conference

This day long conference brings together more than 300 state and local decision-makers, practitioners and stakeholders to amplify the importance of addressing New Jersey's water infrastructure, explore innovative solutions and celebrate the Jersey Water Works collaborative as an effective, comprehensive approach to achieving statewide impact. For more information, visit the [website](#).

Friday, December 7, 2018, 9:00am - 2:00pm

New Jersey Performing Arts Center
1 Center Street, Newark, NJ 07102

[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

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 & Technical Assistance Opportunities

2019 Safe Routes to Parks Activating Communities Program

The Safe Routes to Parks Activating Communities program, with funding from the JPB Foundation, is accepting applications for awards for eleven grantee communities in 2019, following the first year of awards in 2018. This program provides tailored technical assistance for eleven communities to develop Safe Routes to Parks action plans and awards of \$12,500 to each community to begin implementing those plans. For more information, visit the [website](#).

Application Deadline: Monday, December 10, 2018, at 11:59pm

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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