

This Week! Municipal Grant Application Deadline



This is the final week to submit your grant proposal for the Sustainable Jersey Grant Program cycle funded by the PSEG Foundation. Four (4) \$20,000, eight (8) \$10,000, and twenty (20) \$2,000 grants to support efforts related to Sustainable Jersey <u>actions</u> will be awarded. If you have a project that's been on your wish list, or are working on certification in 2019 and need support to help complete an action, this is the opportunity to secure funding to do so! For more information, click <u>HERE</u>.

Application Deadline: Friday, February 15, 2019

Sustainable Jersey Upcoming Webinars

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, 2019, 1:00pm - 2:00pm REGISTER

Wednesday, February 13, 2019, 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, 2019, 1:00pm - 2:00pm REGISTER

Foundations for Using Technology Effectively in Your Town

Technology can help local governments communicate with and engage the public in decision making in a more meaningful way. It is important to have a foundation for the digital programs put in place. This webinar will discuss the elements to a solid foundation of governance and how communities can benefit.

Wednesday, February 27, 2019, 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, 2019, 1:00pm - 2:00pm REGISTER

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

Sustainable Jersey Regional Hub Events

The Problem with Plastics: Changes in the Recycling Industry

This Atlantic-Cape May Hub event will talk about the current recycling climate and global market changes that directly affect communities and personal practices. This will be the first in a series of workshops focused on issues involving plastic waste. This event is free and open to the public.

Wednesday, February 27, 2019, 6:00pm - 8:00pm ACUA Recycling Center 6700 Delilah Road, Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234 <u>REGISTER</u>



13th Annual Mercer GreenFest

The Mercer GreenFest is hosted by the Mercer County Sustainability Coalition (MCSC), and is the area's local green fair featuring sustainable local businesses, community organizations, local farms, cooking demonstrations, hands-on workshops, and informational speaker presentations. It is organized by the MCSC to educate and inform residents about the best of new energy saving technologies, to promote local businesses and organizations, to further arts and showcase what can be accomplished working collaboratively. This year's theme is reduce, reuse, recycle. This event is free and open to the public.

Saturday, March 16, 2019, 11:00am - 4:00pm Rider University Alumni Gymnasium 2083 Lawrenceville Road, Lawrence, NJ 08648



Mercer County Sustainability Coalition Communities Working Together for a Sustainable Future

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 <u>REGISTER</u> - Registration fee applies

New Jersey Future Redevelopment Forum

The Redevelopment Forum attracts more than 500 local and state officials, citizen activists, development professionals, architects, attorneys, planners, business leaders, and students. The Forum will provide the opportunity for attendees to share innovative ideas, learn best practices, and make New Jersey a better place for tomorrow. For more information, visit the <u>website</u>.

Friday, March 8, 2019, 8:00am - 3:45pm

Hyatt Regency New Brunswick 2 Albany Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 <u>REGISTER</u> - Fee applies

Green Infrastructure Planning & Implementation Workshop

The Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program has completed green infrastructure plans for over 150 municipalities in New Jersey. This course will help towns understand how to use their plan to address stormwater problems in their community, such as localized flooding and pollutants entering the waterways. If a plan has not yet been developed, guidance will be provided to create one. There are 35 points available for green infrastructure planning and 45 points for green infrastructure implementation in the Sustainable Jersey program.

Tuesday, March 19, 2019, 6:00pm - 8:00pm Montclair Fire Department Headquarters, Montclair Community Room 1 Pine Street, Montclair, NJ 07042 <u>REGISTER</u>

New Jersey Community Forestry Core Training Workshop

Is your town working towards Approved Status in the New Jersey Urban & Community Forestry Program? Don't miss this opportunity to make progress towards completing the Education and Training requirements. The benefits of achieving Approved Status include liability protection from hazardous tree situations for your municipality, training and tree related educational opportunities, a solid foundation for the proper care and management of your community's tree resources, access to grants, and Sustainable Jersey points!

Saturday, March 23, 2019, 8:30am - 4:30pm Holly House at Rutgers Gardens 130 Log Cabin Road, New Brunswick, NJ 08816 <u>REGISTER</u> - Fee applies

2018 Gardinier Environmental Fund Grant Recipients Announced



Two public school districts and ten municipalities were selected to receive Sustainable Jersey grants funded by the Gardinier Environmental Fund. Two \$30,000 grants and ten \$10,000 grants were distributed to fund proposals for electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure and education, a solar energy feasibility study and community solar education, and innovative energy efficiency projects in school facilities and municipal buildings. Learn more about the projects and recipients <u>here</u>.

New Blog: Identifying Local Strengths to Build Sustainable Communities

Every community has a different set of needs and challenges. For busy municipalities, it's hard to slow down, stop and assess. Successful towns and green teams make time to do the important work of figuring out their local strengths, or....<u>click here to continue reading</u>.



Nominate Your Own NJ Hero!

The Russ Berrie Making a Difference Award honors individuals who perform extraordinary community service or unusual acts of heroism in the state, and those who have made a significant difference to the well-being of society. Monetary prizes will be awarded to recipients. Learn more on the <u>website</u>.

Nomination Deadline: Monday, February 18, 2019

Arts Tank Competition

Arts Tank, a program of the South Jersey Cultural Alliance, is an effort to showcase model creative placemaking programs in South Jersey. This is a challenge for South Jersey towns in partnership with a local nonprofit located in Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Ocean and Salem counties, to engage their communities through a creative placemaking proposal built on arts, history, and culture. The top 5 finalists will compete by making presentations to the creative placemaking experts or "sharks" for the grand prize of \$5,000 on May 29. Municipalities can leverage work done on Sustainable Jersey's <u>Creative Placemaking Plan action</u> for this competition. For more information, visit the <u>website</u>.

Letter of Intent Deadline: Monday, February 25, 2019 (Email Karen Pinzolo at <u>kpinzolo@sjca.net</u>) <u>Application Deadline</u>: Monday, April 1, 2019

Green Infrastructure Champions Program

Green Infrastructure Champions are key players in implementing green infrastructure as a stormwater management approach town by town. The Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program offers training on green infrastructure planning and implementation; technical support to design green infrastructure demonstration projects; networking opportunities; and assistance with grant writing and submissions. For more information about becoming a Green Infrastructure Champion, contact Marian Glenn at <u>marian.glenn@shu.edu</u>, or Hollie DiMuro at <u>hdimuro@envsci.rutgers.edu</u>.

Green Infrastructure Champions Training Sessions

Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program, Jersey Water Works, and NJ Sea Grant Consortium are hosting the following three training sessions. All workshops will be held at the Rutgers EcoComplex located in Bordentown, NJ. More information on the specific topics of each session can be found <u>here</u>. You can register for each of the sessions <u>here</u>.

Session Dates & Topics

• Moving from Planning to Implementation of Green Infrastructure, Friday, February 15, 1:30pm - 3:30pm

• Maintaining Green Infrastructure Practices/Projects, Wednesday, March 6, 1:30pm - 3:30pm

Funding Opportunity

Bergen County Utilities Authority Recycling Enhancement Grant Program

The Bergen County Utilities Authority is offering \$3,000 grants to Bergen County municipalities for enhancements to their local municipal recycling depots and/or recycling collection programs for difficult to recycle items. Collection of these difficult to recycle items could potentially earn a municipality points in the Sustainable Jersey program under the <u>Non-Mandated Materials Recycling</u> action.

Application Deadline: Wednesday, February 20, 2019

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 educations 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 <u>DriveGreen NJ</u>. Please direct questions to the Bureau of Mobile Sources at <u>DriveGreen@dep.nj.gov</u>.

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

Green Team Resources

Pursuing Energy Actions?

Customers of <u>South Jersey Gas</u> can take advantage of incentive programs to upgrade equipment in homes and businesses that complement offerings of <u>New Jersey's Clean Energy Program</u> (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 <u>residential</u> and <u>commercial</u> energy efficiency by contacting Sustainable Jersey at 609-771-2938 or via email: <u>info@sustainablejersey.com</u>.

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 at 609-561-9000 ext. 4027 or via email: <u>pmcdevitt@sjindustries.com</u>.

Mark Your Calendars!

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

- Feb. 13: Stay in the Game! Strategize Your Recertification Webinars
- Feb. 15: PSEG Grant Application Deadline
- Feb. 20: Making a Game Plan for Getting Certified Webinar
- Feb. 27: Foundations for Using Technology Effectively in Your Town
- Feb. 27: Atlantic-Cape May Regional Hub Event
- March 6: Green Team 2.0: Building Your Capacity & Promoting Your Team Webinars

For more information visit www.sustainablejersey.com



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