

# Sustainable Jersey is Turning Ten!

Happy New Year! Sustainable Jersey is is turning ten and we are honoring the milestone with a year of celebration, reflection and planning for the future. We're launching a year-long program that will include special events, communications that profile our progress and on-line resources to continue supporting our mission as we hit double digits. Perhaps most importantly, we will be inviting you to work with us to think about how Sustainable Jersey can evolve, and how we meet the our pressing challenges together.

Looking back at our journey over the years, Sustainable Jersey has helped our communities become national leaders in implementing solutions to the key sustainability challenges. From new technologies, infrastructure, policies, plans, ordinances and education campaigns, New Jersey communities are on the front lines working to create a sustainable future. This growth has been amazing to watch but is only possible with your help and support. To recognize our growth, we're excited to announce our official anniversary theme: Celebrating Progress, Envisioning the Future.



Celebrating Progress, Envisioning the Future

#### Help Us Celebrate on June 14, 2019

To start, mark your calendar and plan to attend the New Jersey Sustainability Summit that will take place on Friday, June 14, 2019 at Bell Works in Holmdel. The Sustainability Summit will celebrate our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and include an exhibitor's hall and over 12 concurrent sustainability sessions. Registration and details will follow

Thank you for ten exciting years so far - we can't wait to see what's ahead in the next ten!

#### January 2019: Sustainability Heroes

To celebrate our progress, this year we will highlight sustainability heroes that have contributed to Sustainable Jersey over the years:

#### Fred Profeta, Jr. and Meryl Frank, Co-Founders, New Jersey Mayors Committee for a Green

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the years. Read about how in 2009 Sustainable Jersey was formally launched thanks to the contributions of many dedicated people and organizations including the New Jersey Mayors Committee for a Green Future and its visionary co-founders Fred Profeta, Jr. and Meryl Frank. Read about the impressive accomplishments of this group and its two co-founders on the Sustainable Jersey Heroes

page: <a href="http://www.sustainablejersey.com/media-communications/sustainable-jersey-heroes/">http://www.sustainablejersey.com/media-communications/sustainable-jersey-heroes/</a>.









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 <u>actions</u>. For more information, click <u>HERE</u>. **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 <u>actions</u>. For more information, click <u>HERE</u>. **The application deadline is Friday, March 15, 2019**.

#### Informational Webinars

Two informational webinars were held to review the online application process, requirements, and tips for successful applications. The recordings and power point presentations can be accessed below.

Sustainable Jersey Municipal Grants Webinar Recorded webinar and presentation available <u>HERE</u>

Sustainable Jersey for Schools Grants Webinar Recorded webinar and presentation available HERE

# **Sustainable Jersey Upcoming Webinars**

### Community Solar by Municipalities

Municipalities play a key role in promoting community solar. This webinar will focus on municipal engagement of local stakeholders in creating momentum for developing community solar projects. A case study from the New York City Housing Authority will highlight elements of utilizing public housing to site community solar installations as well as provide insight on NYC's ACCESSolar program.

Wednesday, January 23, 2019, 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, 2019, 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, 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

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} Wednesday, March 6, 2019, 7:00pm - 8:00pm \\ \hline REGISTER \end{tabular}$ 

# **Other Upcoming Events**

#### Completing Your Annual NJUCF Accomplishment Report

Learn about the New Jersey Urban and Community Forestry (NJUCF) Program's Annual Accomplishment Report (AAR). The report is a fillable PDF and is the same format used last year. This webinar will walk you through the steps involved in filling out the form, focusing on areas such as the budget and the timeline section. Program participants must submit their 2018 Annual Accomplishments Report by February 15, 2019. The reports are used to assess the needs of the state's local urban and community forestry programs in order to provide the most needed and relevant assistance possible. Submitting an AAR and remaining accredited with the NJUCF Program is critical to being able to earn points for the <a href="Tree & Woodlands Management Actions">Tree & Woodlands Management Actions</a> in the Sustainable Jersey program. In addition, participants can also earn 1 NJUCF CEU.

Thursday, January 31, 12:00pm - 1:00pm REGISTER

#### **Green Infrastructure and Transportation Workshop**

Jersey Water Works and Together North Jersey are co-sponsoring this half day workshop to describe successful strategies for identifying project financing, developing partnerships, and creating operations and maintenance protocols for green stormwater infrastructure, through a discussion of case studies. A moderated panel on key issues and challenges will follow the speakers' presentations. Participants are eligible for AICP credits (pending approval).

Wednesday, February 6, 2019, 9:30am - 12:30pm

North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority 1085 Raymond Boulevard Newark, NJ REGISTER

## 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

# **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 marian.glenn@shu.edu, or Hollie DiMuro at hdimuro@envsci.rutgers.edu.

# **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 <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>. You can register for each of the sessions <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>.

#### **Session Dates & Topics**

- How to Identify Green Infrastructure Projects in Your Town, Friday, February 1, 9:30am 11:30am
- 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

# 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.

# **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: <a href="mailto:pmcdevitt@sjindustries.com">pmcdevitt@sjindustries.com</a>.

# Mark Your Calendars!

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

- Jan. 23: Community Solar in Municipalities Webinar
- Jan. 30: Moving Up to Silver Certification Webinar
- 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
- March 6: Green Team 2.0: Building Your Capacity & Promoting Your Team Webinars

For more information visit www.sustainablejersey.com

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