

SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT



SUSTAINABILITY SESSIONS: 10:10 – 11:10am

CREATING A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMUNITY THROUGH COMMUNITY ENERGY PLANNING SJ

The session will provide an overview of Community Energy Planning with a focus on Sustainable Jersey's Sustainable Energy Community Guide and Community Energy Plan Workplan Template. The session will highlight a 'model' Community Energy Plan, illustrating the co-benefits for communities, such as improved local air quality, economic benefits, and healthier, more energy efficient homes and businesses. Guidance will be provided to help municipalities take advantage of community energy planning to reach the Gold Star in Energy, including the use of the Sustainable Jersey Data Center.

Hogan Dwyer, Research and Project Specialist, Sustainable Jersey • **Kelly Mooij**, Director, Division of Clean Energy, New Jersey Board of Public Utilities • **Nancy Quirk**, Energy Program Manager, Sustainable Jersey • **Zenon Tech-Czarny**, Research and Project Specialist, Sustainable Jersey

[1.0 CEUs available: CCFO/CMFO, Office; CPWM, Government; RMC, Professional Development]

FROM FOOD "WASTE" TO FOOD SECURITY SJ, SJS

30-40% of the food grown in the US goes uneaten and much of that ends up in our landfills, emitting greenhouse gases. Yet, more than 13% of New Jerseyans suffer from food insecurity. What are municipalities and schools doing to divert food waste from landfills and redirect it to people in need? In this session we will hear about Sustainable Jersey actions that can help meet this challenge, along with several innovative initiatives underway.

Jennifer Shukaitis, Family & Community Health Sciences Educator III, Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station • **Kelly Stone**, Teacher, George L. Catrambone Elementary School, Long Branch • **Peggy Foley**, Parish Outreach Ministry, Saint James Food Pantry, Woodbridge • **Dr. Sara Elnakib**, County Extension Department Head, Family & Community Health Sciences Educator III, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Passaic County

[1.0 CEUs available: CCFO/CMFO, Office; RMC, Professional Development]

SPOTLIGHT EDA: RESOURCES TO SUPPORT LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SJ

From support for brownfields investigation and remediation to electric vehicle infrastructure to reduction of food insecurity, learn about available funding and resources available to municipalities from the New Jersey Economic Development Authority.

Speakers TBA

[1.0 CEUs available: CCFO/CMFO, Finance; CPWM, Government; RMC, Finance]

TELLING YOUR MUNICIPAL WATER STORY SJ

Taking a comprehensive approach to understand the manmade and natural water systems at work in your community requires knowing where to go for relevant information. Municipalities that have or in the process of preparing the Municipal Water Story action will share what resources helped as well as key lessons learned.

Kathleen Mumma, Asbury Park Green Team • **Kristi MacDonald, Ph.D.**, Director of Science, Raritan Headwaters Association • **Thomas C. Flynn, M.P.A., CFM**, Environmental Specialist, Floodplain Administrator, Division of Engineering, Woodbridge • Additional speakers TBA

[1.0 CEUs available: CPWM, Tech]

SUSTAINABILITY SESSIONS: 11:30 – 12:30pm

ALL THINGS ELECTRIC VEHICLES SJ, SJS

Whether you are a municipality or school district, Sustainable Jersey has resources to support your transition to electric vehicles through policy, procurement, and promotion. This session will highlight fleet vehicle options, including trucks and schools buses; procurement options and incentives for electric vehicles; and outreach strategies to encourage EV adoption in the community.

Kelly Mooij, Director, Division of Clean Energy, New Jersey Board of Public Utilities • **Matthew J. Paladino**, Business Administrator and Board Secretary, Belleville Board of Education • **Michael Manzella**, Director of Transportation Planning, Jersey City

[1.0 CEUs available: CCFO/CMFO, Office; CPWM, Management; RMC, Professional Development; QPA, Green Purchase]

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW? SJ, SJS

A goal of community and school gardens is to be environmentally-friendly, but what does that really mean? What is certified organic vs. organic gardening techniques? Experts will share the range of practices and their relative importance to keeping your gardens as environmentally friendly as possible.

Jose German Gómez, Founder & CEO, Northeast Earth Coalition

[1.0 CEUs available: CPWM, Tech]

REVEALING THE HIDDEN IMPACTS OF HEALTH: MANAGING THE LOCAL ACTIONS THAT DETERMINE HEALTH OUTCOMES SJ

Each community has a unique set of assets and needs related to health. Within each municipality, residents experience unequal access to the social and environmental resources that determine how well and how long they live, such as access to healthy food, transportation, safe and affordable housing, clean air and water, open space, recreation, and more. This session will highlight a new action launched to help municipalities assess the health of their community, and set a path towards the Gold Star in Health.

Lauren Skowronski, Program Director for Community Engagement, Sustainable Jersey • Lisa Gulla, President, NJ Public Health Association and Co-Founder, Strategic Health Advisers • Thomas C. Flynn, M.P.A., CFM, Environmental Specialist, Floodplain Administrator, Division of Engineering, Woodbridge

[1.0 CEUs available: CCFO/CMFO, Office; CPWM, Government; RMC, Professional Development; QPA, Office]

SUSTAINABILITY SESSIONS: 1:45 – 2:45pm

ELIMINATING BIAS AND BUILDING EQUITABLE COMMUNITIES SJ, SJS

This two-hour interactive workshop will investigate how bias based on race, gender, age, ability or other identities may show up in your municipality or schools. We will explore how to initiate proactive dialogue on the impacts of individual and institutional bias on diverse groups, and how to recognize and dismantle barriers to equity. Participants will come away with skills and strategies to build equitable and inclusive practices and policies in your communities. ***Participants will be committing to attend both of the afternoon session time slots. Space will be limited and available on first-come, first-serve basis.**

Aaron Chavis, Strategic Thought Leader & Advisor at the Hearts in Mind, LLC – EmPathic Institute • Paulina Alvarado-Goldman, President and CEO, Capacity Building and Policy Experts

[1.0 CEUs available: CCFO/CMFO, Office & Ethics; CPWM, Management & Ethics; RMC, Professional Development & Ethics; QPA, Office & Ethics]

INCORPORATING CLIMATE CHANGE INTO THE CLASSROOM SJ, SJS

This session will help participants understand the new K-12 Climate Change Education Student Learnings Standards and review the resources and strategies available to effectively implement these standards in classrooms across the state.

Speakers TBA

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SPOTLIGHT: EXPERT HANDS FOR ENERGY PROJECTS SJ, SJS

Sustainable Jersey's technical assistance (TA) program pairs municipalities or school districts with hands-on support to help complete Sustainable Jersey energy actions, including Energy Tracking and Management and Energy Efficiency for Facilities actions. TA includes assistance navigating applications for energy efficiency incentives available from New Jersey's Clean Energy Program and utilities. This session will feature representatives from schools and municipalities sharing their firsthand experiences with TA for energy projects.

John Weber, Councilman, Bradley Beach • Lisa Sandhusen, Councilwoman, New Milford • Rosemarie Suarez, Assistant to the Municipal Administrator and Sustainability Coordinator, West New York

[1.0 CEUs available: CCFO/CMFO, Office; CPWM, Management; RMC, Professional Development; QPA, Office]

SUSTAINABILITY SESSIONS: 3:00 – 4:00pm

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NAVIGATING THE SUSTAINABLE JERSEY GRANTS PROGRAM SJ, SJS

Does your municipality or school need funding for sustainability initiatives? The Sustainable Jersey Grants Program provides grants every year to communities who are participating in the Sustainable Jersey certification programs. Grants can be used to build green team capacity and fund projects that support the completion of a certification program action. This session will walk attendees through the grant application process and provide an overview of the upcoming funding opportunities. Join us to learn about grant writing tips and additional resources that can help you create a successful grant proposal.

Kaitlyn Vollmer, Grants Program Coordinator, Sustainable Jersey

[1.0 CEUs available: CCFO/CMFO, Finance; CPWM, Government; RMC, Finance; QPA, Green]

ON THE FRONT LINES OF CLIMATE CHANGE: WHAT MUNICIPALITIES CAN DO SJ

This session will provide an update on recent legislation, rules, data and other factors at play that compel municipalities to consider climate change in much of their work from planning to design review to capital improvements. Tools and resources to assist municipalities to frame a holistic approach to climate planning and undertaking adaptation strategies will be discussed.

Anne Heasley, Program Manager, Policy and Planning, Sustainable Jersey • **Meghan Leavey**, Bureau of Climate Resilience Planning, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection • **Tanya Rohrbach**, Community Planning Manager, New Jersey Future

[1.0 CEUs available: CCFO/CMFO, Office; CPWM, Government; RMC, Professional Development]

WORKING ACROSS GENERATIONS TO ADVANCE SUSTAINABILITY IN YOUR COMMUNITY SJ, SJS

Students are being recognized more and more for their passion and creativity in the sustainability world. Hear from student and green team leaders about how to engage youth in your efforts, create meaningful work for students and foster collaborative partnerships across generations.

Amy Tuininga, PhD, Director, PSEG Institute for Sustainability Studies, Montclair State University • **JoAnn Contarino**, Program Assistant, Sustainable Jersey • **Kristen Rolfes Hall**, Chair, Rumson Environmental Commission and Green Team • **Lisa Jordan**, Member, Sustainable Madison Advisory Committee • **Peter Fried**, Member, Sustainable Madison Advisory Committee

SJS = session has schools related content | SJ = content relates to municipal certification program