



SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 1




Tree Talk! Drop-in Coaching Session

May 9, 2025, 1:45 – 2:45 PM

Melanie McDermott
Senior Researcher

Agenda

1. Introductions 
2. Municipal 'tree' actions
 - *feat.* Tree Ordinance
3. Trees in SJS
 - *Trees for Schools grants*
 - *Tree-planting action (TBA)*
4. Open Q&A



Municipal Tree Stewardship actions

For up to 140 points:

- Community Forestry Management Plan and NJUCF Accreditation (≤ 20 points)
 - Tree Hazard Inventory (10 points)
 - Tree Maintenance Programs (10 points)
 - Tree Planting Programs (10 points)
- Tree Protection and Replacement Ordinance (10-15 points)
- Heat Island Assessment & Mitigation Plan (≤ 20 points)
- 4 wildfire protection actions (≤ 45 points)

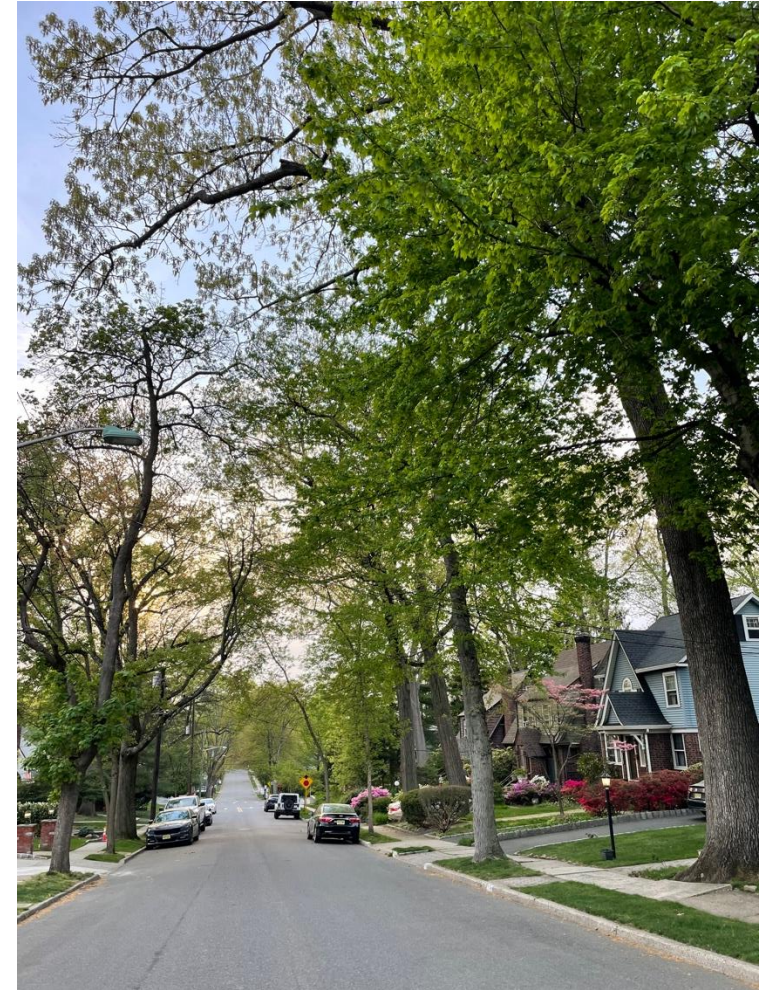


TREE PROTECTION & REPLACEMENT ORDINANCE ACTION WEBINAR

April 23, 2025, 3:00pm-4:00pm

New Action in 2025!

DEP: by May 2024, all municipalities required to adopt a community-wide ordinance addressing tree removal & replacement to comply w/ revised 2023 Tier A Master **Stormwater** (MS4) Permit requirements.



Old Action

vs.

New Action

- 10 points
- non-expiring
- will be 'retired' at end of 2025 cycle
- Ordinance must
 - 1) include certain major sections
 - 2) apply to all public & some private lands within municipality
 - 3) set type, size & # of trees that can be removed

- 15 – 25 points
- expires 2 yrs after yr of approval
- Resubmission must document enforcement
- Ordinance must
 - 1) apply to **all public & private lands** within municipality (DEP)
 - 2) Address both removal & **replacement** (DEP)
 - contain 11 required elements (SJ)

What to do

Do we have a tree ordinance now?

➤ If **Yes**:

Fill in Action Submission Checklist. Identify missing or differing elements & draft amendments as needed.

➤ If **No**:

Draft & adopt a new ordinance with all required elements, referring to action Guidance Document.

Tree Ordinance Action SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

Required Action Elements & Submission Requirements	Present (Y/N)	Additional Details
<p>Tree Protection and Replacement Ordinance</p> <p><i>In the Additional Details column provide:</i></p> <p>(1) the article(s) (chapter/section) where the ordinance appears in the Municipal Code;</p> <p>(2) enter the hyperlink(s)/url(s) for the ordinance as it appears on the municipal website or in a web-based version of the Municipal Code, such as e-Code, or upload a certified copy of the Ordinance.</p>		<p><i>Ex. Boro of Little Silver</i></p> <p>ORDINANCE #879-24 A NEW CHAPTER 27 ENTITLED "TREE PROTECTION AND REPLACEMENT"</p> <p>https://ecode360.com/45122929?highlight=&searchId=24107544951303702</p>

Tree Ordinance Action SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

Required Action Elements & Submission Requirements	Present (Y/N)	Additional Details
<p>Required Element 1a: Purpose - What the ordinance does</p> <p><i>In the Additional Details column, provide the article(s) (chapter and section) of the Municipal Code that fulfill(s) <u>this</u> required element of the action as described in the Guidance Document.</i></p> <p><i><u>Comment as necessary</u> to assist the action reviewer in locating the listed provision & explain how it fulfills the intent of this required element.</i></p>	Y	Ch 27-1

§ 27-1. PREAMBLE.

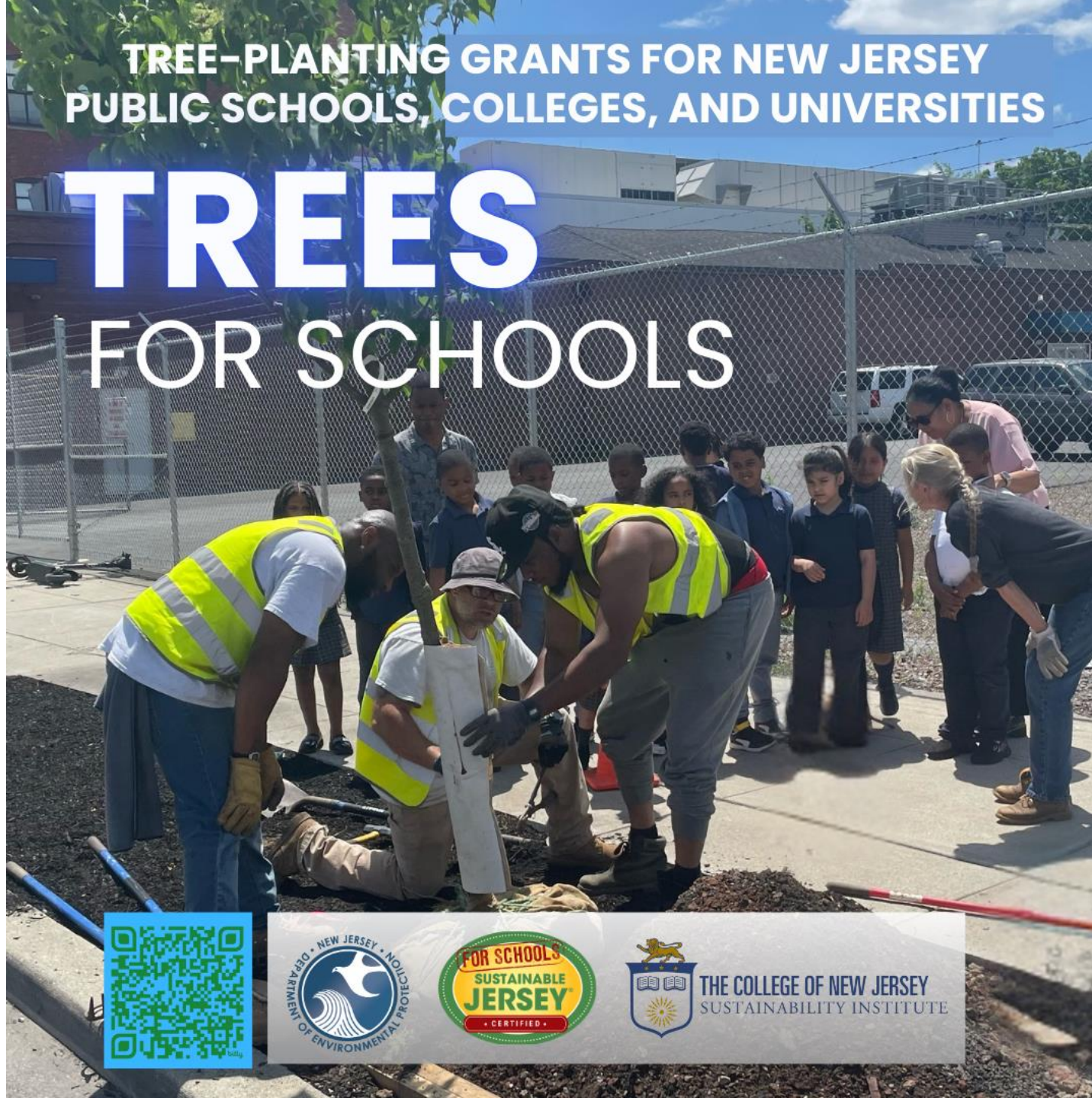
The Borough of Little Silver finds that the existence of trees within the Borough makes a fundamental contribution to the health, safety, and general welfare of Little Silver citizens and the community at large **[the Why]**...

This chapter establishes policies, regulations, and standards necessary to ensure that the Borough will continue to realize the benefits provided by our trees. The provisions of this chapter are enacted to: **[the What]**

- a. Control and regulate the indiscriminate **cutting of trees**
- b. Increase species and age diversity of our tree population to provide long-term stability of the aggregate canopy and ecosystem by **requiring replanting** when trees are removed.

TREE-PLANTING GRANTS FOR NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS, COLLEGES, AND UNIVERSITIES

TREES FOR SCHOOLS



- All New Jersey public school districts, charters, community colleges & state colleges & universities eligible to apply
 - *except recipients of current awards*
- \$4.5 million total funds to be allocated
- Primary grant awards range from \$10,000 to \$250,000
- No match is required.
- Deadline: **May 13, 2025**



Climate Change Education resources

- K-12 Interdisciplinary Units

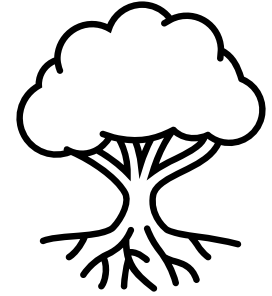
New Jersey Climate Change Education Hub

- Secondary Interdisciplinary Units

The Benefit of Trees: A 15-20 Hour Project-Based Learning Unit: students generate Trees for Schools proposals



Sustainable Jersey for Schools Tree-Planting Action Proposal



- Awards 5-20 points for planting trees on school grounds or on other public property used or frequented by students
- 5 points for planting 5 trees + 5-10 points for more
- + 5 bonus points for significant student involvement in planning, planting, watering
- *Coming soon!* (contingent upon approval)

Contact us:



**Questions about ‘tree’
actions or Trees for
Schools grants?**

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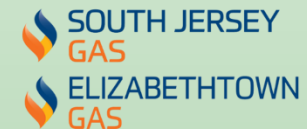
**Questions about the Trees for
Schools online grant portal?**

Kaitlyn Vollmer
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Program Underwriters



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2025 NEW JERSEY SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT