

# **Sustainable Practices Working Sessions**

New Jersey School Boards Association, in collaboration with Sustainable Jersey for Schools, is offering members and school district personnel opportunities to attend a one-day Sustainable Practices Working Session as part of its commitment to helping schools across New Jersey reach their sustainability goals. In addition to the September session there will be two more in November and February, both of which offer the same content. Pre-registration is required and seats are limited. For more information click <u>here</u>.

In each session participants will review a Sustainability Wellness Check, which will be in alignment with the <u>Sustainable</u> <u>Jersey for Schools</u> certification program. Board members will receive four board member academy credits and four <u>board member academy credits</u> and four <u>Green Leader credits</u> for participating in a working session. Pre-registration is required and seats are limited.

Wednesday, September 25, 9:00am - 3:30pm NJSBA Headquarters 413 West State Street, Trenton, NJ 08618 REGISTER

#### Thursday, November 21, 10:00am - 3:00pm

Rutherford Hall 1686 County Road 517, Hackettstown, NJ 07840 <u>REGISTER</u>

**Thursday, February 20, 9:00am - 3:30pm** ACUA 6700 Delilah Road, Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234 REGISTER

# **Grant Cycle for Energy Projects**



The Gardinier Environmental Fund is contributing \$150,000 to support a Sustainable Jersey Grants Program cycle for <u>municipalities</u> and <u>schools</u>. Collaboration on projects between municipalities and schools is encouraged. For this cycle, the Gardinier Environmental Fund will fund energy projects focused on energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy. The cycle will award **two \$30,000 grants and nine \$10,000 grants**. These grants support energy projects that help participating schools gain points toward the Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification. Check to see if your school is eligible <u>here</u>.

#### Informational Webinar

An informational webinar was held to learn more about the application process, online submission procedures, eligible projects, and tips for a successful grant application. The recording and presentation can be found <u>here</u>.

To learn more about this opportunity and to access the online grant applications, click <u>here</u>. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Kaitlyn Vollmer, Grants Program Coordinator, at <u>grants@sustainablejersey.com</u> or at 609-771-3189.

Application Deadline: Thursday, October 31, 2019 at 11:59PM

# New Sustainable Jersey for Schools Funding Opportunity Available! 2019-2020 Grants Cycle Funded by NJEA



The New Jersey Education Association (NJEA), as a Sustainable Jersey for Schools program Underwriter, is contributing \$180,000 to support a Sustainable Jersey for Schools Grants Program cycle. With this contribution, NJEA has provided \$1,250,000 to support a sustainable future for children and communities across the state. This cycle offers ten \$10,000 district or school project grants and forty \$2,000 school green team grants. The funding support efforts to implement projects that help participating schools gain points needed for Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification and make progress toward a sustainable future. Check to see if your school is eligible <u>here</u>.

#### Informational Webinar

A free informational webinar that will go through the details of the cycle and a walk-through of the online grant application process will be held on Thursday, September 19, from 3:00-4:00PM. Register for the webinar here.

To learn more about this opportunity and to access the online grant applications, click <u>here</u>. To download a PDF of the flyer to share with others in your school community, please click <u>here</u>. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Kaitlyn Vollmer, Grants Program Coordinator, at <u>grants@sustainablejersey.com</u> or at 609-771-3189.

Application Deadline: Thursday, October 31 at 11:59PM



## There's Still Time to Become a PowerSave School!



Sustainable Jersey has partnered with South Jersey Gas and the Alliance to Save Energy to bring the PowerSave Schools program to schools within the South Jersey Gas territories. Twenty nine additional Sustainable Jersey registered schools, along with eleven returning, will be admitted for the 2019-2020 school year. PowerSave Schools directly engages students with Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) principles to promote energy literacy throughout lesson plans, activities and competitions. For more information and guidelines for the SJG PowerSave Schools program, visit our website.

The PowerSave activities are parallel to <u>action items</u> in the Sustainable Jersey for Schools program, with the opportunity for schools to earn points toward certification while integrating student and faculty engagement that results in innovating energy-efficient projects and ideas for best practices which other schools can learn from. For more information, visit our <u>website</u>.

Applications will be accepted until positions are filled to start this fall

# **Sustainable Jersey for Schools Upcoming Webinars**

#### New Actions & Program Updates

Join the Sustainable Jersey for Schools staff as we introduce new actions for 2020 and updates to the certification program.

Wednesday, October 2, 3:00pm - 4:00pm REGISTER

#### Ready, Set, Certified

Learn how to organize for sustainability at the district and school level for certification success. Topics will include green team best practices, incorporating sustainable actions into your annual goals and professional development and working as a team to achieve certification.

## Wednesday, October 9, 3:00pm - 4:00pm

<u>REGISTER</u>

### Leveling Up: Going for Silver & National Recognition

Sustainable Jersey for Schools Bronze certification is just the beginning of your school's sustainability journey! Learn how to make a plan to take your certification to the next level and get recognized for Silver certification (350 points and up). For those already Silver certified, learn how to translate your Sustainable Jersey materials into a Green Ribbon School certification at the national level!

## Wednesday, October 30, 3:00pm - 4:00pm

<u>REGISTER</u>

#### Planning for Re-Certification

Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification is good for three years at a time. If you are one of over 30 schools with a certification expiring in August 2019, you will want to attend this informative webinar on the re-certification process. Participants will learn how to determine which actions need to be updated for re-certification and how to make a game plan for maintaining Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification for 2019 and beyond!

Wednesday, November 20, 3:00pm - 4:00pm REGISTER

# 2019 Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards

The Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards Program is New Jersey's premier awards program for recognizing outstanding environmental performance, program and projects throughout the state. These awards recognize individuals, businesses, institutions, communities, organizations, educators, youth and others who have made significant contributions to environmental protection in New Jersey.

Nominations may be submitted int he categories of Climate Change and Clean Air, Water Resources, Health Ecosystems, and Habitats, Land Conservation, Healthy and Sustainable Communities, Healthy and Sustainable Businesses, and two categories in Environmental Education: Educator-Led and Student-Led Projects. Click <u>here</u> to download a program flyer. For questions about the application or awards program contact Tanya Oznowich at <u>Tanya.Oznowich@dep.nj.gov</u>.



#### Application Deadline: Friday, October 4 at 5:00pm

# **Other Upcoming Events**

#### Alliance For New Jersey Environmental Education's Fall Conference: "Environmental Education Outdoors: A Force for the Future"

The Alliance for New Jersey Environmental Education will be holding this conference for environmental professionals in New Jersey designed to promote innovation, networking, learning and dissemination of best practices. For more information visit the <u>website</u>.

#### Friday, September 27, 8:00AM-4:30PM

Duke Farms Coach Barn 80 Route 206 South, Hillsborough Township NJ 08844 <u>REGISTER</u> - Fee applies

#### 2019 National Solar Tour

In partnership between the American Solar Energy Society and Solar United Neighbors, this tour is a chance for people across the country to meet their neighbors and check out their solar systems. This is an opportunity to see local renewable energy in action, ask home and business owners about their experience going solar, and network with other solar tourists in your area. The tour will take place **October 5 and 6**. For more information, visit the National Solar Tour website.

#### Health Impact Assessment Training: Incorporating Health Into Planning and Decision-Making

The Planning Healthy Communities Initiative staff at the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers University will lead an introductory training on health impact assessment (HIA) as a tool to promote community health and equity in planning processes and decision- making. Participants will engage in group exercises related to HIA steps, discuss opportunities and challenges to integrating health into planning and policy processes, and learn about new statewide collaborative initiatives and emerging tools to build capacity for health advancement in planning, and to support health in all policies. This training meets the requirements of <u>Sustainable Jersey's Health in All Policies</u> <u>Professional Development</u> action, in addition to earning attendees Rutgers CEUs and professional license CEUs.

#### Friday, October 18, 2019

Cook Student Center, Multipurpose Room C 59 Biel Road, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 <u>REGISTER</u> - Fee applies

#### Preparing for a Group Trip Workshop

This workshop is for teachers and leaders who have been thinking about organizing a group trip for your school or organization to Duke Farms or, if you have already been there, a way to look for new ideas to engage students. The day will be arranged to accommodate teachers as well as other group leaders. Time will be available in the afternoon to gain lesson plan ideas and resources. For more information, visit the <u>website</u>.

#### Tuesday, October 22, 8:30AM-3:00PM

Duke Farms Coach Barn 80 Route 206 South, Hillsborough Township, NJ 08844 <u>REGISTER</u> - Fee applies

## Resources

#### Environmental Protection Agency's "Knowledge to Action" Indoor Air Quality Webinars

Topics include: Gaining Buy-in for Optimal Ventilation, Mold Moisture & Money, Using Data to Address Asthma in Schools Healthy Schools & Healthy Students: Improving IAQ. All pre-recorded webinars are available <u>here</u>

#### Environmental Protection Agency's Sustainable Materials Management Web Academy

Topics include: Construction Debris Management, Sustainable Food Waste & Materials, Waste Reduction Model, State & Local Organic Ban Planning, Disaster Debris Recovery Tools, and more. **All pre-recorded webinars are available** <u>here</u>

#### North American Association For Environmental Education's Sustainability Webinar Series

Each month the North American Association for Environmental Education holds hour-long webinars concerning key interests to environmental professionals, with the goal of raising the bar of environmental education programs. Topics include: Systems Thinking, Diversity & Inclusion in Environmental Education, Telling Your Story with Web Mapping Technology, and more! Upcoming live webinars to be announced.

All pre-recorded and upcoming webinars are available here

# Mark Your Calendars!

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

- Sept. 19: NJEA Webinar
- Sept. 25: Sustainable Practices Working Session
- Oct. 2: New Actions & Program Updates webinar
- Oct. 9: Ready, Set, Certified webinar
- Oct. 30: Leveling Up: Going for Silver & National Recognition webinar
- Oct. 31: Gardinier & NJEA Grant Application Deadline
- Nov. 20: Planning for Re-Certification webinar

**Download Program Resources** 

- Brochure
- Fact Sheet
- District Registration Instructions
- <u>School Registration Instruction</u>



We hope you will join us to take steps to create a brighter future, one school at a time! If you have questions, email us at <u>schools@sustainablejersey.com</u> or visit <u>www.SustainableJerseySchools.com</u>

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