



New Sustainable Jersey for Schools Milestone! 900 Schools Now Participating

We're pleased to announce that 900 of New Jersey's schools located within 346 school districts have demonstrated their leadership and commitment to sustainability by registering with Sustainable Jersey for Schools.

Currently, 36 percent of all New Jersey public schools are participating in the program. Registered schools and school districts are represented in all twenty-one of New Jersey's counties. Visit our Participating Districts and Schools map to review [the list of the 900 schools](#) registered.

Heather McCall, program director for Sustainable Jersey for Schools said, "New Jersey is surely on the right track—we're excited to announce 900 schools have voluntarily stepped up to lead the way on sustainability actions. The Sustainable Jersey for Schools program is definitely resonating in school communities across the state. This strong participation shows that schools and school districts are blazing a path and making a difference."



Contribute to a Complete Census Count and Earn Sustainable Jersey for Schools Points!

Did you know \$23 billion in federal funding for New Jersey depends on Census counts, including support for school programs and services such as special education, free and reduced lunch, class size reduction, classroom technology, after-school programs, Head Start and more? Updated information from the 2020 Census could have a significant impact on New Jersey's share of the pie.

As a teacher, principal, superintendent, school board member and education advocate, you are already engaged in school outreach efforts, you can help contribute to a complete count by sending information to students' homes, already available on the US Census Bureau's Statistics in Schools (SIS) [website](#) that explains how and why to complete the 2020 Census and the importance of counting all children, especially those under age 5 or those living in complex households. An improved and complete count across all populations in the state will enable schools to receive appropriate funding and program support over the next ten years. Get started with the resources below.

- [Become a US Census Bureau SIS Partner](#)
- [SIS Partner Toolkit](#)

- [Resources for Counting Young Children](#)

Earn Sustainable Jersey for Schools Points

There are two ways schools and districts engaged in Census efforts can earn certification points in Sustainable Jersey for Schools. One is through outreach to the school community, which qualifies for points in the **Community Education and Outreach** action. The other is the integration of SIS activities into student learning which qualifies for points in the **Student Learning** suite of actions. Sample classroom activities are available on the [SIS website](#). These activities bring school subjects to life using real-world Census Bureau statistics to create materials for use year after year at all grade levels. Activities were developed by teachers, are easy to use, customizable, and supportive of existing lesson plans, enhance learning, boost statistical literacy and prepare students for a data-driven world. Classroom activities are available for numerous subjects including math, English, history, geography, and sociology. Get started with the resources below.

- [Classroom Activities by Subject Area](#)
- [Classroom Activities by Grade Level](#)

For more information about how your green team can get involved in 2020 Census education and outreach efforts, download the [flyer](#).

Census 2020 Webinar: Earn Points by Making Sure Your Community Counts

As a trusted voice, municipalities and schools can play an important role in making sure the 2020 Census accurately reflects your community. This is critically important since the Census data will dictate how federal funding is allocated and political maps are drawn for the next ten years. Learn more about the 2020 Census, the variety of resources and tools you can use to educate your community, how your efforts will pay off with certification points today, and the equitable distribution of federal funding and political representation for the next decade.

Thursday, February 6, 2020, 1:00pm – 2:00pm

[REGISTER](#)

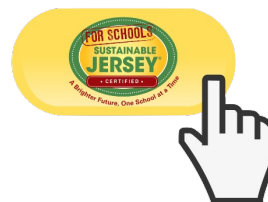
2020 Certification: More than 100 Applications Received in 1st Round

The first certification application deadline was January 17, and 116 applications were submitted for review. But there is still plenty of time for your school to work towards certification. The earlier you submit, the higher likelihood for success.

Upcoming Application Deadlines:

Friday, March 27, 2020 - Second certification application deadline

Friday, June 22, 2020 - Final certification application deadline



To view more details about the 2020 certification cycle, click [here](#).

If you are unsure where to begin with the application process, check out our [Green Team Resources page](#), which includes our [Master Action Tracking Spreadsheet template](#) to help you keep track of your points, [Application User Guide](#) and [recorded certification webinars](#). If you have any further questions feel free to reach out to us at schools@sustainablejersey.com.

Making a Difference Award Nominations Now Open

Since 1997 the Russ Berrie Making a Difference Award has honored 366 individuals whose extraordinary service to others has made New Jersey a better place. These unsung New Jersey heroes help others in need, solve problems and transform neighborhoods, bring hope to those who feel forgotten, stand up for the rights of others, create opportunities for young people to succeed, and protect the environment. Up to ten awards will be given: a top award of \$50,000, two \$25,000 awards and seven \$7,500 awards. For more information, visit the [website](#).

Nomination Deadline: February 21, 2020

Roots for River Reforestation Grant and Technical Assistance Program Re-Opened!

In order to help The Nature Conservancy reach its goal of planting 100,000 trees by 2020, a second application period has been opened for the 2020 Roots for Rivers Reforestation and Technical Assistance Program. Learn more [here](#). Applications will be accepted until **March 2, 2020**. We recommend interested applicants submit their applications as soon as possible. The project requirements and application guidelines remain the same for this extended application.



All applicants **must** apply through The Watershed Institute's application portal available [here](#). There will be two fields that are not applicable to all applicants applying as a school district: upload a W-9 form and evidence from the IRS that your organization is a non-profit. Please upload a PDF stating "school district applicant" instead of these forms so that you can submit an application. If you require more assistance, you can download the Application Information Packet [here](#) and watch the webinar [here](#).

For questions regarding the application and online portal, please contact Priscilla Oliveira at poliveira@thewatershed.org or 609-737-3735 x27. For project-related questions, please contact Michelle DiBlasio of The Nature Conservancy at michelle.diblasio@tnc.org or call 908-955-0342.

Application Deadline: Monday, March 2, 2020

Funding Available for Schools and Municipalities



PSEG
Foundation



The PSEG Foundation is contributing \$100,000 to support a schools grants program cycle and \$200,000 to support a municipal grants program cycle.

The school grant cycle will award four (4) \$10,000 grants for school or school district projects, and thirty (30) \$2,000 grants to support school sustainability efforts. For more information, click [here](#). **The schools' application deadline is Friday, March 13, 2020.**

Schools are encouraged to collaborate with their municipality on these projects. 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 actions. For more information, click [here](#). The municipal application deadline is Friday, February 14, 2020.

Informational Webinar

Click [here](#) for a recorded webinar that reviews the application process, eligibility requirements and eligible projects, describes the online submission procedures, and shares tips for how to create a successful Sustainable Jersey for Schools grant application.

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

Share Your Success Stories for the New Jersey Sustainability Summit



Sustainable Jersey works hard to identify the model “stand out” achievements of our program participants. We need your help in identifying success stories to showcase for this year’s Sustainability Summit on June 12 at Bell Works in Holmdel.

If your municipal or school green team has a successfully implemented a project or initiative that you feel has moved the needle on an important sustainability issue, please complete the [success story submission form](#) by January 31.

Submission Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2020

Sustainable Practices Working Session

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. Pre-registration is required and seats are limited. For more information click [here](#).



Participants will review a Sustainability Wellness Check, which will be in alignment with the [Sustainable Jersey for Schools](#) certification program. Board members will receive and four [Board Member Academy credits](#) and four [Green Leader credits](#) for participating in a working session.

Thursday, February 20, 9:00am - 3:30pm

Atlantic County Utilities Authority

6700 Delilah Road, Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234

[REGISTER](#)

Welcome Newly-Registered Schools!

Atlantic County

Warren E. Sooy, Jr. Elementary School

Cumberland County

Lakeside Middle School

Bergen County

Benjamin Franklin Middle School

Middlesex County

Carteret Middle School

Glen Elementary School
George Washington Middle School
Roy W. Brown Middle School
Wyckoff Township Public School District
Calvin Coolidge Elementary School

Burlington County
Bordentown Regional School District
Bordentown Regional High School

Morris County
East Hanover Township School District
Madison Jr. Middle School

Sussex County
Franklin Borough School District
Franklin Elementary School

Other Upcoming Events and Training

Indoor Air Quality Training

The Pediatric/Adult Asthma Coalition of New Jersey has arranged to provide assistance to public employers in meeting the Designated Persons Training requirements contained in the Public Employees Occupational Safety and Health (PEOSH) Indoor Air Quality Standard (IAQ) by arranging training sessions throughout New Jersey. There will be one training each month until June. This program will address any questions/changes about the IAQ Standard as well as the roles of the school nurse in these standards. This training supports the [Asthma Friendly Schools and Indoor Air Quality Review](#) Sustainable Jersey for Schools actions. For more information and registration, click [here](#).

Friday, February 21, 2020
Mahwah, NJ

Friday, April 24, 2020
Newark, NJ

Friday, March 6, 2020
Westampton, NJ

Friday, May 22, 2020
Washington, NJ

Friday April 3, 2020
Bridgewater, NJ

Friday, June 5, 2020
Neptune, NJ

Integrated Pest Management Training

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) training sessions are offered for school IPM Coordinators and other school personnel with administrative responsibilities in accordance with the new IPM laws. IPM Coordinators receive certification of attendance to fulfill the mandatory training requirement as stated in the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Pesticide Control Program regulations. These sessions help IPM Coordinators implement the new IPM law with regards to such things as: non-pesticide pest management, parental notification, the 72 hour notification rule, low-impact pest management; record keeping, and dealing with pest emergencies. Participants will receive 4 Continuing Education Units (CEUs). This training support the [Integrated Pest Management action](#) toward Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification. For more information and registration, click [here](#).

Friday, February 7, 2020
Mahwah, NJ

Friday, May 8, 2020
Paterson, NJ

Friday, March 13, 2020
Metuchen, NJ

Friday, May 15, 2020
Newark, NJ

Friday, April 17, 2020
Bridgewater, NJ

Environmental Sustainability Education Teacher Summit

This second-annual event, hosted by the College of New Jersey, will bring together p-12 educators,

school administrators, preservice teachers, and college faculty for a day of collaboration and networking. Featured workshop topics include Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), inquiry-based teaching, hydroponic gardens, Social and Emotional Learning (SEL), Exceptional Student Education (ESE) curriculum, integrating sustainability with STEAM, and urban/suburban Farm to School programs. This event supports a number of [Sustainable Jersey for Schools actions](#) including Education for Sustainability, School Gardens, iSTEAM, Curriculum Mapping, and Social Emotional Learning Integrated Unit. For more information, click [here](#) or email esesummittcnj@gmail.com.

Saturday, March 7, 2020, 8:30am - 1:00pm

School of Education at The College of New Jersey

2000 Pennington Road

Ewing Township, NJ 08618

[REGISTER](#)

Green Infrastructure Champions Program

Green Infrastructure Champions are key players in implementing green infrastructure as a stormwater management approach town by town. Through this program, offered by the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program, participants can attend one or more of the ten low-cost classes from January to May to learn how to identify green infrastructure locations, perform installations and maintenance, and more. A session will be held on March 27 on green infrastructure projects for schools. For more information, including all training topics, days, and times, visit the [website](#).

Friday, March 27, 2020, 10:00am – 12:00pm

Duke Farms

1112 Dukes Parkway West, Hillsborough, NJ 08844

[REGISTER](#) – Fee applies

Other Funding Opportunities

NJBPU Clean Fleet Electric Vehicle Incentive Program

The [New Jersey Board of Public Utilities](#) (NJBPU) is offering grant funding to support the purchase of up to two (2) eligible electric vehicles (EVs) and one (1) dual-port Level 2 electric vehicle charging station for local government authorities in New Jersey. Eligible applicants are local government authorities, which includes school districts, counties, municipalities, and local utility authorities in New Jersey.

Local governments can apply for:

- A \$4,000 grant toward the purchase of a battery electric vehicle;
- \$1,500 toward the purchase of a dual-port Level 2 charging station

The primary goal of the grant is to improve New Jersey's air quality and assist local government authorities' transition to electrically fueled fleets. The application deadline for the program is **April 15, 2020**, or until all of the funding is awarded. To learn more, click [here](#).

To make it easier for local governments to add electric vehicles to their fleets, EVs were recently adding to the State Purchasing Contract. Please review Sustainable Jersey's [Alternative Fuel Vehicle Procurement Guide](#) for further details. Sustainable Jersey for Schools points can be earned for the new [Sustainable Fleets](#) action in the Green Purchasing category.

Green Team Resources

Energy Tracking and Management

The [New Jersey Clean Energy Learning Center](#) has added a new section on Sustainable Jersey

which will feature videos on how to successfully complete energy actions. The first video in the series is on [Energy Tracking & Management](#). This video series explains how to earn 10 to 20 points for completing the Sustainable Jersey for Schools [Energy Tracking and Management action](#).

Mark Your Calendars!

2020 Sustainable Jersey for Schools events, trainings, funding opportunities, and more!

- **Feb. 6:** 2020 Census Webinar
- **Feb. 20:** Sustainable Practices Working Session
- **March 2:** Roots for Rivers Reforestation Grant Deadline
- **March 14:** Sustainable Jersey for Schools PSEG Grant Application Deadline
- **March 27:** Second Application Deadline for 2020 Certification Cycle
- **June 22:** Final Application Deadline for 2020 Certification Cycle

Download Program Resources

- [Brochure](#)
- [Fact Sheet](#)
- [District Registration Instruction](#)
- [School Registration Instruction](#)

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 schools@sustainablejersey.com or visit www.SustainableJerseySchools.com

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