



## 42 Schools and Districts Awarded Grants for Sustainability Projects



On Wednesday, February 12, 2020, \$180,000 in was awarded through the Sustainable Jersey for Schools Grants Program funded by the New Jersey Education Association (NJEA). These grants will support a variety of projects including hydroponic garden towers, outdoor classrooms, school gardens, water bottle refilling stations, school wellness programs, cafeteria composting, student green team capacity building and more. For more information, visit the event's [media release](#).

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## 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](#).

## Informational Webinar

An informational webinar was held to further explain strategies in completing 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. To view the webinar recording and presentation, click [here](#).

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# 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](mailto:poliveira@thewatershed.org) or 609-737-3735 x 27. For project-related questions, please contact Michelle DiBlasio of The Nature Conservancy at [michelle.diblasio@tnc.org](mailto:michelle.diblasio@tnc.org) or call 908-955-0342.

**[Application Deadline: Monday, March 2, 2020](#)**

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# Funding Available for Schools



The PSEG Foundation is contributing \$100,000 to support a schools grants program cycle which 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](#).

**Application Deadline: Friday, March 13, 2020 at 11:59pm**

## 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](mailto:grants@sustainablejersey.com) or at 609-771-3189.

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## Student Recognition Opportunities

### Species on the Edge 2.0 Social Media Contest

The Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey is inviting high school students to submit a series of original social media posts focusing on a vulnerable NJ species. The contest helps to develop students' experience in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) and apply critical thinking and project management skills. Entry is free and gives students the chance to win a cash prize and be eligible to win a day in the field with a wildlife biologist. Entry deadline is February 28 and social media posts must run between March 1 and March 8, 2020 at midnight. For more information, click [here](#).

**Application Entry Deadline: February 28, 2020**

### Earth Day 2020 Poster Contest

The Rutgers Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute (EOHSI) is inviting artists to create and submit a poster commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day with a prize of up to \$500. The theme of the contest is Climate Action, which can be focused on topics such as clean air, sustainability and resiliency, sea level rise, environmental and occupational health, plastic pollution and more. Eligible participants are students grades 3-12, undergraduate and graduate students, and other adults. For more information, click [here](#). For questions, contact [earthdaycontest@eohsi.rutgers.edu](mailto:earthdaycontest@eohsi.rutgers.edu).

**Application Entry Deadline: April 15, 2020**

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## 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, March 6, 2020**  
Westampton, NJ

**Friday, May 22, 2020**  
Washington, NJ

**Friday April 3, 2020**  
Bridgewater, NJ

**Friday, June 5, 2020**  
Neptune, NJ

**Friday, April 24, 2020**  
Newark, 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, March 13, 2020**  
Metuchen, NJ

**Friday, May 8, 2020**  
Paterson, NJ

**Friday, April 17, 2020**  
Bridgewater, NJ

**Friday, May 15, 2020**  
Newark, 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](mailto: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

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## Other Funding Opportunities

### Funding Available for Field Trips

Field Trip New Jersey, established by the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation and the Community Foundation of New Jersey, will provide up to \$700 in transportation costs for field trips to districts serving a majority of low-income students. Eligible trips include arts and culture sites, historical landmarks, nature preserves, science institutions in New Jersey, and college campuses throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. For more information, click [here](#).

**[Application Deadline: February 28, 2020](#)**

### 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 added 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.

More information can be found [here](#) and the application can be accessed [here](#). If you have questions about the incentive program, please send an email to [EV.programs@bpu.nj.gov](mailto:EV.programs@bpu.nj.gov).

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## Mark Your Calendars!

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

- **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

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## 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](mailto:schools@sustainablejersey.com) or visit [www.SustainableJerseySchools.com](http://www.SustainableJerseySchools.com)

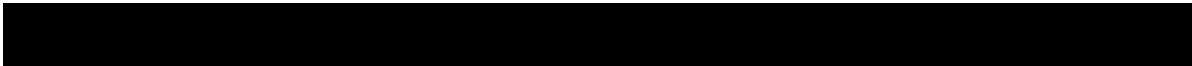
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