



350 Districts

948 Schools

Participating

Virtual Sustainability Summit



In adherence with current public health and social distancing guidelines, we have cancelled the June 12 Sustainability Summit in Holmdel. Instead, we are offering four weeks of FREE virtual "Summit-like" content, including online educational sessions, interactive "happy hours," and 30-minute talks on a variety of topics. The Virtual Sustainability Summit will run from April 20 to May 15. The Summit schedule is posted on our website [here](#). Descriptions seen [here](#) indicate which sessions have school-related content.

FREE Technical Assistance This Summer for Energy Initiatives - Apply by April 28

Sustainable Jersey is pleased to offer New Jersey municipalities and school districts a unique opportunity to participate in the [Environmental Defense Fund's \(EDF\) Climate Corps program](#). The program will provide an EDF Climate Corps Fellow, typically a Master's student, (MBA or similar background), with in-depth training in energy project assessment and development, to work with municipalities and school districts during the summer of 2020 for approximately 9-10 weeks. To accommodate COVID-19 restrictions, the Fellows will work remotely. Participating municipalities and schools should be prepared to support collaborative work in an on-line work environment, including providing key information such as utility data.

EDF Fellows provide expertise to help municipalities and school districts take advantage of incentives for energy efficiency audits and facility and/or equipment upgrades offered by the utility company and [New Jersey's Clean Energy Program \(NJCEP\)](#). The incentives can save significant amounts of energy and money.

EDF Fellows will be made available as follows:

- Thanks to support from [New Jersey Natural Gas \(NJNG\)](#), three Fellows will be available to work with Sustainable Jersey municipalities and school districts located within their utility service territory. To learn more about this opportunity, click [here](#).
- EDF and Sustainable Jersey are directly supporting two Fellows to work with distressed

municipalities and school districts participating in Sustainable Jersey located throughout New Jersey. The NJ Municipal Revitalization Index (MRI) will be used to identify community distress levels when considering applications. To learn more about this opportunity, click [here](#).

To learn more about the program, click [here](#). **Applications are due by Tuesday, April 28, 2020.**



Second-Round Certification Applications Due by April 30

The second application submission deadline has been extended to **Thursday, April 30**. Submitting your application before the final deadline gives the advantage of additional feedback and a higher likelihood for success.

Remaining Application Submission Dates:

- **Thursday, April 30, 2020** - Second certification application deadline
- **Friday, June 22, 2020** - Final certification application deadline



For additional details about adjustments to the 2020 certification cycle and other accommodations for 2020 applicants due to COVID-19 disruptions, click [here](#).

If you need help 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.

Earth Month Activities & Opportunities

Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day with EPA

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) remains committed to protecting human health and the environment as we continue to adjust to the evolving COVID-19 pandemic. The EPA has released a guide with various environmental education virtual resources for educators to use this earth month. To view this guide, click [here](#).

Holding Green Events Virtually

Environment America has created a guide to online events, activities and resources for kids and adults to connect with the natural world and each other this earth month. To view this guide, click [here](#).

30 Days of Eco Learning

Turning Green has launched a 30-day lesson plan for the month of April to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Earth Month. These lesson plans are designed to lead students and families alike through simple, fun, and impactful eco-activities. To learn more, click [here](#).

Energy Events & Resources

Discover Energy Savings with Treasure Hunts: A Webinar in the Energy Star Partner of the Year Award Series

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Protection Partnerships Division ENERGY STAR will host a webinar, focused on utilizing Treasure Hunts as a way to improve day-to-day operations and engage building operators and employees in “discovering” treasure in their facilities. This webinar will hear from ENERGY STAR partners that will share success and lessons learned in this strategy, as well as an overview of new resources available from EPA to help your organization plan and host a successful Treasure Hunt in time for Energy Awareness Month this October. For more information, click [here](#).

Wednesday, April 29, 2020, 2:00pm

[REGISTER](#)

NJBPU Announces New Incentives to Expand Local Government Electric Vehicle Fleets

To jump-start the electrification of local government vehicle fleets, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) has created the “Clean Fleet Electric Vehicle Incentive” program, which offers local governments \$4,000 per battery electric vehicle and \$1,500 for one dual-port Level 2 EV charging station. The application window opened on December 1, 2019, and the program will award grants on a rolling basis until **April 15, 2020** or until the funding is fully committed. Eligible applicants are local government authorities, which includes school districts, counties, municipalities, and local utility authorities in New Jersey.

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.

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.

Other Funding Opportunities

Action for Healthy Kids Grants

The Action For Healthy Kids organization will award \$1,000-\$5,000 grants toward school health initiatives. Topics for these grants include nutrition, physical activity, and social emotional health. To learn more, click [here](#).

[Application Deadline](#): Friday, May 1, 2020

Classroom Technology Grants

Frontier Internet will award three \$1,000 grants to K-12 teachers to be used toward technology in the classroom. Grants will be awarded to teachers who create unique lesson plans on how to use technology in the classroom to teach social responsibility. To learn more, click [here](#).

[Application Deadline](#): Friday, May 15, 2020, 11:59pm

Federal Funding for Transportation Projects

The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) is now accepting applications for the

Competitive Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) program. This program seeks to fund transportation projects that will improve air quality and reduce traffic congestion in the New Jersey DVRPC region (Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, and Mercer Counties). School districts are eligible to apply as the designated "Local Public Agency" (LPA), so long as they meet the requirements of the federal CMAQ program. For more information, click [here](#). **Eligible applicants MUST schedule a meeting with DCRPC staff by Friday, May 22, 2020** before submitting an application. To schedule a call or meeting, email Kwan Hui at khui@dvrpc.org.

Application Deadline: Friday, May 29, 2020, 5:00pm

For more grant opportunities for schools, students, or educators, visit our [Sustainable Jersey for Schools Grants Portal](#), which we update frequently.

Green Team Resources

Staying Green During Quarantine: Resources for Remote Learning & School Building Closures

Sustainable Jersey has posted a compilation of resources on our newly-developed [Remote Learning & Building Closure Resources page](#) to assist staff, students and families across our school communities during the current crisis. We will add to and revise this list as we become aware of additional resources.

Mark Your Calendars!

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

- **April 20 - May 15** Virtual Sustainability Summit
- **April 28:** Energy Technical Assistance Application Deadline
- **April 30:** 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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