

SUSTAINABILITY
SUMMIT



Let us know
when you're
coming
from!

Mitigating Heat Islands

May 5, 2023

Agenda

1. Intro to heat islands and the Heat Island Assessment & Mitigation Plan action
1. Newark heat islands; Implications on transit planning
1. Developing mitigation strategies
4. Tree planting in Trenton
5. Q&A





198

MUNICIPALITIES CERTIFIED

68

SILVER
CERTIFIED

130

BRONZE
CERTIFIED

64%

of NJ public school districts
registered with Sustainable
Jersey for Schools

82%

OF MUNICIPALITIES
PARTICIPATING

91%

OF NJ POPULATION LIVES IN A
REGISTERED OR CERTIFIED COMMUNITY



What is a heat island?

Heat islands, also known as hotspots, are areas of land with higher **surface temperature** than surrounding areas.

They are primarily caused by lack of vegetation and the absorption of solar radiation.



Negative Impacts of the Heat Island Effect



- **Public health:** People with chronic health conditions become more vulnerable to heat-related illnesses → increase in hospitalizations, death
- **Cost:** Temperature is slow to decrease in evenings → cumulative cost of cooling homes, businesses, schools, and government buildings
- **Infrastructure:** Buildings, roads, bridges absorb extreme heat → structural damage; maintenance made more difficult

All of these negative impacts will be further exacerbated by **climate change**.

Heat Island Assessment & Mitigation Plan

Tier	Requirements	Points
Tier 1	Heat Island Assessment - Conduct a heat island assessment and, if present, evaluate hotspots' effects on residents and workers in the area. Share findings with the local planning board.	5
Tier 2	Heat Island Mitigation Plan - If hot spots are identified in the Heat Island Assessment, municipalities must develop recommendations in the form of a Heat Island Mitigation Plan to mitigate the heat island effect in relation to specific hotspots. Communities must demonstrate the involvement of relevant stakeholders in the development of heat island mitigation strategies, especially if they are related to vulnerable populations.	+5 (10 in total)
Tier 3	Plan Implementation - Municipalities must implement at least one recommendation in their Heat Island Mitigation Plan. A municipality can earn another 5 points if strategy implemented in Tier 3 directly reduces the impact of hotspots for vulnerable populations.	+5 (15 in total)



Heat Island Assessment and Mitigation Plan – Technical Guidance

A. Assessing Your Community's Hotspots (with screenshots)

Things to Note When Analyzing Land Surface Temperature

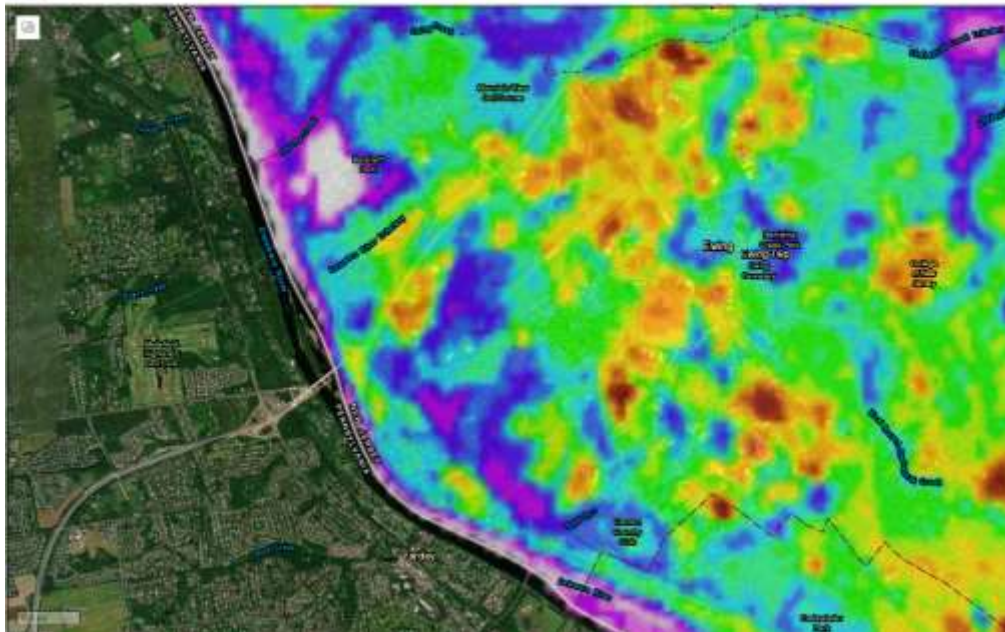
- Dark purple and dark blue represent cold temperatures. Dark orange and dark red represent hot temperatures. 
- Certain layers can only be seen when zoomed into the appropriate scale (i.e.: Parcels can only be viewed while zooming in)
- Orthomagey used to create the Land Surface Temperature data layer also captures cloud coverage. **If you see dark purple or blue spots in your municipality that do not cover bodies of water, it most likely represents cloud coverage.**

Note: The example below analyzes hotspots near Sustainable Jersey's office. Sustainable Jersey is located at the Sustainability Institute at the College of New Jersey in Ewing Township.

1. Open Sustainable Jersey's [New Jersey Heat Island Map](#). Zoom to or search for your municipality.



 New Jersey Heat Island Map



Mitigating Heat Islands Session

2023 New Jersey Sustainability Summit

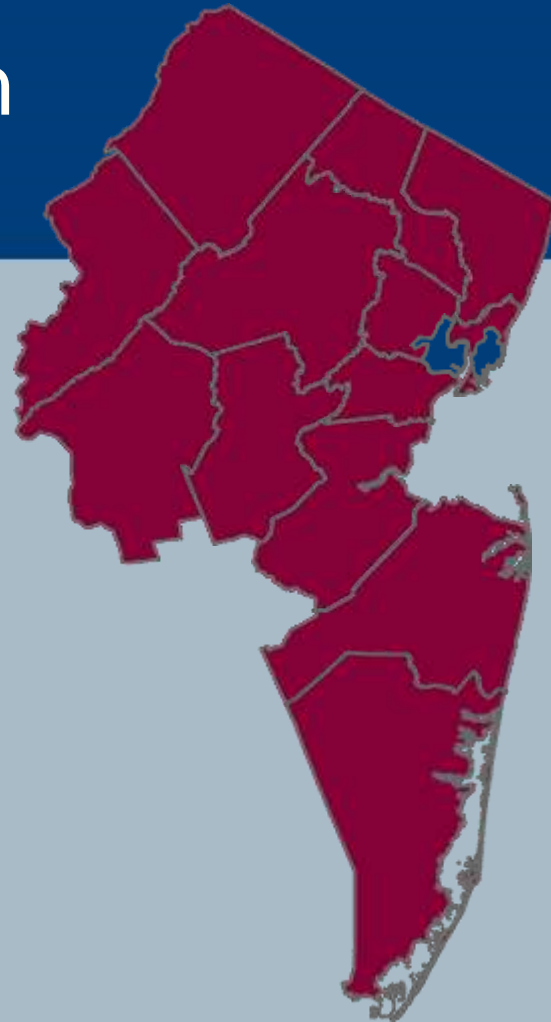
5/5/2023



Zenon Tech-Czarny, Principal Planner, Environmental Planning
North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority

NJTPA Region

Bergen	Morris
Essex	Newark
Hudson	Ocean
Hunterdon	Passaic
Jersey City	Somerset
Middlesex	Sussex
Monmouth	Union
	Warren



North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority

The Metropolitan Planning Organization for Northern New Jersey



STANDING COMMITTEES

Planning & Economic Development Committee

Project Prioritization Committee

Freight Initiatives Committee

Regional Transportation Advisory Committee

City of Newark

Urban Heat Island Assessment

Prepared for the
City of Newark Environmental Commission
by
Sustainable Jersey and the
Sustainability Institute, The College of New Jersey

November 1, 2017
(rev 2/15/2018)

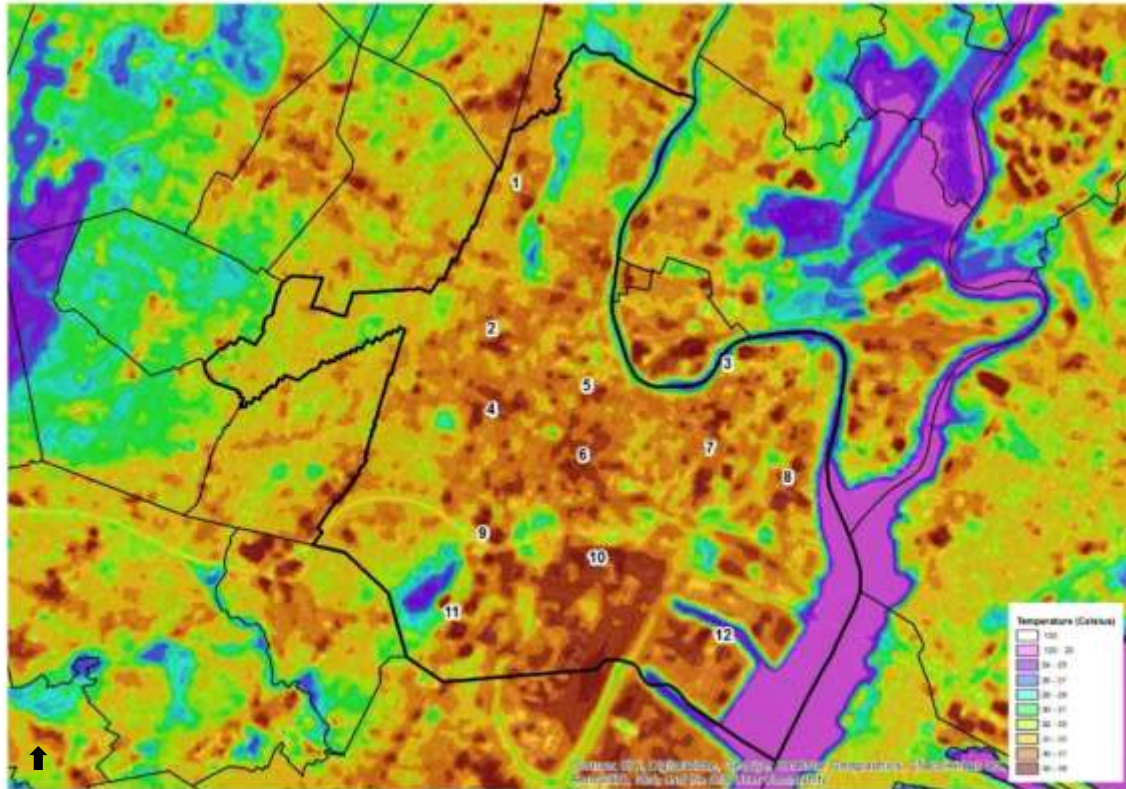


Surface Temperature of the Newark area

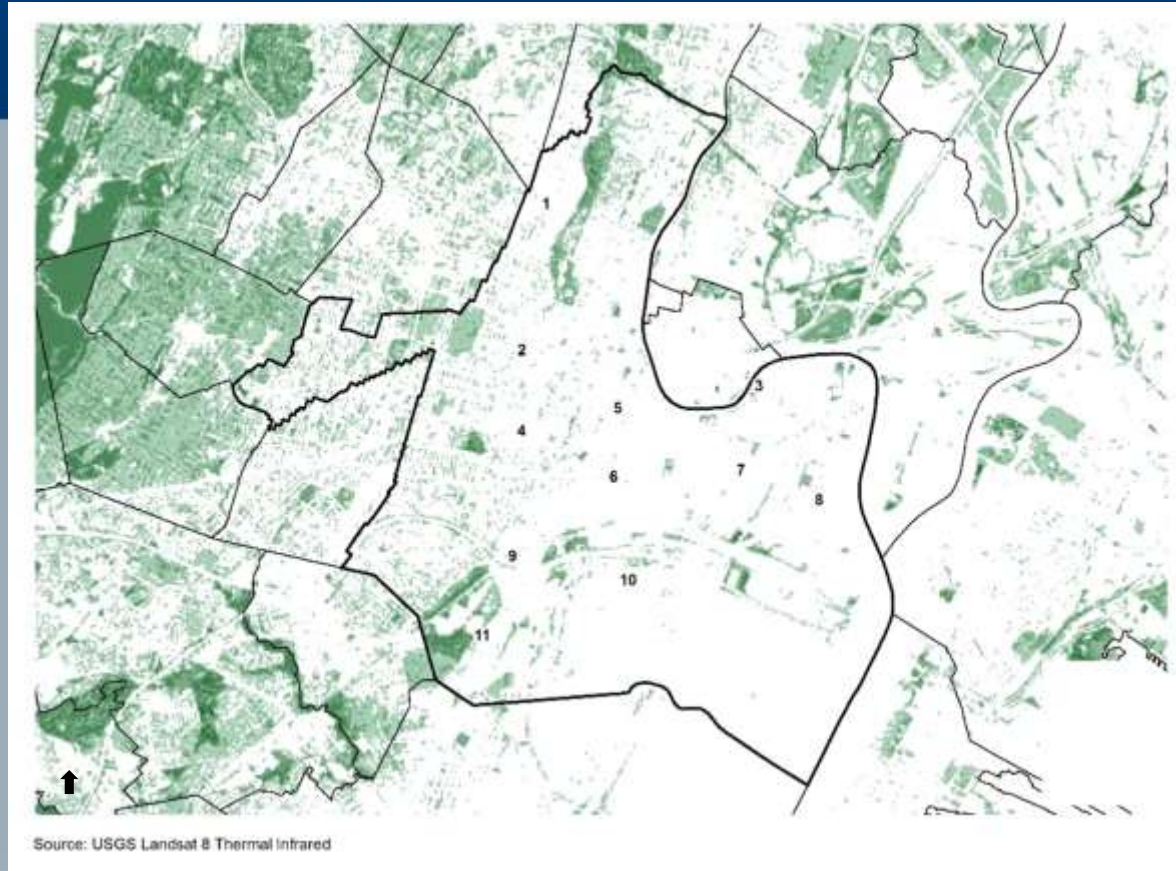


Source: USGS Landsat 8 Thermal Infrared

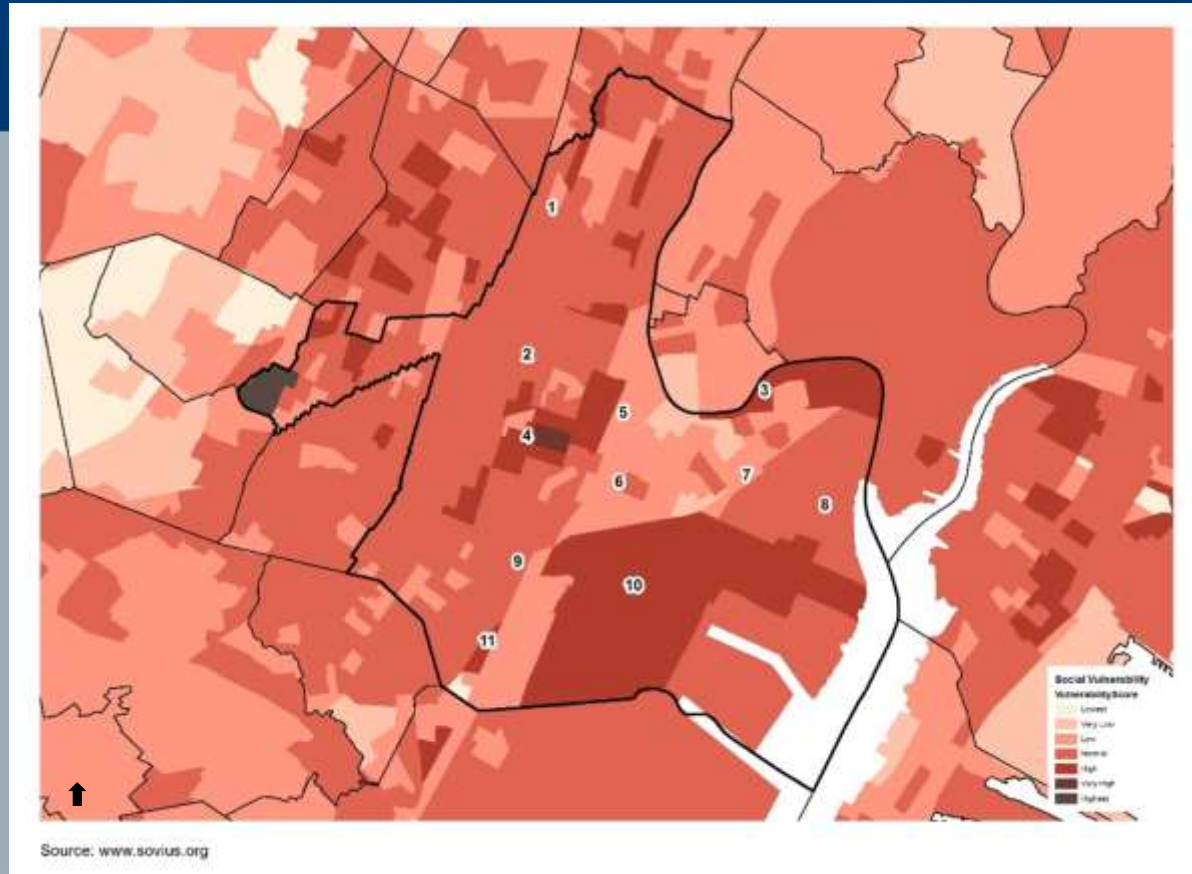
Surface Temperature of Newark



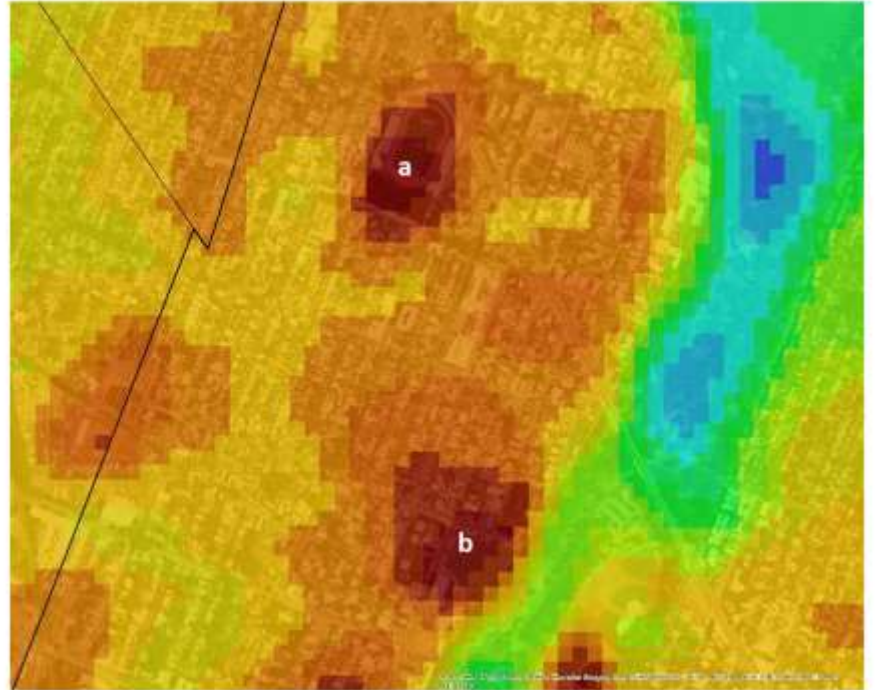
Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) Map



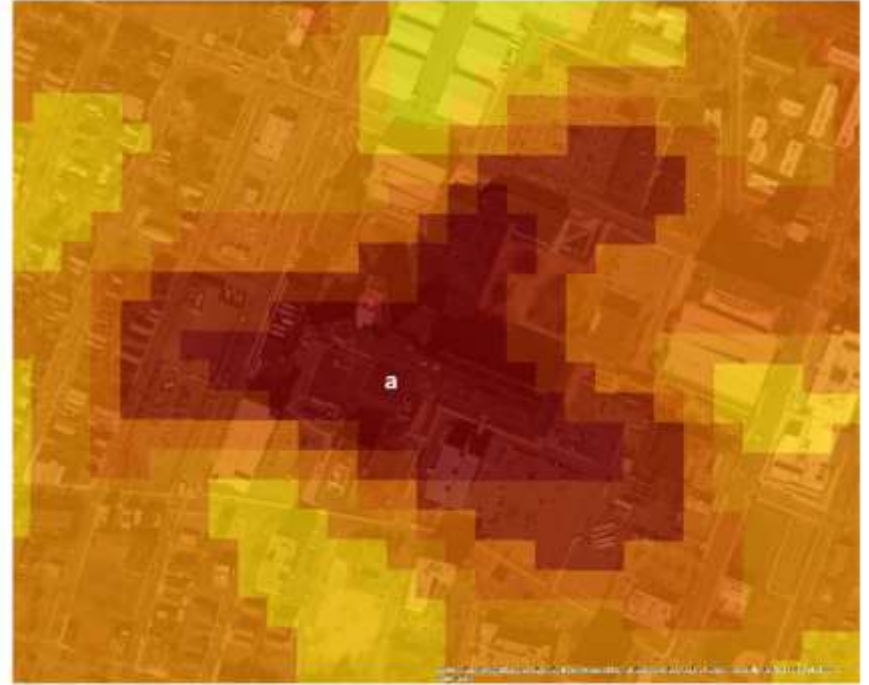
2010 Social Vulnerability



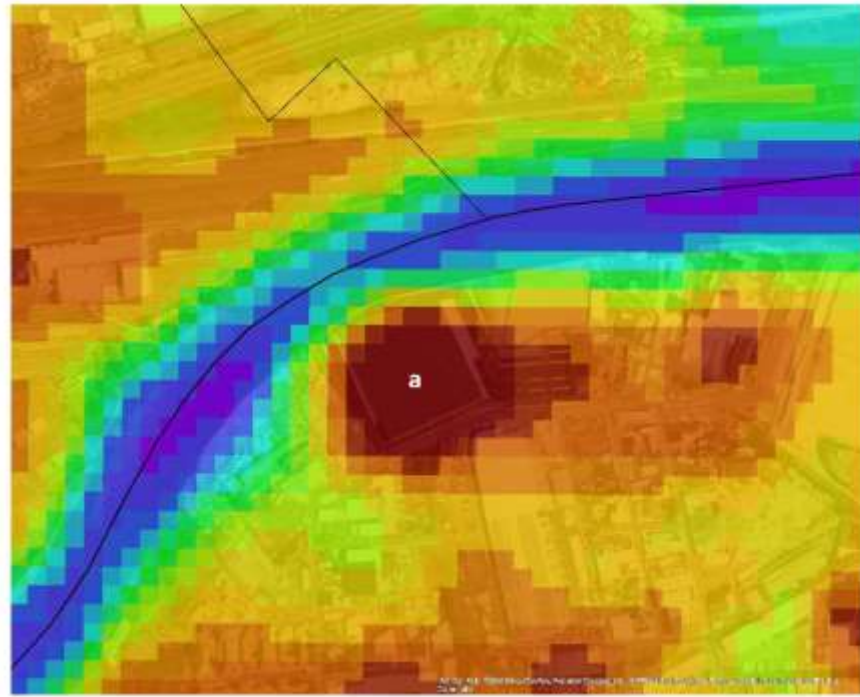
1. Newark Schools Stadium and Kasberger Field



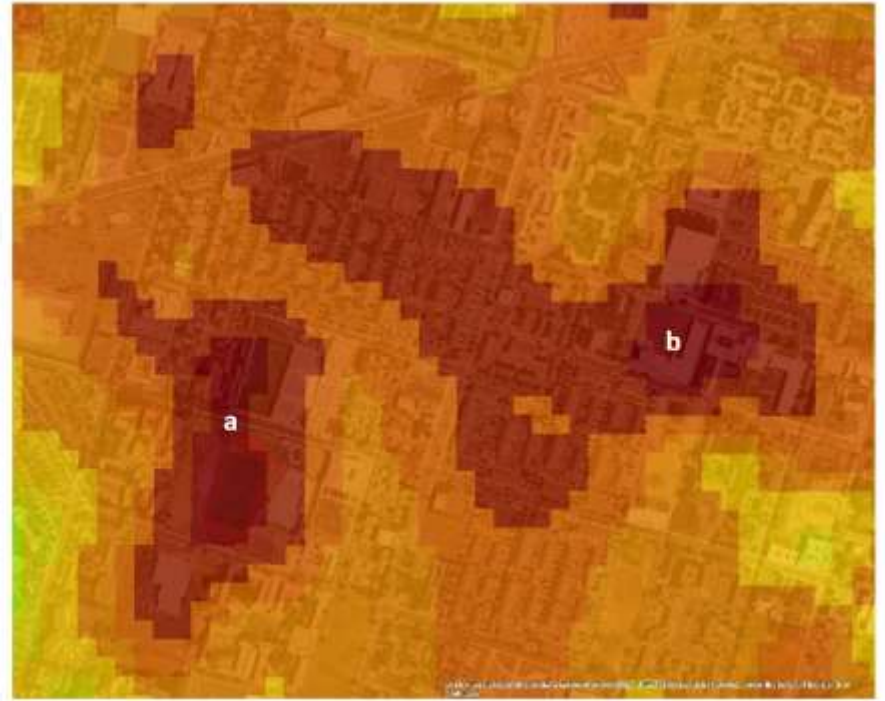
2. University Hospital



3. 60 Lister Ave



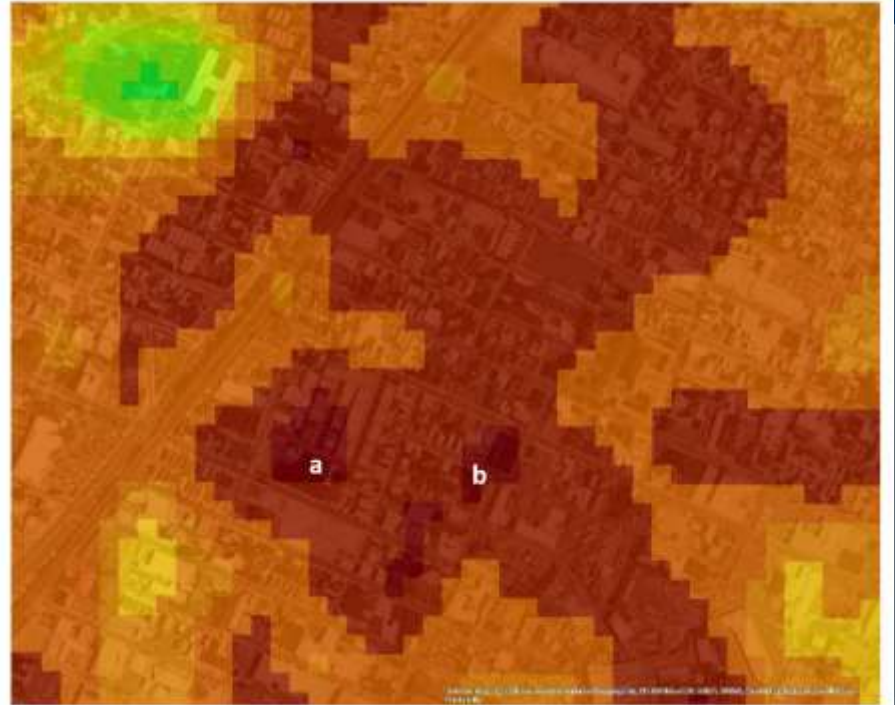
4. Central High School / Nat Turner Park and American History High School



5. Edison Parking



6. South Ironbound



Overview of Hot Spot Types

- Synthetic Turf Fields
- Dark Roofs
- Parking Lots / Large Areas of Asphalt
- Areas with Little Trees/Vegetation

Cooling Strategies and Actions

- Prepare for extreme heat events (Provide warnings, cooling centers, and access to air conditioning)
- Provide heat warnings or restrictions for existing fields and consider alternatives to existing Synthetic Turf fields
- Convert dark roofs to Cool Roofs or Green Roofs
- Plant more street trees
- Remove dark asphalt and add Cool Pavements and Green Infrastructure

WHITE ROOFS vs BLACK ROOFS



SAVINGS OF UP TO 15%
ON AIR CONDITIONING
ENERGY USE EACH
YEAR



EXPOSED BLACK ROOF
CAN INCREASE IN
TEMPERATURE BY 90°F,
USING MORE ENERGY



AVERAGE PEAK ROOF TEMPERATURE

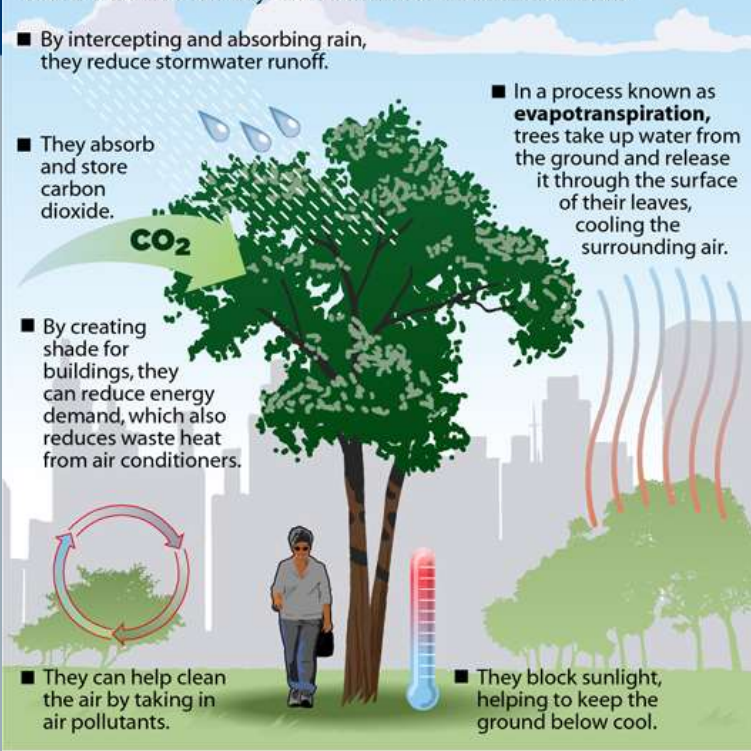
©2012

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2012/06/28/energy-with-white-roofs>
<http://www.fairweather.com/learn/tales/energy-energy-with-white-roofs>
http://www.energystar.gov/iaq/energy_efficiency/energy_efficiency/energy_efficiency

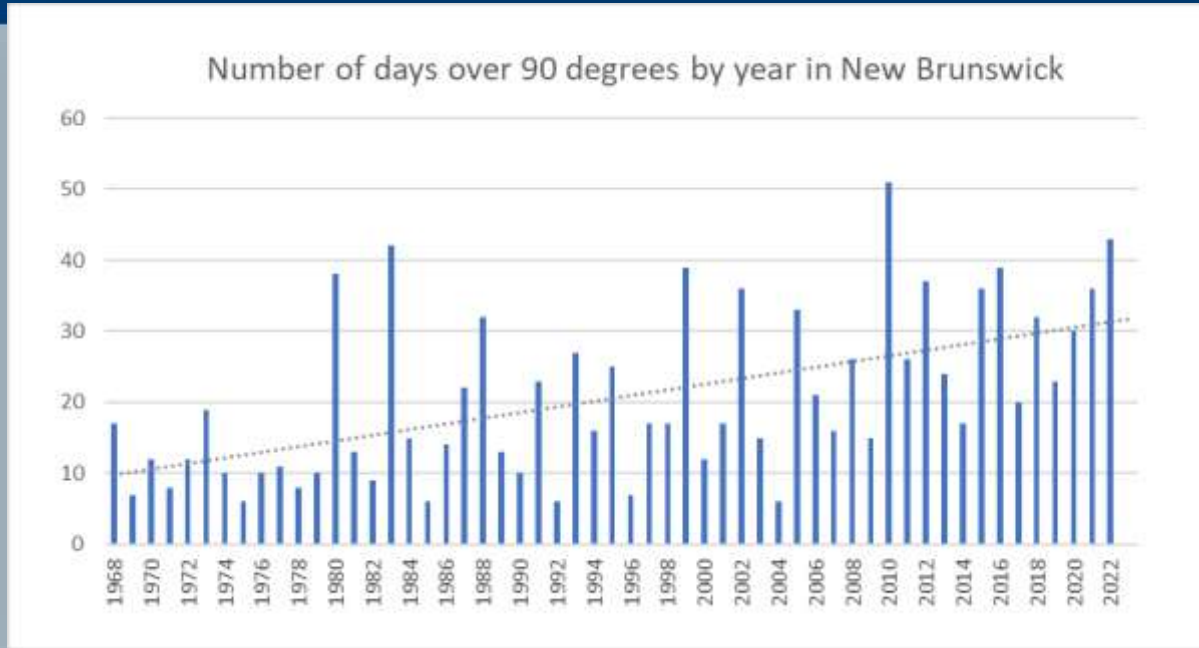
Why Trees Are So Cool

Experts say trees should be considered urban infrastructure, every bit as important and useful as sewage, drinking water and transportation systems. They are an important tool for cities to reduce urban heat island effects. Here are a few ways trees benefit our urban environments:

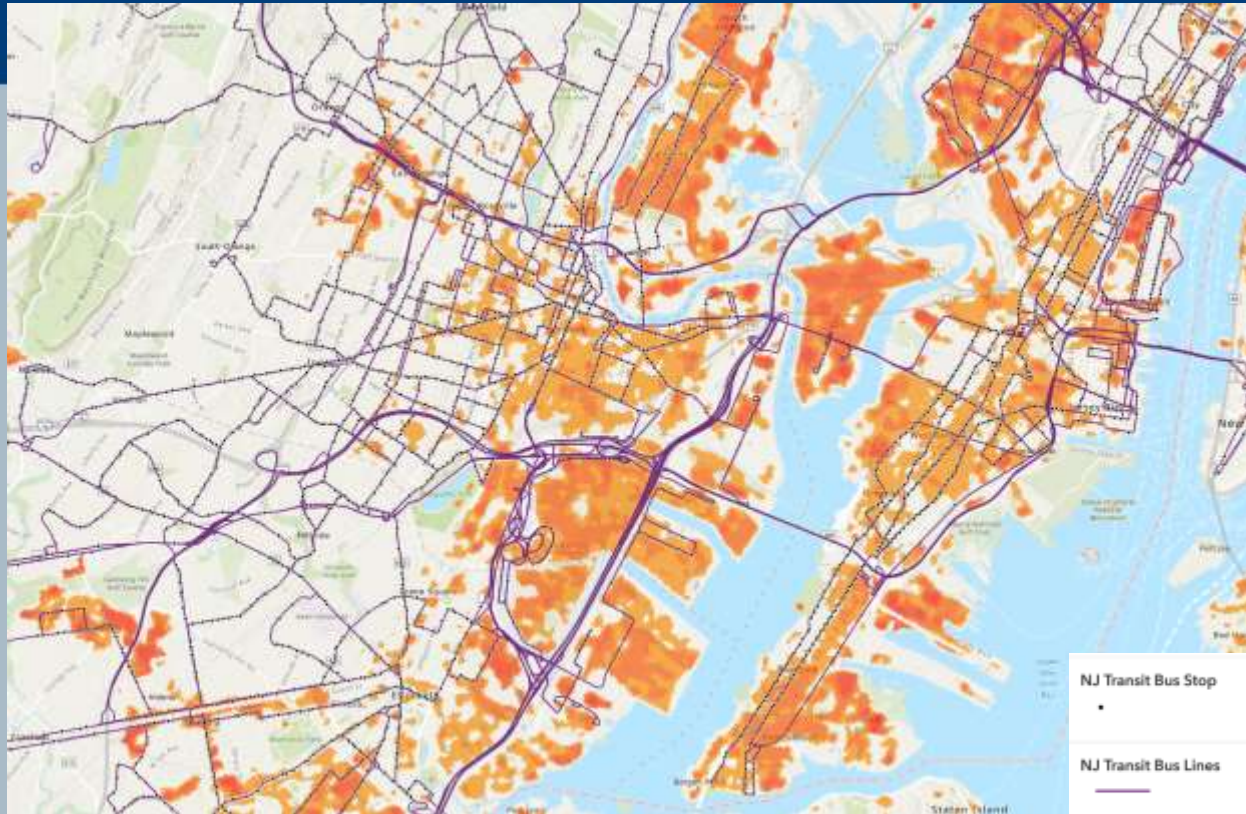
- By intercepting and absorbing rain, they reduce stormwater runoff.
- They absorb and store carbon dioxide.
- In a process known as **evapotranspiration**, trees take up water from the ground and release it through the surface of their leaves, cooling the surrounding air.
- By creating shade for buildings, they can reduce energy demand, which also reduces waste heat from air conditioners.
- They can help clean the air by taking in air pollutants.
- They block sunlight, helping to keep the ground below cool.



Current Research



Maps of High-Intensity Heat and NJ TRANSIT Bus Routes



This map was produced using data provided by The Trust for Public Land

Newark Bus Ridership by Stop, High-Intensity Heat, and Tree Canopy



12th and Bergen in Newark





Article

Heat-Moderating Effects of Bus Stop Shelters and Tree Shade on Public Transport Ridership

Kevin Lanza ^{1,*} and Casey P. Durand ²

¹ Michael and Susan Dell Center for Healthy Living, School of Public Health in Austin, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Austin, TX 78701, USA

² Michael and Susan Dell Center for Healthy Living, Department of Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences, School of Public Health in Houston, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Houston, TX 77030, USA; Casey.P.Durand@uth.tmc.edu

* Correspondence: Kevin.L.Lanza@uth.tmc.edu

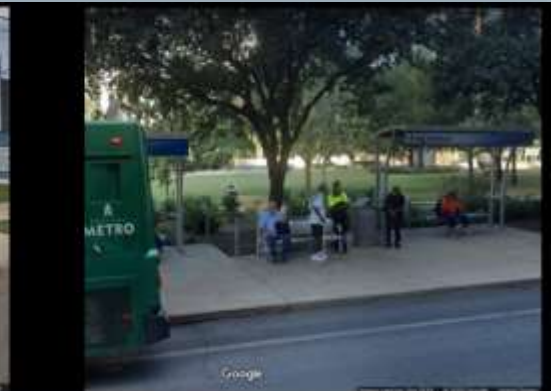
Abstract: Rising temperatures threaten the resilience of public transit systems. We determined whether bus stop shelters and tree canopy surrounding bus stops moderated the effect of warm season temperatures on ridership in Austin, Texas, and whether shelters and trees were equitably distributed. For bus stops ($n = 2271$) of Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority, boardings per bus were measured 1 April–30 September 2019. Air temperature data originated from the Camp Mabey weather station. Tree canopy was calculated by digital imagery from the National Agriculture Imagery Program. Daily median age, and bus commuters within census tracts of bus stops were obtained from the American Community Survey. Using multilevel negative binomial regression, we found that shelters did not moderate the effect of high temperatures on ridership. For every 1°C increase in temperatures, each one-percent increase in tree canopy was associated with a 1.7% increase in ridership compared to if there were no trees ($p < 0.001$). Shelters and trees were not equitably distributed. Insignificant or modest effects of shelters and trees on ridership at high temperatures may be attributed to the transit dependency of riders. We recommend tree planting at bus stops to protect from ridership during extreme heat.

Keywords: public transit; climate change adaptation; resilient green infrastructure; built environment; temperature

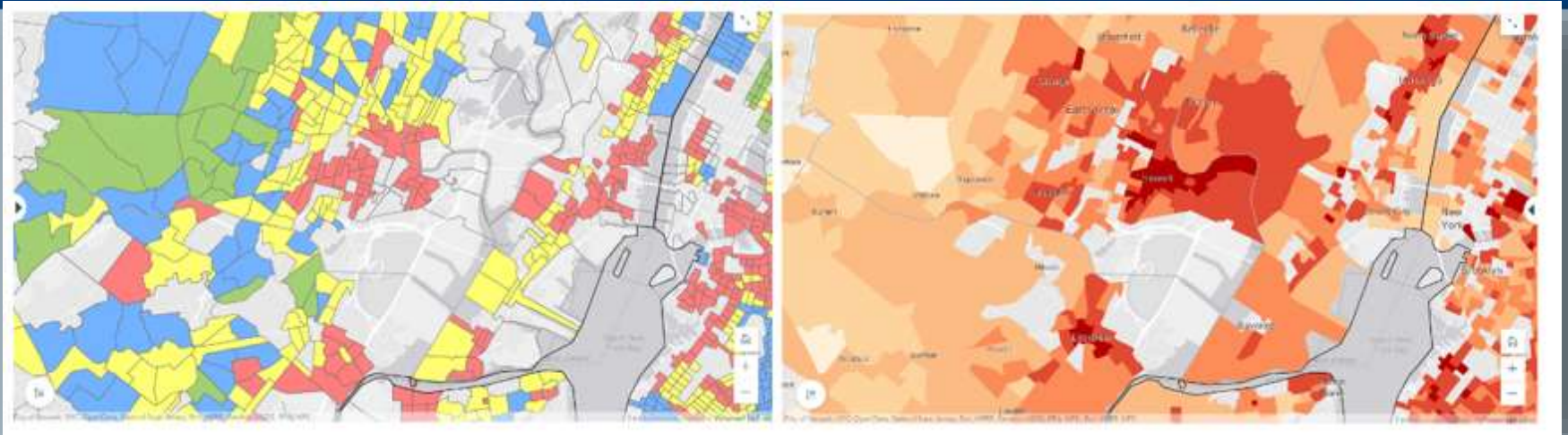


Citation: Lanza, K.; Durand, C.P. Heat-Moderating Effects of Bus Stop Shelters and Tree Shade on Public Transport Ridership. *Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health* **2021**, *18*, 463. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph18020463>

- Temperature exhibited a negative association with ridership
- Trees at bus stops, not shelters, moderated the effect of extreme heat on ridership



Equity and Heat Vulnerability



Source: Yale Center on Climate Change and Health (YCCCH)

Thank You

Defining the Vision. Shaping the Future.



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Principal Planner,
Environmental Planning
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An aerial photograph of a city, likely New Brunswick, New Jersey, showing a wide river flowing through it. The river is crossed by several bridges, including a prominent stone arch bridge in the upper right and a multi-lane concrete bridge in the lower left. The city is surrounded by lush green trees and parks, with various buildings and infrastructure visible. The overall scene is bright and clear, suggesting a sunny day.

Extreme Heat Resilience Action Planning

Sustainability Summit – Mitigating Heat Islands | May 5, 2023

Presented by Nathaly Agosto Filión, NJDEP Office of Climate Resilience

EXECUTIVE ORDER 89:

Establishes resilience positions, offices, and councils

NJ TRANSIT
The Way To Go.



NJ EDA



“An Interagency Council on Climate Resilience (the “Interagency Council”) is hereby established to coordinate the efforts of Executive Branch departments and agencies to develop and implement the Statewide Climate Change Resilience Strategy.”



NJ DEPARTMENT OF
Community Affairs



SCIENTIFIC REPORT

on Climate Change

nj.gov/dep/climatechange/data.html

Overview

- Comprehensive effort to synthesize the latest and most reliable scientific information on the current and predicted future impacts of climate change.
- The report is one component of the State's comprehensive strategy to both reduce emissions of climate pollutants that fuel global warming, and proactively plan and prepare for the climate impacts that New Jersey cannot avoid.



Released June 30, 2020



Nov. 2021: Updated Atlas 14 data; Extreme Event Precipitation Projections & Projection Tool



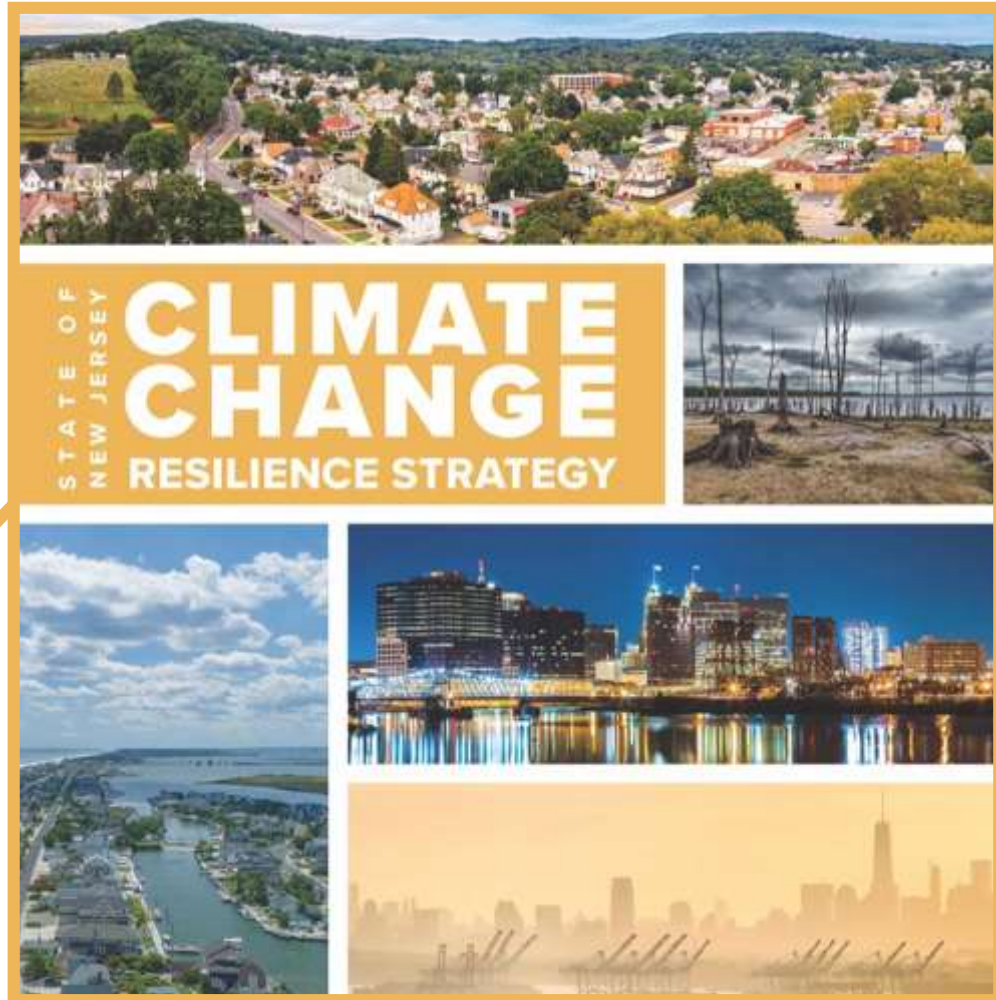
Sept. 2022: Climate Change Impacts on Human Health & Communities Addendum released

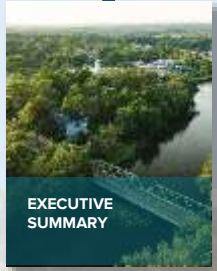
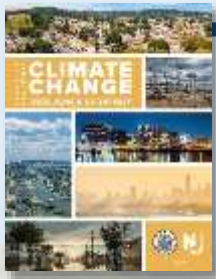


CLIMATE RESILIENCE

defined

The ability of social and ecological systems to absorb and adapt to shocks and stresses resulting from a changing climate, while becoming better positioned to respond in the future.

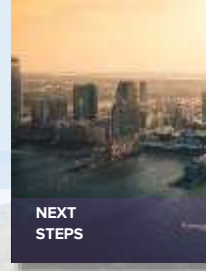




EXECUTIVE
SUMMARY



CLIMATE
RESILIENCE
PRIORITIES



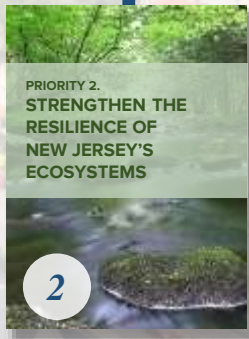
NEXT
STEPS

CLIMATE RESILIENCE PRIORITIES



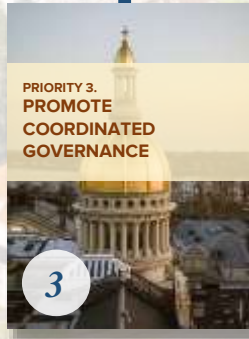
PRIORITY 1.
BUILD RESILIENT
AND HEALTHY
COMMUNITIES

1



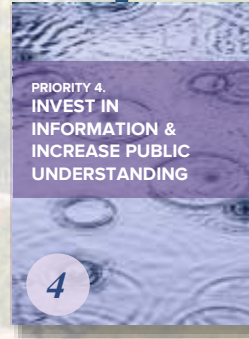
PRIORITY 2.
STRENGTHEN THE
RESILIENCE OF
NEW JERSEY'S
ECOSYSTEMS

2



PRIORITY 3.
PROMOTE
COORDINATED
GOVERNANCE

3



PRIORITY 4.
INVEST IN
INFORMATION &
INCREASE PUBLIC
UNDERSTANDING

4



PRIORITY 5.
PROMOTE CLIMATE-
INFORMED
INVESTMENTS &
INNOVATIVE FINANCING

5



PRIORITY 6.
COASTAL
RESILIENCE
PLAN

6



**Build
Resilient
and Healthy
Communities**



**Strengthen
the Resilience
of New Jersey's
Ecosystems**



**Promote
Coordinated
Governance**



**Invest in
Information &
Increase Public
Understanding**



**Promote
Climate-Informed
Investments &
Innovative
Financing**



**Coastal
Resilience
Plan**

<https://www.nj.gov/dep/climatechange/resilience-strategy.html>





Resilience Action Plans

<https://www.nj.gov/dep/climatechange/resilience-action-plans.html>

NEXT STEP:

Resilience Action Plans

*Serving as the two-year update to the Climate Change
Resilience Strategy*

Resilience Action Plans will be statewide, detailing actions each agency will take to incorporate climate resilience into their policies, programs, and decision-making, consistent with the Strategy.

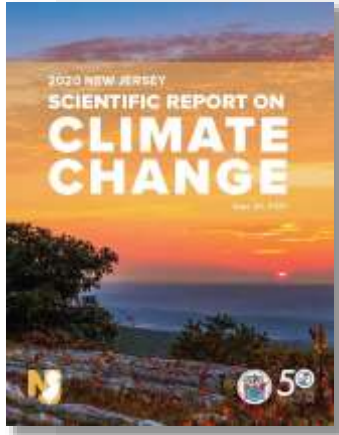
Each Resilience Action Plan will focus on a specific climate threat.

The first Plan will focus on extreme heat.

Agencies will work cooperatively to explore their respective work, identify gaps that exist, and coordinate action across State government to address those gaps.



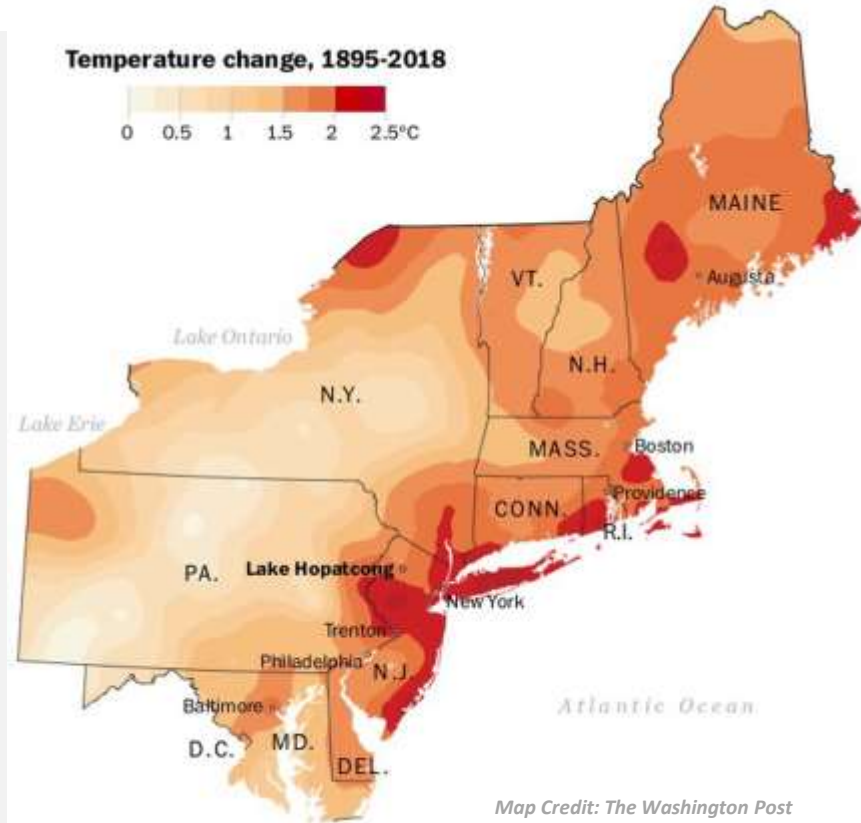
EXTREME HEAT RESILIENCE ACTION PLAN

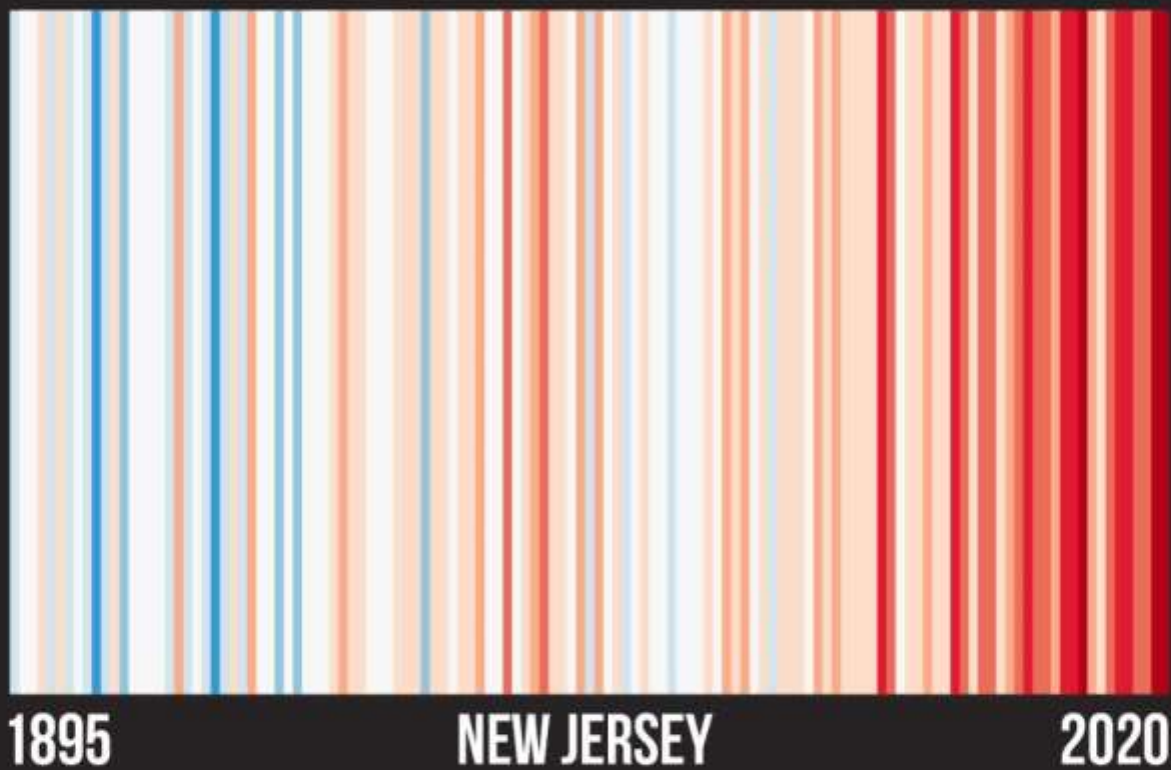


Why Extreme Heat Now?

- New Jersey is the 6th fastest warming state in the country.
- Summer temperatures in NJ in 2022 were the third hottest on record since 1895.
- High temperatures are associated with immediate and long-term health concerns, diminished air quality, and increased pressures on our food and water supply.

Of the ten hottest summers in NJ since 1895, all ten have occurred since 1999.
Nine have occurred since 2005.





Based on Ed Hawkins "Warming Stripes".
Source: NOAA/NCEI Climate at a Glance

CLIMATE  CENTRAL

RESILIENCE ACTION PLANS

Extreme Heat & Public Health



- The body's innate ability to cool itself can be outmatched by extreme heat.
- Excessive heat acts as a **threat multiplier**, leading to increased heat-related illnesses and mortality
- Children, the elderly, individuals with chronic health conditions, and people who work outside are the most vulnerable to extreme heat.

Overburdened communities are subject to the most severe consequences of climate change.

- The combination of increased temperatures, precipitation, and humidity can lead to an increase in infectious disease spread.

In this decade, climate change could result in a 55% increase in summer heat-related mortality and more than a doubling in mortality by the 2050s.

Under a high emissions scenario; compared to the 1990s.
Source: NJ Scientific Report on Climate Change, 2020



Extreme heat impacts *every sector.*

INFRASTRUCTURE

- High temperatures can damage roadways and rail tracks as well as reduce the efficiency of powerlines.
- Electricity demand spikes during periods of extreme heat strain the power grid.

FOOD SUPPLY

- Rising temperatures affect the activity and spread of agricultural pests and weeds.
- An earlier spring and more frequent heat waves can disrupt crop cycles and cause harm to crops and livestock alike.
- Warmer temperatures are shifting fish populations northward, disrupting commercial fishing operations.

WATER SUPPLY & QUALITY

- High temperatures and intense storms create ideal conditions for harmful algal blooms.
- Extreme heat and more frequent droughts can impact the availability of potable water.



RESILIENCE ACTION PLANS

Each Resilience Action Plan will follow the same format.

Agencies have received guidance to ensure that the level of detail is sufficient.

The intent is for the Resilience Action Plans to create a mechanism in which to track and update the State's progress on its stated resilience actions.

Format

- **Introduction**
 - Purpose
 - Discussion of foundational documents
 - Scientific Report on Climate Change
 - Climate Change Resilience Strategy
 - Plan development process
- **Topic Description**
 - Overview
 - Statewide impacts
- **State Actions**
 - Action description
 - Detailed information table

Guidance

- Agencies are responsible for identifying their own relevant actions.
- Plans should make clear what actions an agency will take and why.
- Certain considerations will span across all topics and actions, including:
 - Environmental justice and equity
 - Funding
 - Research needs
 - Coordination



What Do the Actions Address?



Vulnerable Populations

- Access to air conditioning
- Energy reliability/ability to pay
- Outdoor workers
- Health/air quality



Built Environment

- Urban Heat Island
- Transportation system disruption
- Energy reliability
- Water supply



Natural Systems

- Forestry and Greening
- Crops and agriculture
- Wildfire
- Other species, habitats, and ecosystems

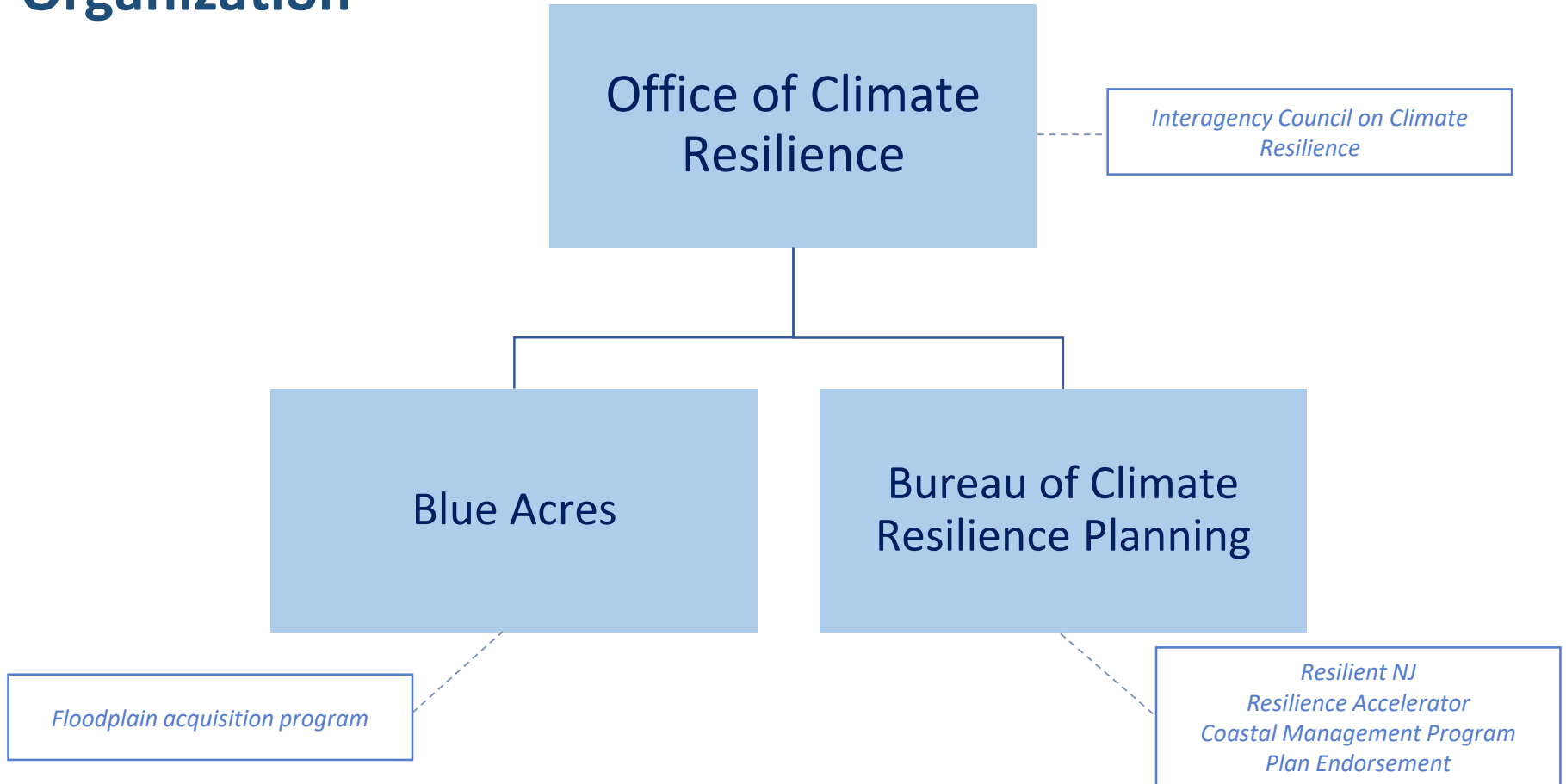


WHAT WILL THE ACTIONS ACCOMPLISH?

Increased education and awareness
Identification of vulnerable populations/infrastructure
Advanced scientific research/understanding
Retrofitted infrastructure (transportation and energy)
Improved coordination across agencies
Changes to state policy/standards to protect vulnerable populations
Green built environment and protection of existing tree canopy
Increased capacity in local communities
Resources funneled to underserved communities



Organization



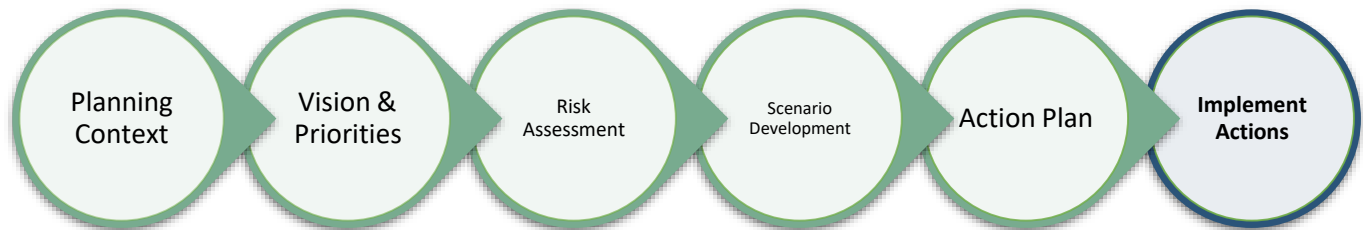
Launched in 2020 by DEP

Goal: Produce community-led resilience & adaptation action plans.

Funding is announced periodically on our website.
Current and past projects include:

- 3 NGO grants
- 6 regional planning projects
- 8 municipal planning projects
- Online toolkit for municipalities

Planning process:



RESILIENT NJ: LOCAL PLANNING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE TOOLKIT



Hightstown, NJ

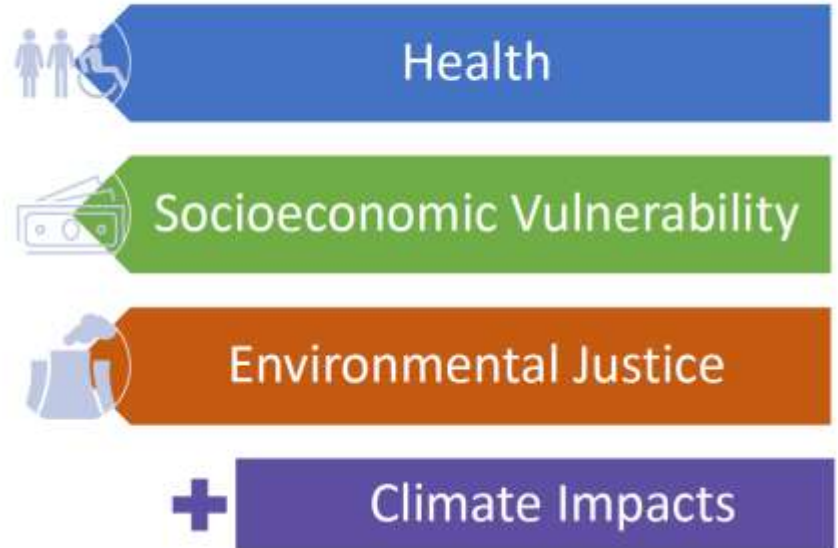
Indexes for Health, Socioeconomic, Environmental, & Climate Outreach Prioritization in Newark, NJ

Irena Gorski Steiner | January 2022

Three Stackable Indexes

Newark Climate Equity Index

Goal: City prioritization of
community outreach efforts
to advance climate justice.



For webinar recording, visit: <https://www.newarkgreenteam.org/projects-resources>

Key data came from Newark Environmental Resources Inventory:

<http://bit.ly/nwkeri2021>

Map layers have been included in Nature Conservancy's "Newark Greenprint":

<https://www.njmap2.com/development/newark/>

Health

- Asthma
- COPD
- Coronary heart disease
- Obesity
- Mental Distress
- Life expectancy

Socioeconomic

- Black or African, Hispanic or Latino, & Indigenous folks
- Low-income household
- Less than high school education
- Age-based vulnerability (>65 years old and <18)
- Unemployment
- Uninsured
- Renters
- Folks with disabilities
- No vehicle access
- Work outdoors
- Linguistic isolation

Environmental

- Fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) air concentration
- Traffic proximity & volume
- Air toxics cancer risk
- Ground-level ozone air concentration
- Diesel particulate matter air concentration
- Distance to greenspace
- Limited access to healthy foods
- Proximity to hazardous sites
- Imperviousness
- Tree canopy cover
- Lead exposure risk index

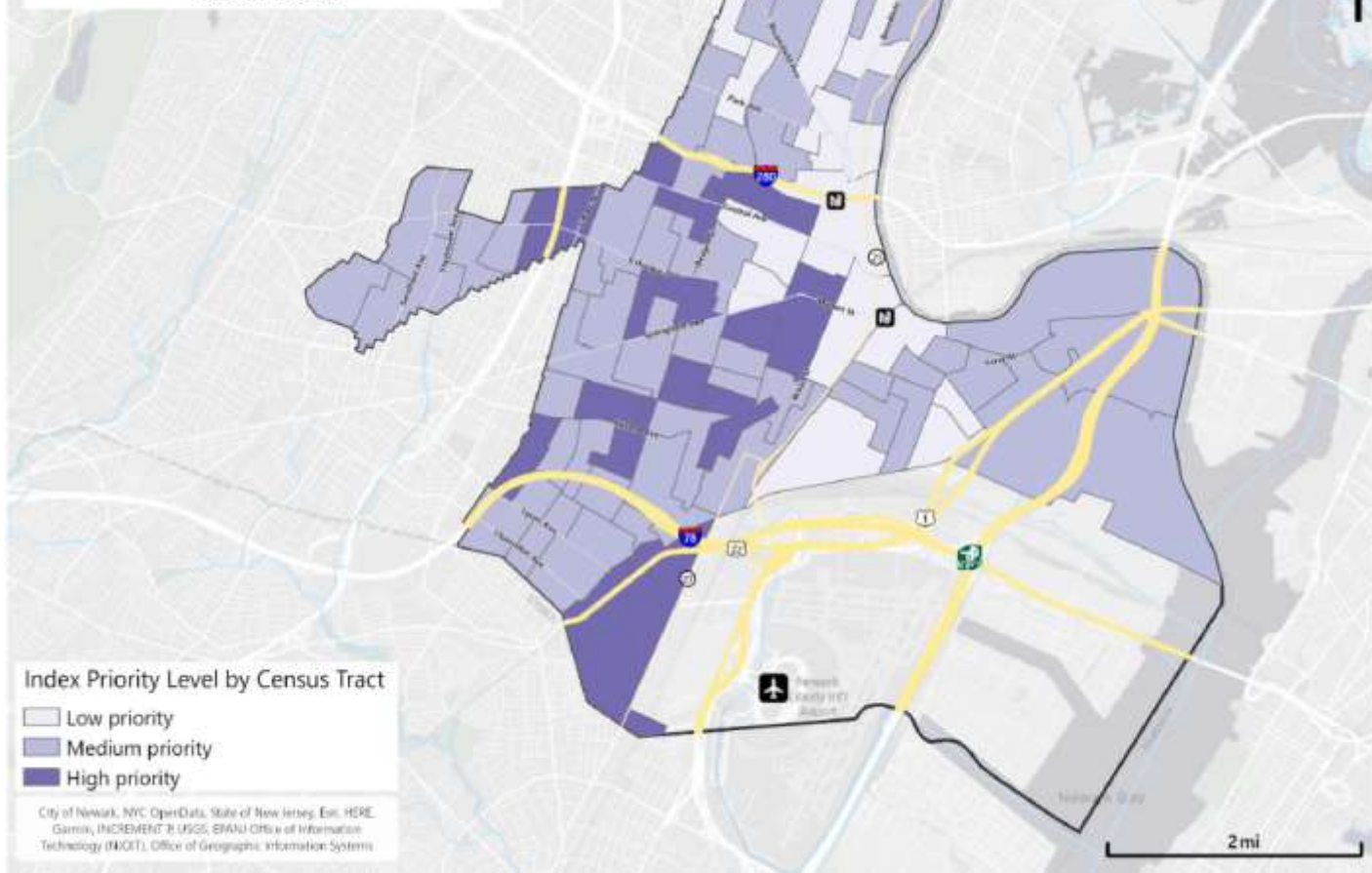


City of Newark

Department of Administration

SUSTAINABILITY

Health Index



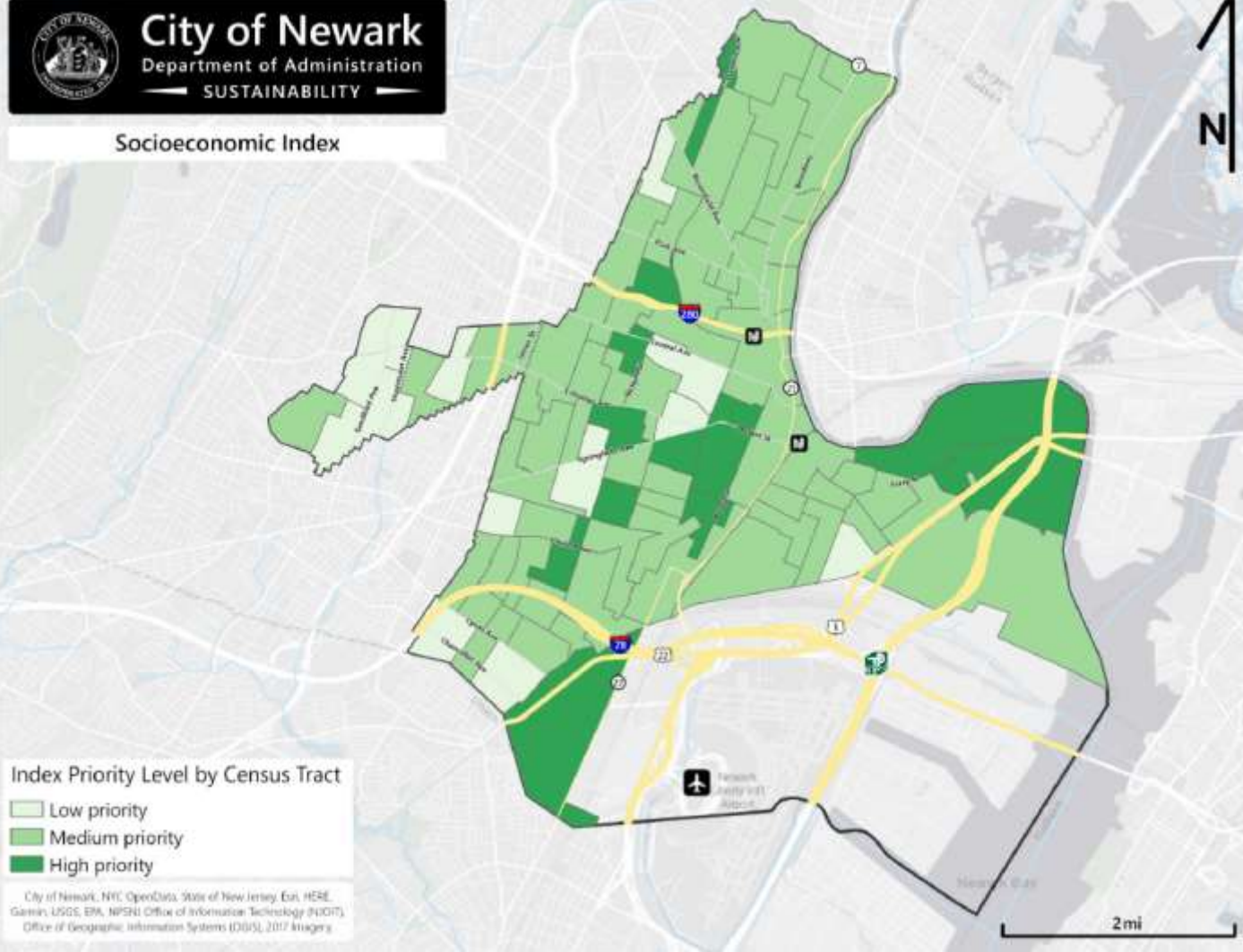


City of Newark

Department of Administration

SUSTAINABILITY

Socioeconomic Index



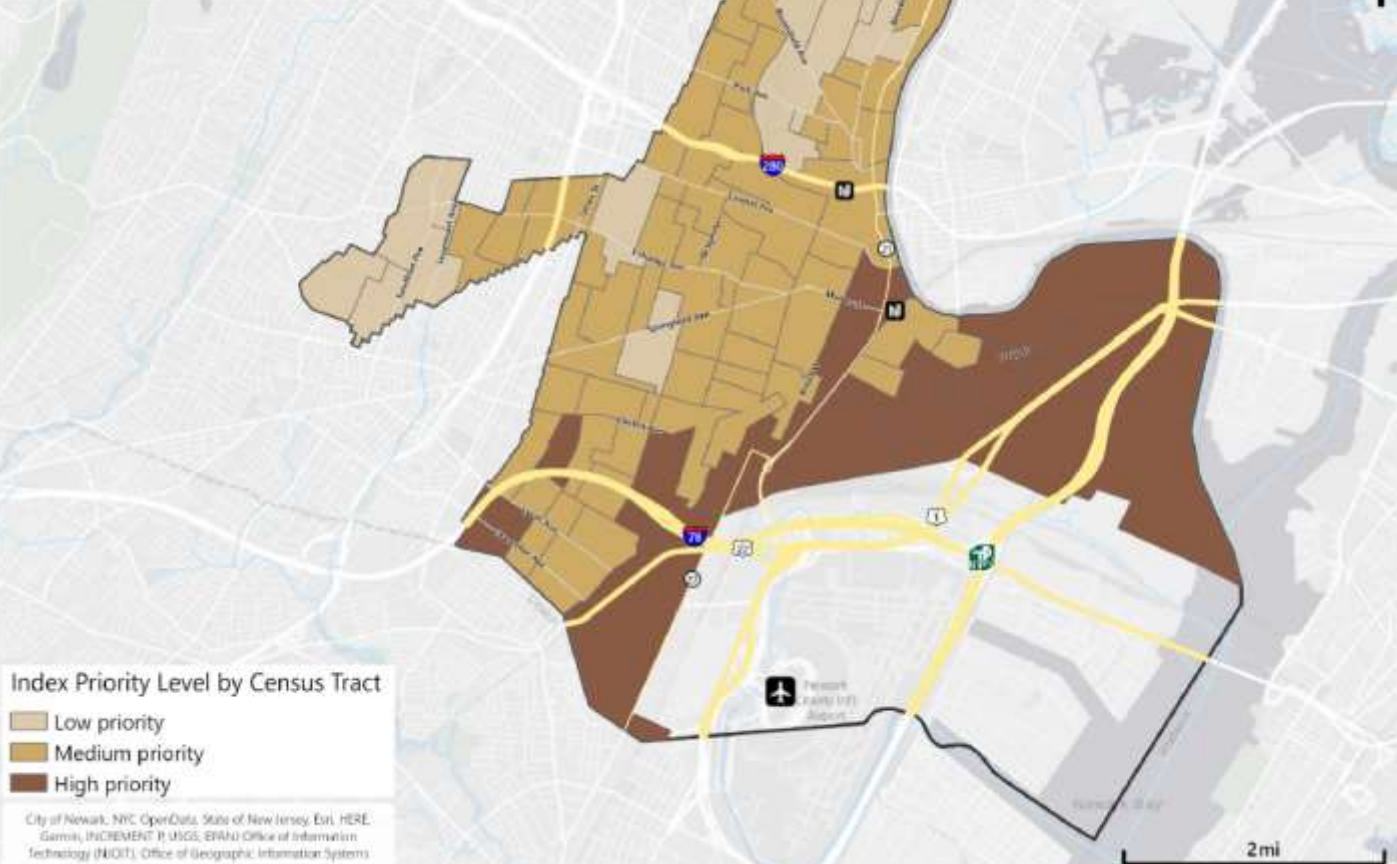


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Environmental Burden Index



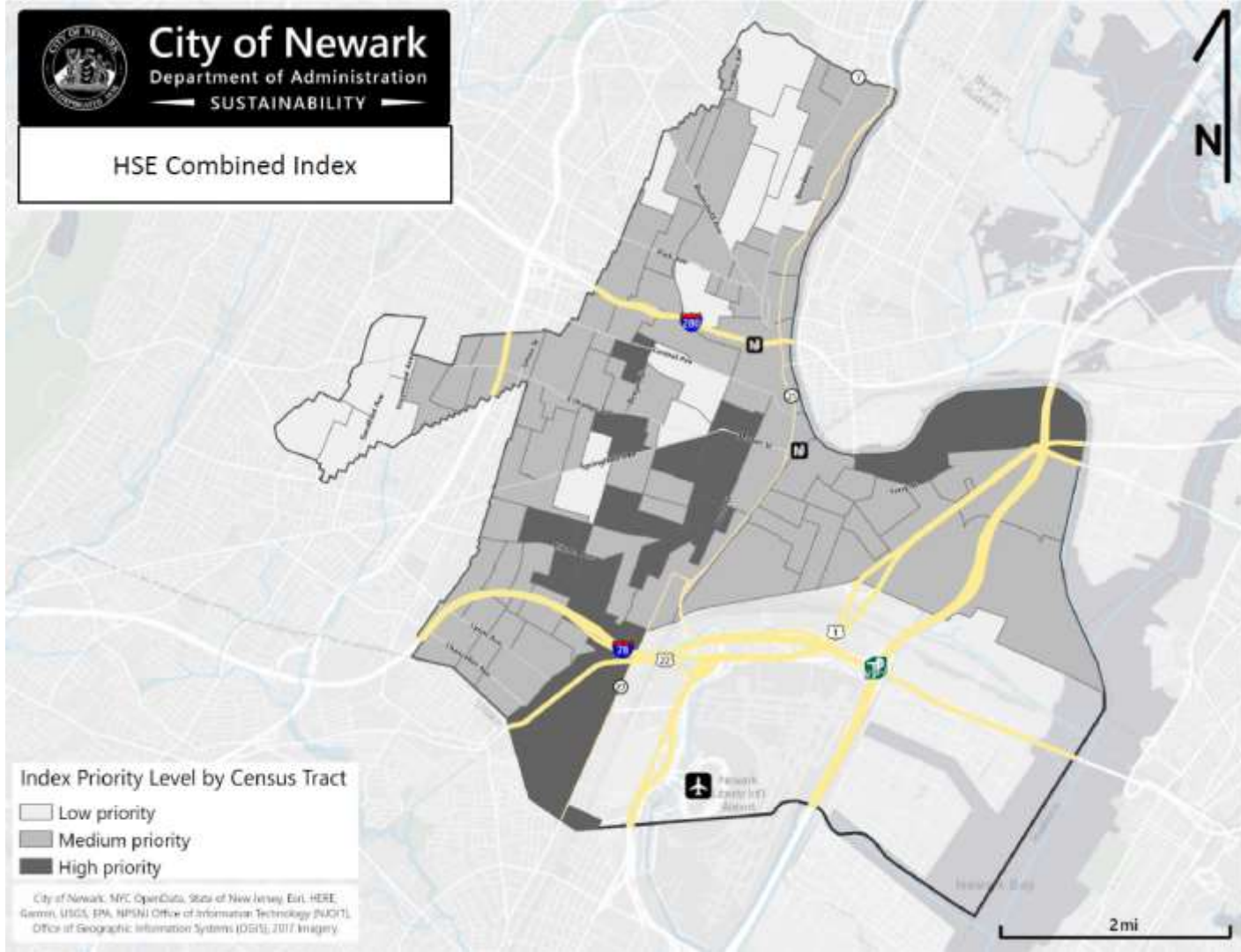


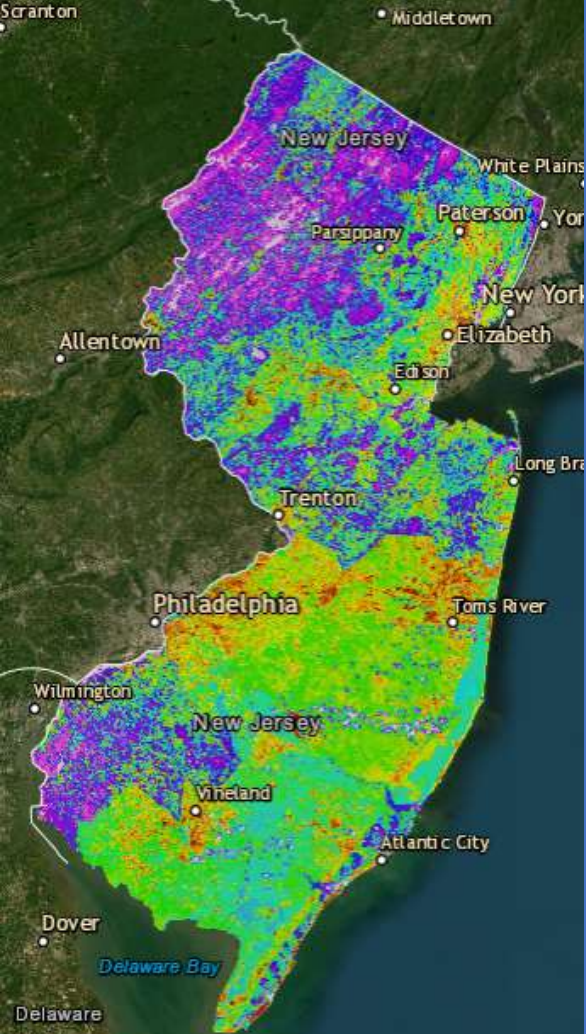
HSE Combined Index

Index Priority Level by Census Tract

- Low priority
- Medium priority
- High priority

City of Newark, NYC OpenData, State of New Jersey, Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, EPA, NPS/NJ Office of Information Technology (NJ-OIT), Office of Geographic Information Systems (OGIS), 2017 Imagery





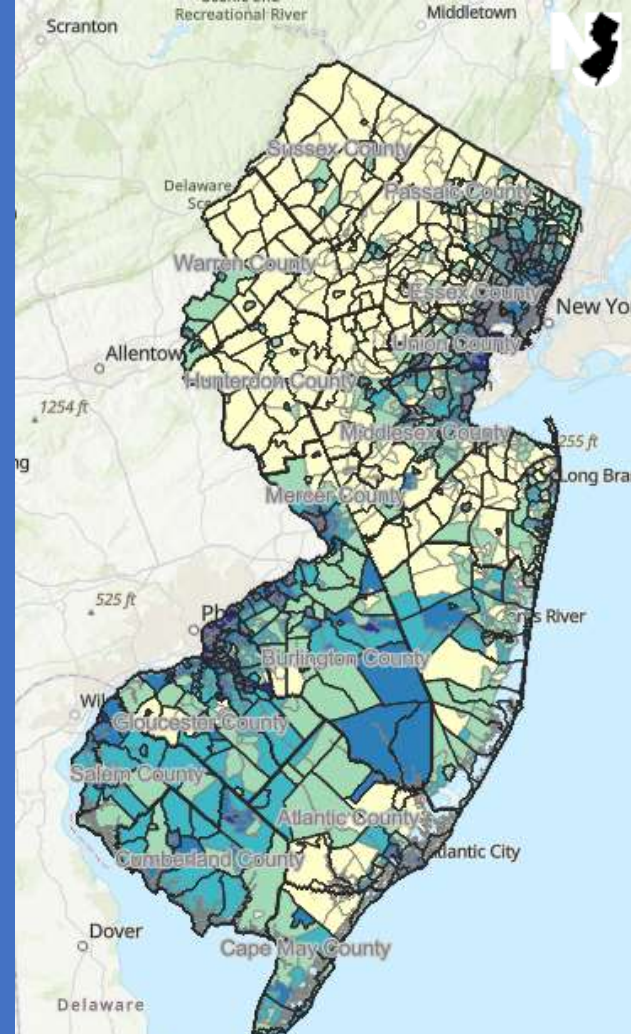
Sustainable Jersey Heat Island Map

- Red areas are UHI hot spots; yellow/orange areas are moderate
- County-based analysis compiled into a statewide map
- Uses satellite imagery from one date
- Publicly available

Rutgers

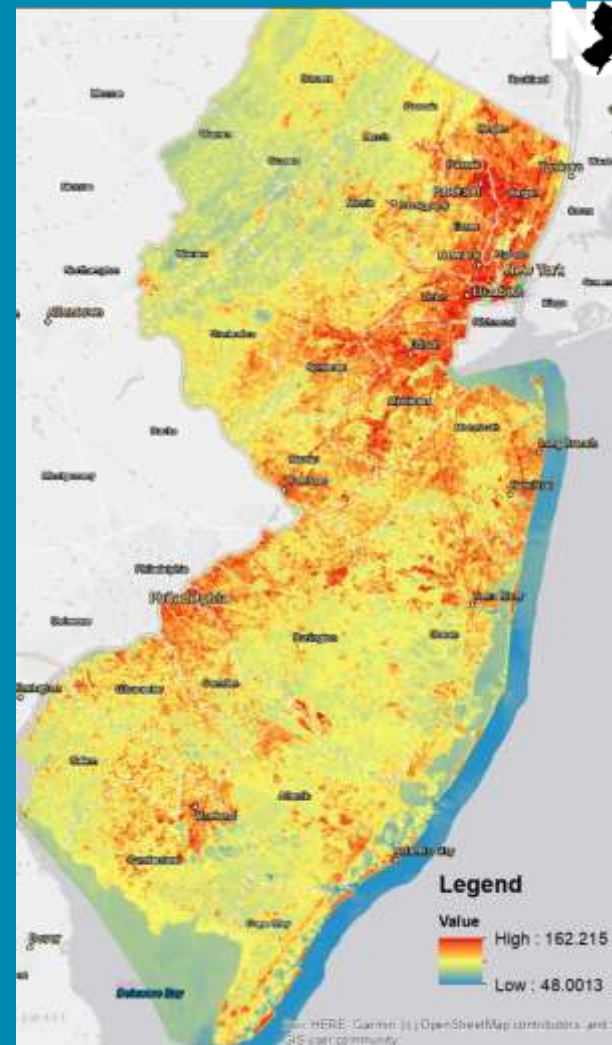
Heat Vulnerability Index

- Scale (1-5) for degree of vulnerability
- Statewide analysis assess intersections of potential heat islands and vulnerable populations by Census Block Group
- Publicly available
- Compiles multiple indicators of vulnerability



NJDEP Heat/OBC Map

- Map of land surface temperatures
- Red areas are considered UHIs
- Statewide analysis
- Using map to support grant proposal development
- Compiles satellite imagery across several dates
- Not yet publicly available, will be uploaded as layer resource on the DEP's climate page soon



Sustainability Summit

Mitigating Heat Islands / Urban Forest Action

May 5, 2023

Jay Watson, Co-Executive Director



*“You can tell the quality of a neighborhood,
just by counting the trees!”*

NY Times article –

Projects and money!



“Rewilding” - Forest lots / Microforests – Miyawake Method-



Forest plazas and cooling stations



Parks



Street Trees





Tools, Technology and Maps





MENU ▾

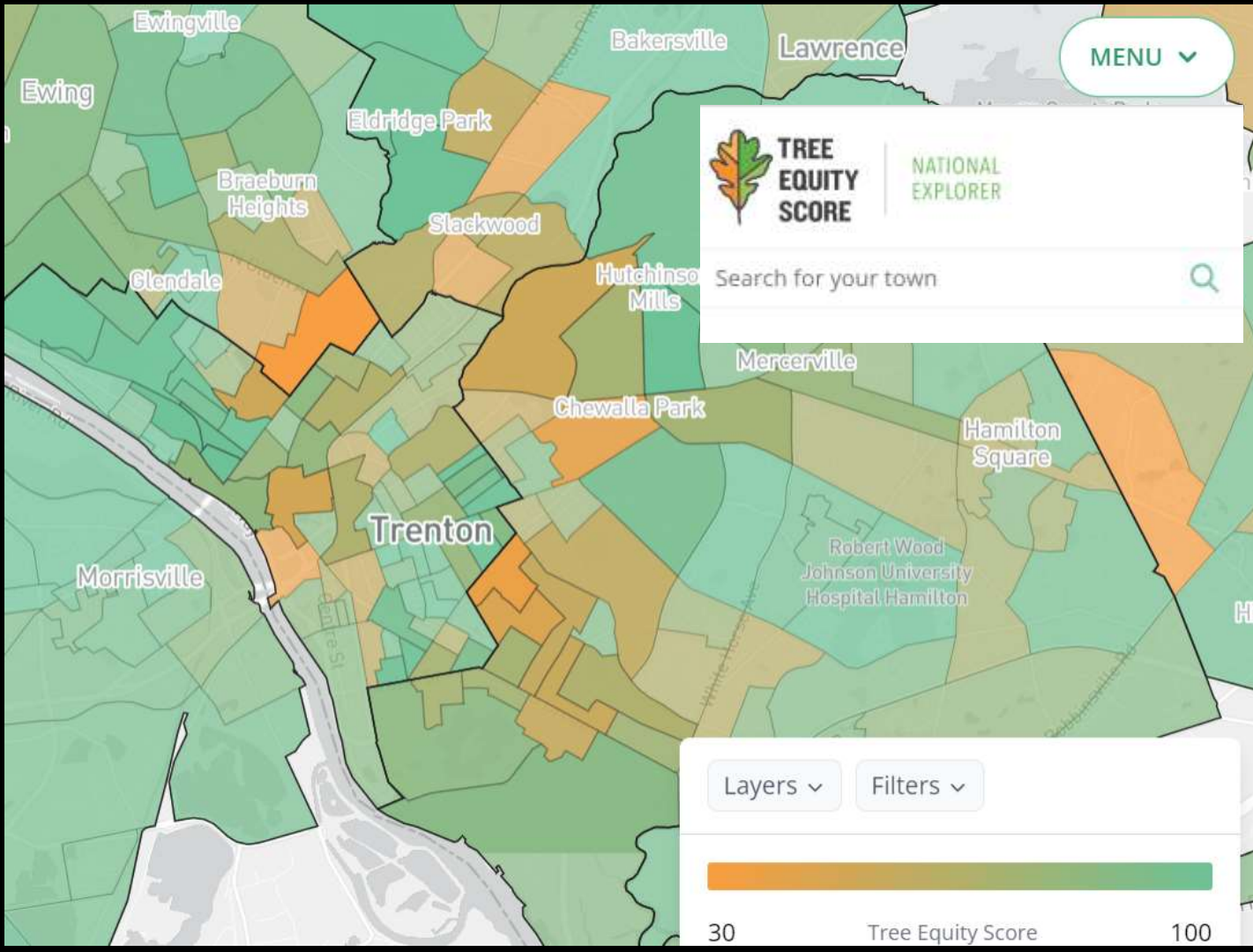
MAP

Treeequityscore.org

Find your score and help create
Tree Equity in cities and towns
across America.



Search for your town **TRENTON, NJ** 



MENU ▾



TREE EQUITY SCORE

NATIONAL EXPLORER

Search for your town



Layers ▾

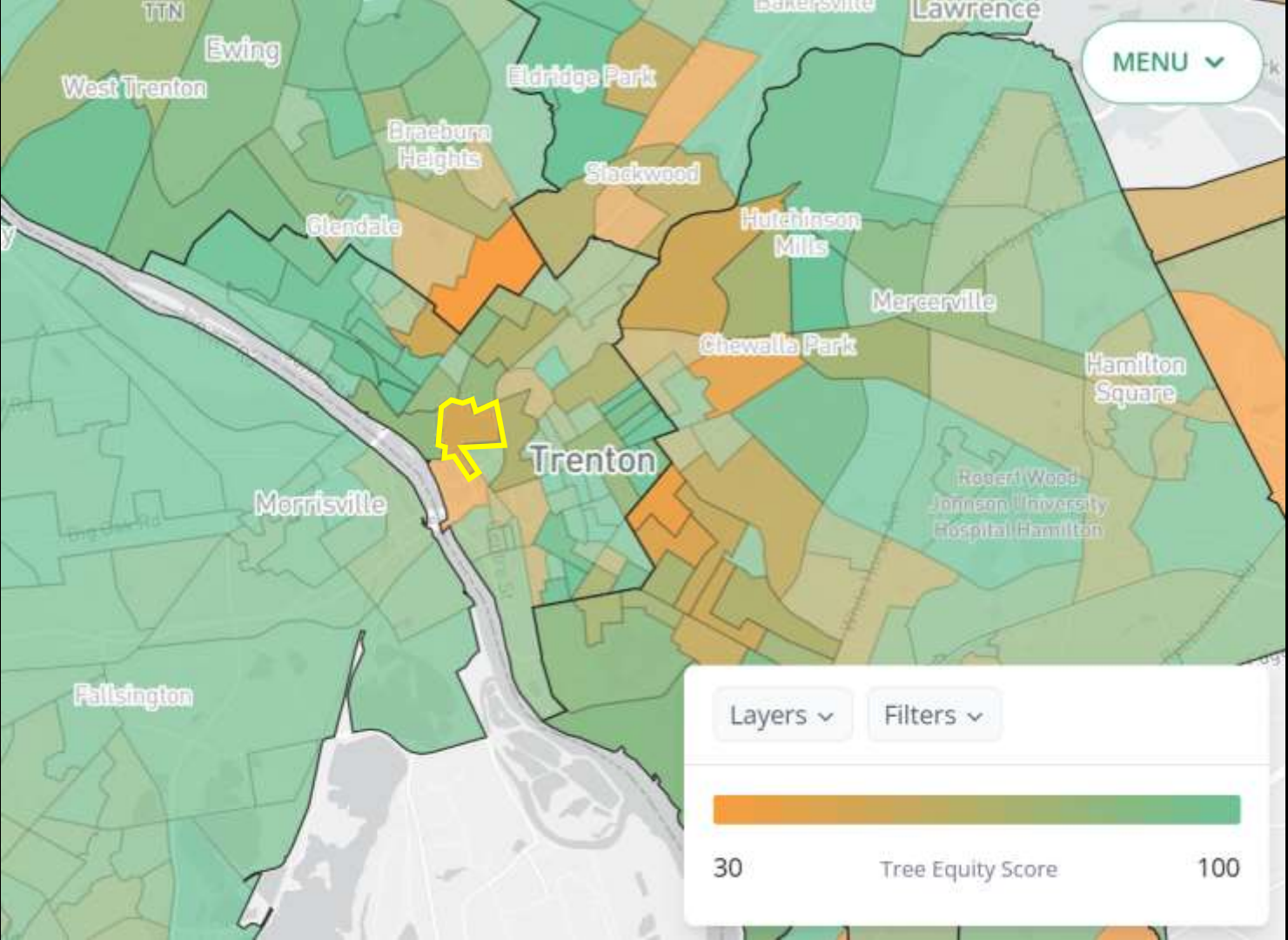
Filters ▾



30

Tree Equity Score

100



NJ Congressional District 12
Census Block Group 340210009002

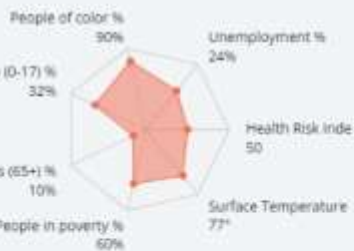
49
Tree Equity Score

RANK

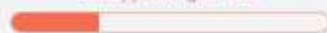
69th of 70 blockgroups in Trenton

Score indicators

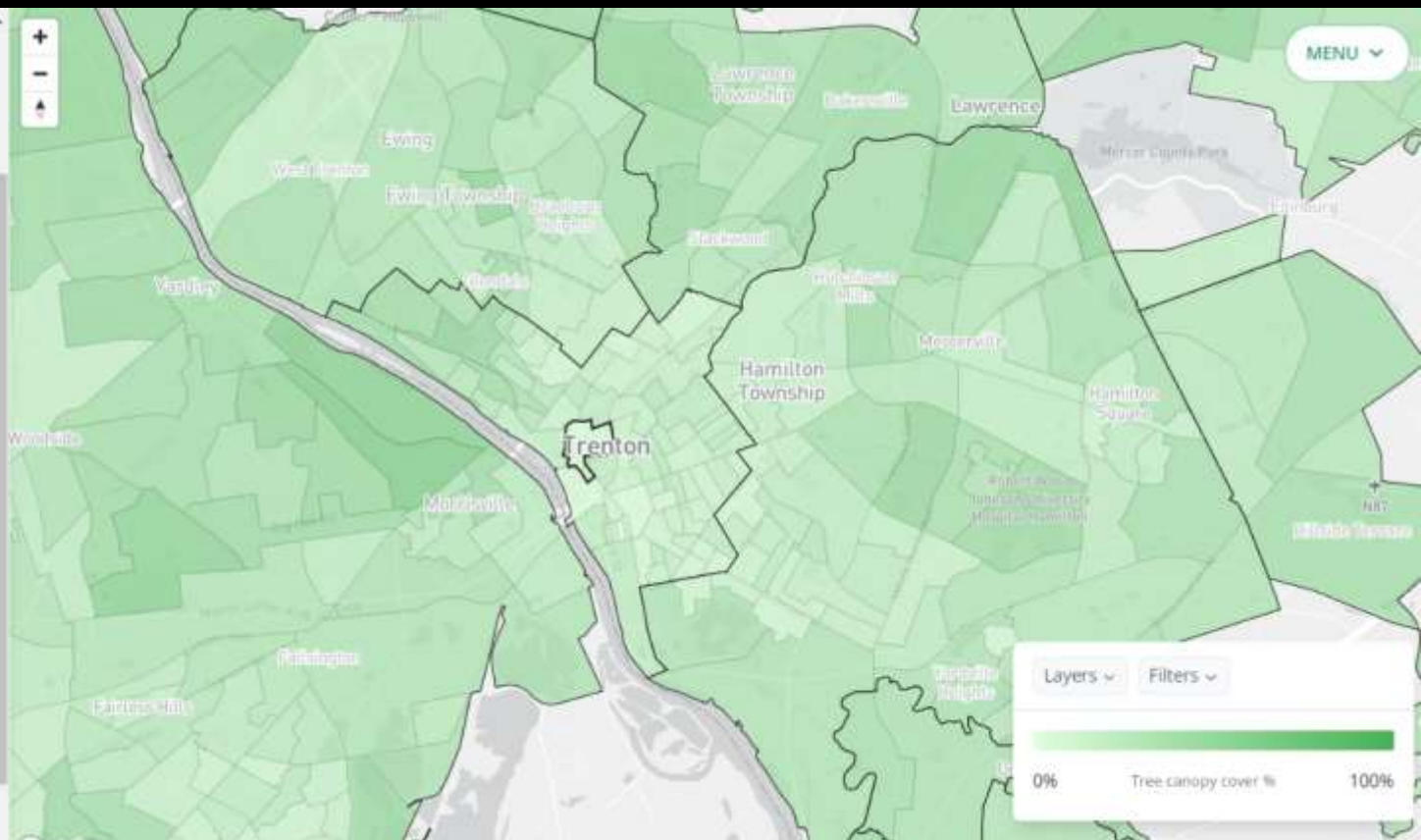
Priority index



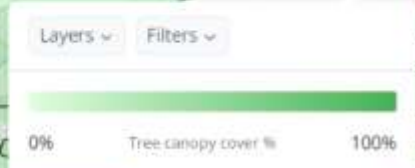
Canopy cover goal: 40%



Current canopy cover: 11%



MENU



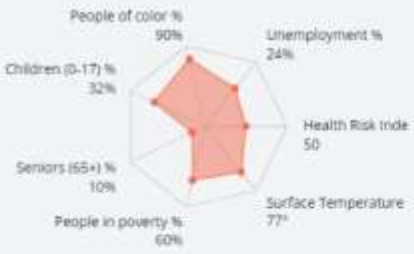
NJ Congressional District 12
Census Block Group 340210009002

49
Tree Equity Score

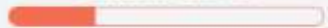
RANK
69th of 70 blockgroups in Trenton

Score indicators

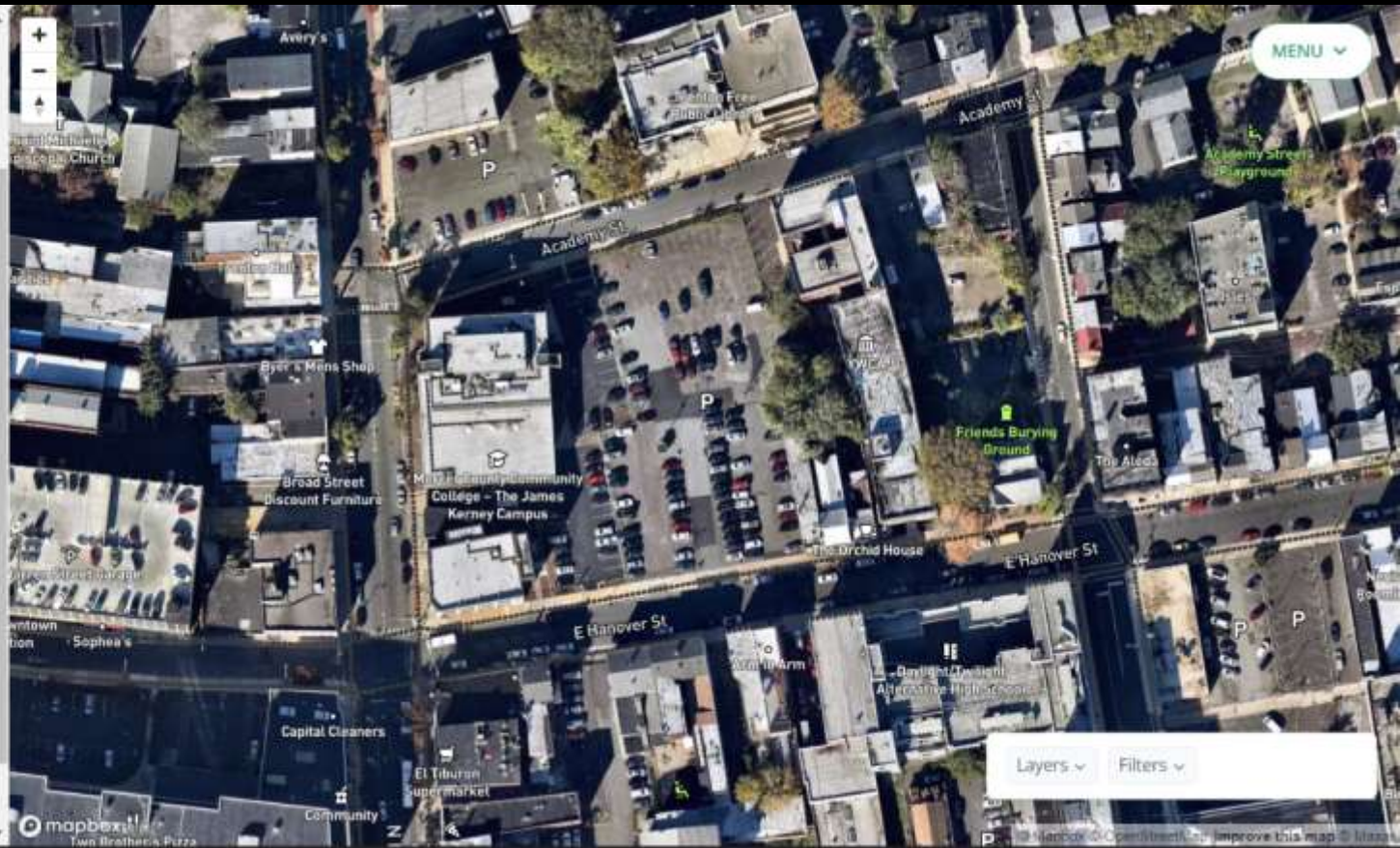
Priority Index



Canopy cover goal: 40%



Current canopy cover: 11%



MENU ▾

Layers ▾ Filters ▾



BEFORE

J. Watson





J. Watson

AFTER





BEFORE

J. Watson





AFTER

J. Watson





Forest plaza

Street trees











ET



ET





NEW JERSEY CONSERVATION BLUEPRINT

engage. protect. restore.

MAP

Protecting New Jersey's Land and Legacy.

In New Jersey, the most densely populated state in the U.S., it is critically important to protect our healthy soils for growing food and the natural lands that safeguard our drinking water, clean our air, sustain wildlife and provide places for people to enjoy the outdoors.

NJ Conservation Blueprint is a data-driven, interactive mapping tool made possible through a partnership of The Nature Conservancy, Rowan University, and the New Jersey Conservation Foundation, together with a collective of 21 conservation-focused groups, both governmental and non-profits.

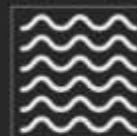
HD Smart



POWER USER



OPEN A MAP



WATER
QUALITY



COMMUNITY
OPEN SPACE



AGRICULTURE



ECOLOGICAL
INTEGRITY



CAMDEN
CONSERVATION
BLUEPRINT



Camden



Camden Parks

Preserved land in Camden [more...](#)

Parks with Amenities

Preserved Open Space

Opacity Flash

Number of People Living Near Each Park

Acres of Parkland Within Walking Distance of Homes

Distance To The Nearest Park From Homes

Boundary Layers ▶

Amenities Layers ▶

Animated Maps ▶

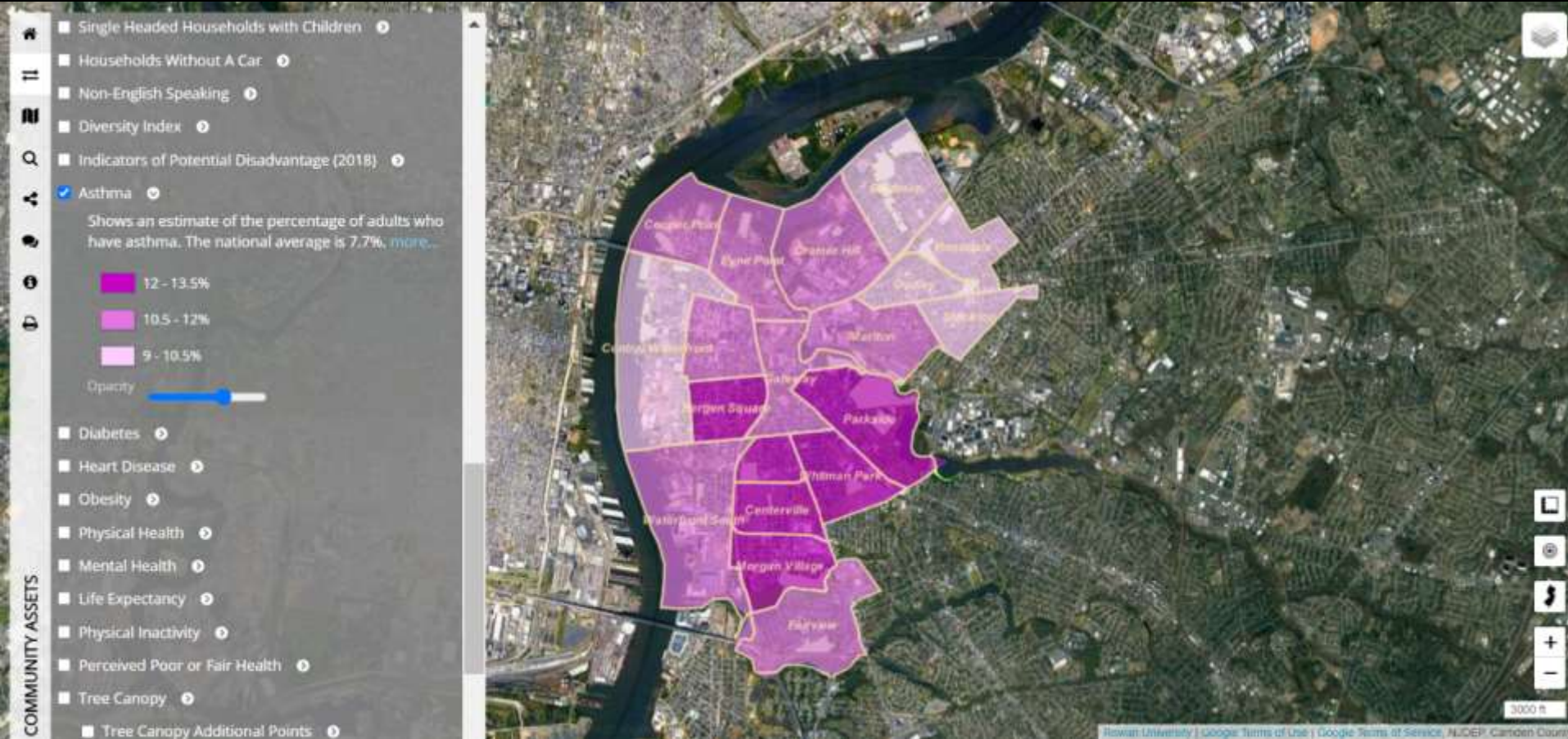
Reference Layers ▶

COMMUNITY ASSETS

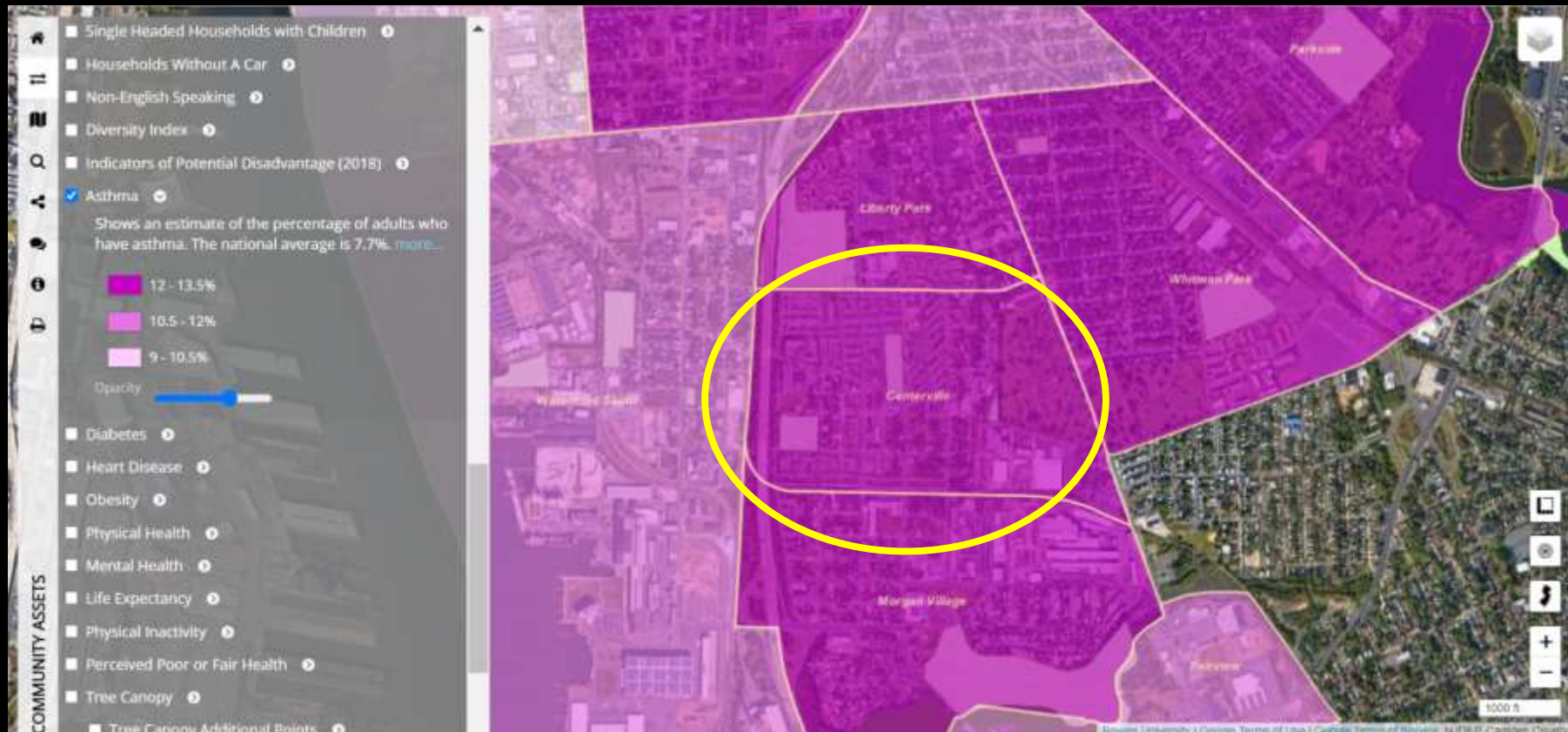


3000 ft

Asthma Rates Citywide



Zoomed in Centerville Asthma Rates



Zoomed in Centerville Tree Canopy



Tree planting opportunity ???



Maps

Figure 3: Potential Urban Heat Island Effect

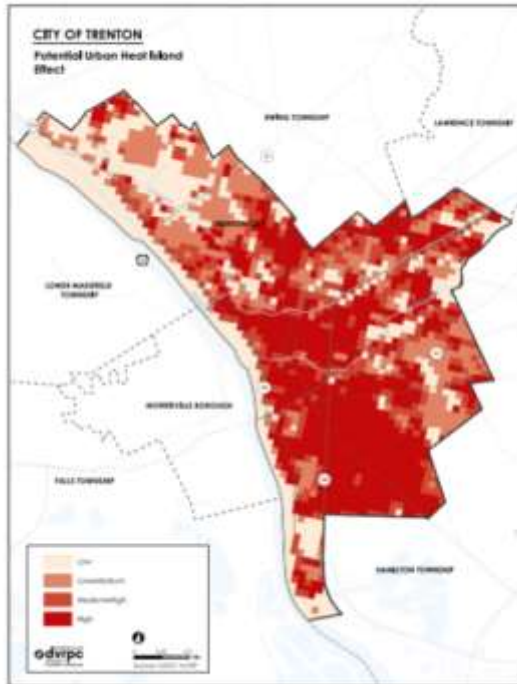


Figure 4: Asthma Prevalence

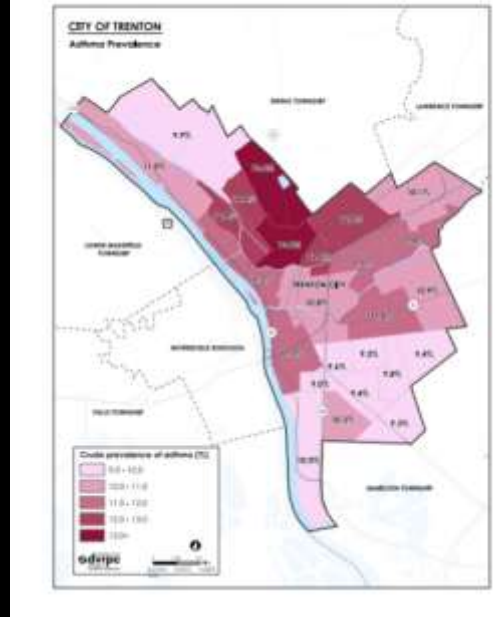


Figure 5: Tree Cover in Preserved Open Space and Along Trails



Ambassadors



Stewardship



Stewardship - Green Jobs!

02

Arboriculture Skills



02.A

Tree Career Pathways Unit

Training session

Arboriculture industry career pathway breakdown

🕒 3 hrs

resources

[Midlands Occupational Personality Types](#) [Midlands Occupational Personality Types Diagram](#)
[Berks/Occupational Personality Type](#) [Careers in arboriculture](#)

Introduction to arboriculture

🕒 2-4 hrs

resources

[Careers / What is an Arborist?](#) [Arborists' Certification Study Guide](#) [Introduction to Arboriculture Training Series](#)
[Arboriculture podcasts](#) [30 arboriculture resources](#)

Introduction to Registered Apprenticeship Programs

🕒 6-8 hrs

resources

[Arborist Apprenticeship overview](#)

Introduction to tree-care employers

🕒 8 hrs

Key points and teaching suggestions

- Explain the potential career paths in arboriculture
- Demonstrate how to be successful in the industry
- Provide greater context for urban forestry

- Discuss the history and principles of arboriculture
- Introduce pre-apprentices to the field of arboriculture
- Explain the importance of trees in forest ecosystems

- Explain the structure of local apprenticeship program[s] available
- Explain the process of applying and starting as an apprentice, and assist with applications as necessary
- Make introductions to program staff and current apprentices
- Visit program sites

- Make introductions to local employers, and outline career opportunities within companies
- Visit employer warehouses/offices





SUSTAINABILITY
SUMMIT



Thank You

Session slides will be available on sustainablejersey.com by 5/12.

Sustainable Jersey Underwriters and Sponsors

PROGRAM UNDERWRITERS



GRANTS PROGRAM



CORPORATE SPONSORS



*Digital Schools Sponsor

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

FREE ENERGY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR SCHOOLS AND MUNICIPALITIES IN ELIZABETHTOWN GAS, NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS, AND SOUTH JERSEY GAS SERVICE TERRITORIES

Free technical assistance to identify and apply for utility incentives and New Jersey's Clean Energy Program (NJCEP) incentives for energy efficiency audits and facility upgrades. This technical assistance is funded by Elizabethtown Gas, New Jersey Natural Gas, and South Jersey Gas.

For more information please visit: bit.ly/EnergyTAforMunisandSchools

2023 MUNICIPAL CERTIFICATION CYCLE

The next deadline to apply for certification is **May 12, 2023**. The final application deadline is **July 27, 2023**. View the full cycle timeline on the 2023 Certification Cycle page.

For more information please visit: bit.ly/MuniCertCycle

2023 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES GRANT PROGRAM

Atlantic City Electric and Sustainable Jersey are pleased to offer **\$50,000** to support municipal environmental stewardship and resiliency projects in Atlantic City Electric's service territory. Municipalities are encouraged to work with local organizations on applications, which are due **June 29, 2023**. An informational webinar will be held on **May 15, 2023 from 1:00pm - 2:00pm**.

For more information please visit:
<http://www.bit.ly/SustainableCommunitiesGrantProgram>

TRI-COUNTY SUSTAINABILITY GENERAL MEETINGS

This Sustainable Jersey Regional Hub will host virtual meetings on a variety of sustainability topics throughout the year. The next meeting is **May 31, 2023 from 7:00pm - 8:00pm**.

For more information please visit: <http://www.bit.ly/Tri-CountySustainability>

2023 SCHOOL CERTIFICATION CYCLE

The final deadline to apply for certification and Digital Schools Star Recognition is **June 15, 2023**. View the full cycle timeline on the 2023 Certification Cycle page.

For more information please visit: <http://www.bit.ly/SchoolsCertCycle>

TREES FOR SCHOOLS PROGRAM, TREE-PLANTING GRANTS FOR NJ PUBLIC SCHOOLS, COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

The Trees for Schools program will provide **\$2.5 million** in grants to New Jersey public school districts, county colleges and state colleges and universities to fund the planting of trees on campuses across New Jersey. Competitive grants of **\$10,000 to \$500,000** will fund costs associated with planning, site preparation, trees, planting, watering, monitoring and related expenses over a three-year period. Applications are due on **July 13, 2023**, for spring 2024 plantings. An informational webinar will be held on **May 18, 2023 from 3:00pm - 4:30pm**. The Trees for Schools program is a collaboration of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, The College of New Jersey and Sustainable Jersey.

For more information please visit: bit.ly/TreesforSchools

SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT

