



2024 SUSTAINABILITY
SUMMIT



Sustainable Jersey Boot Camp

May 3, 2024 | GS2

CEU SIGN IN



QR CODE INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Open the Camera app on your phone.
2. Hold your phone so that the QR code appears in view.
3. Tap the notification to open the link.
4. You **MUST** Sign in to receive CEU credits.

WIFI INFORMATION: 2 Open Networks

1. **sustainablenj**: Ballroom, GS3, Nonprofit Exhibit area
2. **Bell_Works_Conf_Center**: Bell Theatre & Conference

SUSTAINABILITY
SUMMIT



Sustainable Jersey Boot Camp

Friday, May 3, 2024

Speakers



Maureen Jones
Program Coordinator
Sustainable Jersey



JoAnna Contarino
Program Coordinator
Sustainable Jersey
for Schools



Kaitlyn Vollmer
Grants Program
Manager
Sustainable Jersey



Samantha A. McGraw
Senior Department
Administrator
Sustainable Jersey

Agenda

1. Audience Poll
2. Program Overview
3. Why Get Certified?
4. Municipal Certification
5. Schools Certification
6. Grants Program





Audience Poll: By a show of hands....

1. Are you affiliated with a municipality? A school? Or another organization?
2. Who is new to the program? Are any of you from a green team going through a revitalization?
3. How many of you have applied for a Sustainable Jersey grant in the past?
4. Is this anyone's first time attending the Sustainability Summit?



What is Sustainable Jersey?

A nonprofit organization that provides **tools, trainings and financial incentives** to support communities as they pursue sustainability programs.

\$7.9 million in grants to municipalities and schools through the Sustainable Jersey Grants Program for sustainability initiatives. Learn more:

sustainablejersey.com/grants and
sustainablejerseyschools.com/grants/

Actions

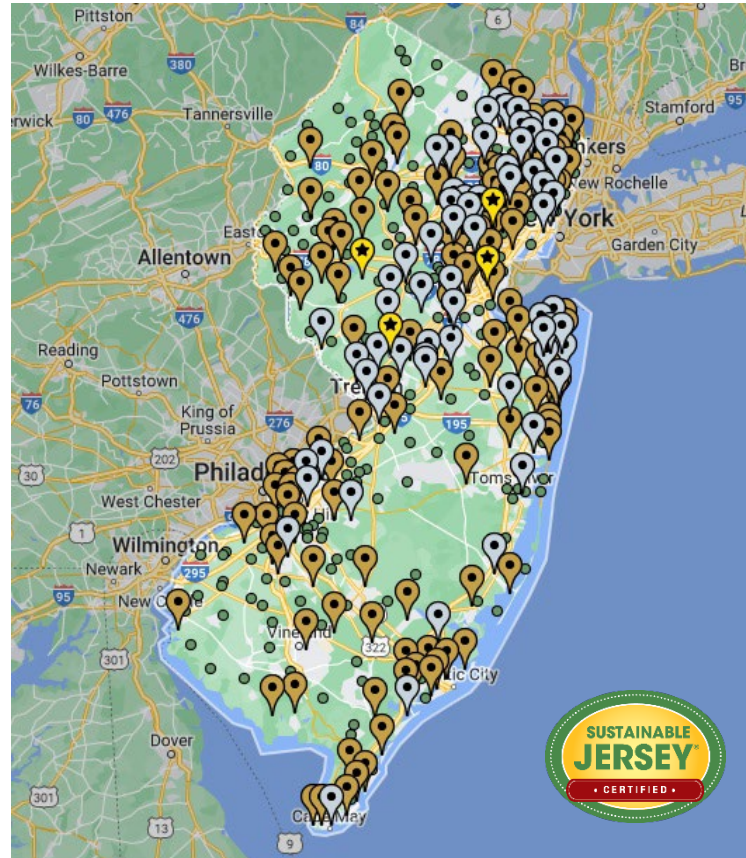
Tools,
resources,
guidance

Funding



Statistics

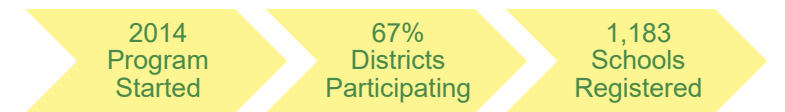
25,569
Actions
Implemented



Sustainable Jersey



Sustainable Jersey for Schools





Certification Benefits



Save money. Get money.



Get recognized.
Promote your town or school.



Gain access to tools, training
and expert guidance.



Conserve valuable
resources. Protect
the environment.



Prepare the next generation
with the tools they need to
save the planet.



Create healthier learning and
working environments.



Certification Requirements



- Total of at least 150 points
- Mandatory Green Team
- Implement 2 priority actions
- Actions completed in 6 categories



- Total of at least 350 points
- Mandatory Green Team
- Implement 3 priority actions
- Actions completed in 8 categories



2024 Certification Cycles

Municipal Certification

	First Round	Second Round	Third Round
Submission Deadline	February 25	May 10	July 31
Return Date	Early April	Mid June	Late September

School Certification

	First Round	Second Round	Third Round
Submission Deadline	January 12	March 22	June 13
Return Date	Late February	Early May	Late August

SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT



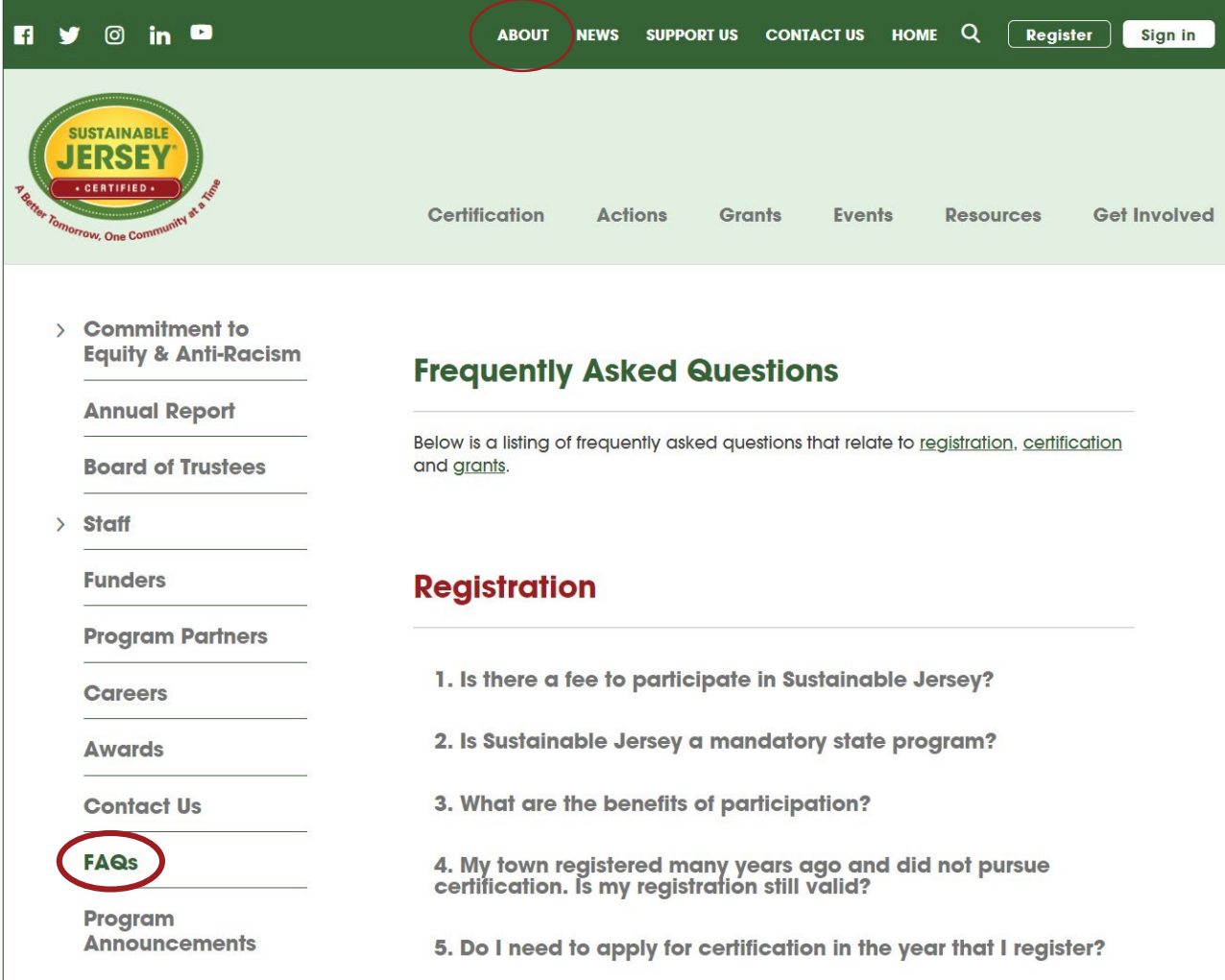
Getting Started with Municipal Certification



Getting Started - FAQs

FAQs page provides answers to many frequently asked questions about registration, certification, and the grants program.

sustainablejersey.com/about/faqs



The screenshot shows the Sustainable Jersey website's navigation and content. The top navigation bar is dark green with white text for 'ABOUT', 'NEWS', 'SUPPORT US', 'CONTACT US', and 'HOME'. A search icon and 'Register' and 'Sign in' buttons are also present. The 'ABOUT' link is circled in red. Below the navigation bar is a light green banner with the Sustainable Jersey logo and the tagline 'A Better Tomorrow, One Community at a Time'. The logo features the text 'SUSTAINABLE JERSEY' and 'CERTIFIED'. Below the banner is a horizontal menu with links for 'Certification', 'Actions', 'Grants', 'Events', 'Resources', and 'Get Involved'. On the left side, there is a vertical list of navigation links: 'Commitment to Equity & Anti-Racism', 'Annual Report', 'Board of Trustees', 'Staff', 'Fundors', 'Program Partners', 'Careers', 'Awards', 'Contact Us', 'FAQs' (circled in red), and 'Program Announcements'. The main content area on the right has a heading 'Frequently Asked Questions' and a sub-heading 'Registration'. Below the 'Frequently Asked Questions' heading is a paragraph: 'Below is a listing of frequently asked questions that relate to [registration](#), [certification](#) and [grants](#).' Below the 'Registration' heading is a list of five questions:

1. Is there a fee to participate in Sustainable Jersey?
2. Is Sustainable Jersey a mandatory state program?
3. What are the benefits of participation?
4. My town registered many years ago and did not pursue certification. Is my registration still valid?
5. Do I need to apply for certification in the year that I register?

Registration

1. To join Sustainable Jersey, the municipal governing body will need to pass a resolution to participate.
2. Designated representative signs up for an account & submits registration.
3. Once registration is approved, access given to Municipal Dashboard & certification application.
4. Registration never expires.

sustainablejersey.com/certification/registration-overview/

The screenshot shows the Sustainable Jersey website. At the top, there is a dark green navigation bar with social media icons (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube) on the left and links for ABOUT, NEWS, SUPPORT US, CONTACT US, HOME, and a search icon. The 'Register' button is circled in red. Below the navigation bar is a light green header section containing the Sustainable Jersey logo (a green circle with 'SUSTAINABLE JERSEY' and 'CERTIFIED' text, and the tagline 'A Better Tomorrow, One Community at a Time') and a horizontal menu with links for Certification, Actions, Grants, Events, Resources, and Get Involved.

The main content area is white. On the left is a sidebar menu with the following items: Municipal Dashboard, Certification Overview (with a right-pointing chevron), Why Get Certified?, 2023 Certification Cycle, Search Participating Municipalities & Approved Actions, Registration Overview (circled in red), Register a Municipality (with a right-pointing chevron), Annual Awards (with a right-pointing chevron), Resources, and FAQs.

The main content area features a section titled 'Registration Overview' with a sub-heading 'Participation in Sustainable Jersey is FREE and voluntary'. The text states: 'Sustainable Jersey is a nonprofit organization and participation in the program is **not mandated by the state of New Jersey**. To become a Sustainable Jersey Certified municipality, the municipality must first be registered with the program. Registering does not commit a municipality to attain certification. **Only municipalities or organizations formally designated to represent the municipality may register.**'

Below this is a sub-heading 'Pass a Resolution to Participate' with text: 'In order for a municipality to join the Sustainable Jersey program the municipality will need to pass a resolution stating its intent to seek Sustainable Jersey certification and designate an entity to be in charge of the process. Please note this resolution is **not the same as the Green Team resolution required for certification.**'

There are two green buttons: 'Sample Registration Resolution' and 'Sign-In or Sign Up'. The 'Sign-In or Sign Up' button is circled in red.

At the bottom, there is another sub-heading 'Register a Municipality Online' with text: 'Once signed into your account, fill out the registration fields in the online registration form by providing municipal contact information and uploading a copy of the resolution to participate.' A green button labeled 'Sample Registration Resolution' is circled in red at the bottom of the page.

Establish your Green Team

- Leads and coordinates the sustainability activities of the community
- Develops plans, implements programs, and assists with educational opportunities that support the creation of a sustainable community
- Diverse group of members encouraged



Green Team Cont'd.

- Aspire to create a team representing the demographics of the town
- Can be part of an existing group, like an Environmental Commission

Learn more about green teams:

sustainablejersey.com/resources/green-team-resources/what-is-a-green-team/



Certification Timeline



- Three rounds of submission & review.
- Recommended to submit in first and/or second rounds to gain feedback on application prior to final deadline.
- Certified municipalities recognized at Sustainable Jersey Annual Luncheon at NJLM Conference in November.

	FIRST ROUND	SECOND ROUND	THIRD ROUND
Submission Deadline	Feb. 25	May 10	July 31
Return Date	Early-April	Mid-June	Late-Sep.

<https://www.sustainablejersey.com/certification/2024-certification-cycle/>

Actions

1. Review menu of actions on website or in the Master Action Tracking Spreadsheet.
2. Check Program Updates page for new & updated actions.
3. Talk with green team members to identify interests and assign actions to work on.

sustainablejersey.com/actions



Certification

Actions

Grants & Technical Assistance

Events

Resources

Get Involved

Municipal Dashboard

> Action Development

Priority & Prerequisite Actions

2024 Certification Cycle

> Gold Star Standards

Program Updates

Search Participating Municipalities & Approved Actions

Resources

Download Master Action Tracking Spreadsheet

Download Sustainable Jersey Brochure

Tour the Sustainable Jersey Website

Actions

Sustainable Jersey actions are designed with flexibility to meet the varying needs of all municipalities. Actions are organized within action categories. Each action description below outlines steps for completion, certification points, resources, and municipal spotlights. Review the requirements to earn Bronze or Silver certification [here](#). Many actions have variable points, which means there are several ways to complete the action based on the work done. Access your municipality's application for certification through the [Municipal Dashboard](#).

Important Note: Due to changes in Chrome, some documents in Sustainable Jersey actions may not download after clicking on the link. The documents can still be downloaded in Chrome by **right clicking** on the link and selecting to **open it in a new tab or window**.

Search Actions

Type in a word(s) to identify all actions with that word(s) in the title

Mandatory

Priority

Search Actions

Clear Search

↑ BACK TO TOP

EXPAND ALL

COLLAPSE ALL

Arts & Creative Culture

Brownfields

Community Partnership & Outreach

Diversity & Equity

Actions

4. Review action description for helpful guidance.

5. Meet with municipal representatives to determine what actions may already be complete.

sustainablejersey.com/actions

Community Education & Outreach

5 Points 10 Points 15 Points 20 Points

Print Get PDF

Updated January 2020

Community education and outreach is an essential element of any effort to make change. It provides community members with an understanding of sustainability as it relates to their everyday lives by giving them an understanding of how the choices they make can lead to a more sustainable future for themselves and their communities. This action promotes sustainability literacy and builds awareness, understanding, and action by educating municipal staff, residents, business and non-profit sectors of the community about the need for sustainable choices and behaviors. In addition to promoting action outside of local government, it can build support within the community for local government through various community education and outreach activities. Partners offer opportunities for stakeholders to learn and to implement sustainable practices.

The quality can earn up to 20 points for participation to its community that incorporates workshops, lectures, newsletters, social media campaigns, and other strategies outlined in the "What to do" section of this action. Initiatives that focus on current municipal services or programs related to topics covered under other Sustainable Jersey actions will not count for this action. See the "What to do" section for more details.

Why is it important?

Achieving sustainability requires contributions from local, state, national, and international entities as well as individuals. The collective impact of individual action will significantly change the world around us, and communities are key leaders for engaging those individual actors. Community education and outreach is the logical first step in creating a shared understanding of the importance of sustainability and how each member of the community can help achieve it.

Why is it important?
Who should lead and be involved with this action?
Timeframe
Project costs and resource needs
What to do, and how to do it ("How to")
What to submit to earn points for this action
Resubmission Requirements
Approved Action Expiration Date
Spotlight: What NJ municipalities are doing
Resources

Important: Review action sections before starting work

Green Team Resources

1. What is a Green Team?
 - a. Information about forming your green team & sample docs.

2. Working on Certification
 - a. Master Action Tracking Spreadsheet
 - b. Application User Guide
 - c. Certification-specific webinar recordings & presentations
 - d. **Crossing the Finish Line Webinar** – identifies low-hanging fruit actions to consider including in your application.

sustainablejersey.com/resources/green-team-resources/working-on-certification/

The screenshot shows the Sustainable Jersey website's navigation and content. The top navigation bar includes 'Certification', 'Actions', 'Grants', 'Events', 'Resources' (circled in red), and 'Get Involved'. The left sidebar menu has 'Green Team Resources' highlighted with a red box. The main content area is titled 'Green Team Resources' and features four resource cards: 'Creating a Green Team', 'Green Team 2.0', 'Working on Certification', and 'Green Team Promotion'. Each card includes a brief description and a 'Read More' button.

Sustainable Jersey
A Better Tomorrow. One Community at a Time

Certification Actions Grants Events **Resources** Get Involved

> Data Center

> Publications

✓ **Green Team Resources**

- What is a Green Team?
- Working on Certification
- Green Team 2.0
- Promoting Your Green Team

> Presentations

> Funding Database

New Jersey Community Solar Project Finder

Green Team Resources

Creating a Green Team

Learn what you need to know when establishing a green team.

[Read More](#)

Green Team 2.0

Learn how you can take your established green team to the next level.

[Read More](#)

Working on Certification

View resources to help green teams achieve certification.

[Read More](#)

Green Team Promotion

Read helpful tips on how to promote the work of your team.

[Read More](#)

Webinar Recordings

- Webinars on different action topics available to view at your convenience.
- Presentations from other conferences available as well under the general Presentations page.

sustainablejersey.com/resources/presentations/webinars/

The screenshot shows the Sustainable Jersey website. At the top left is the logo with the text "SUSTAINABLE JERSEY CERTIFIED" and the tagline "A Better Tomorrow, One Community at a Time". The navigation menu includes "Certification", "Actions", "Grants", "Events", "Resources" (circled in red), and "Get Involved". A sidebar on the left lists categories: "Data Center", "Publications", "Green Team Resources", "Presentations" (highlighted with a red box), and "Funding Database". Under "Presentations" are links for "Sustainability Summit", "NJLM Conference", "Trainings", and "Webinars". Below the sidebar is a "New Jersey Community Solar Project Finder" section. The main content area is titled "Webinar Recordings & Presentations" and contains a paragraph explaining the purpose of the recordings. Below this is a "Category Navigation" section with two columns of links: "Arts & Culture", "Brownfields", "Certification & Recertification", "Community Partnership & Outreach", "Emergency Management & Resiliency", "Energy", "Grants Program", "Green Design", "Health & Wellness", "Land Use & Transportation", "Local Economies", "Natural Resources", "Public Information & Engagement", and "Waste Management". A section titled "Arts & Culture" features a "New Resources for Arts & Creative Culture Actions Webinar" for December 2021, with links to "View Recording" and "Download Presentation". Below that is another webinar for May 2020, "Creating Creative Communities", also with links to "View Recording" and "Download Presentation". At the bottom, there is a link to "The Art of Sustainability - Creative Placemaking and Your Community".

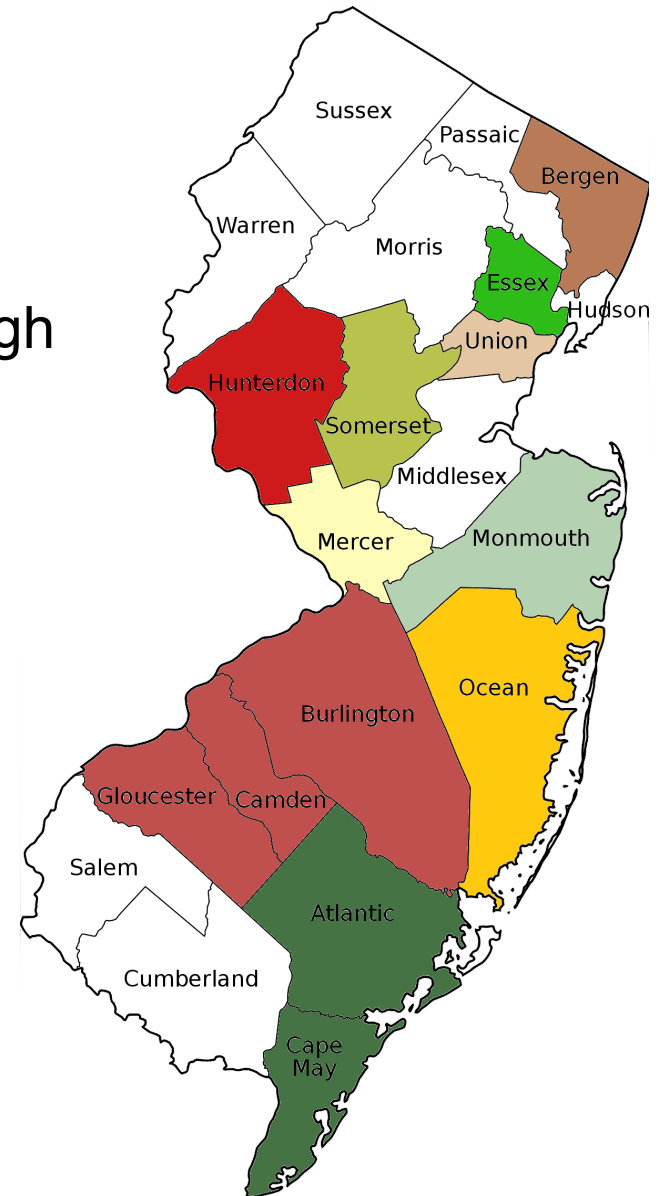


Regional Hubs

Ten hubs around the state to help green teams build capacity through training, best practices resources and networking. Learn more sustainablejersey.com/get-involved/

Benefits

- Peer mentoring
- Project collaboration
- Online communication platform
- Network of Leaders
- Quarterly Events
- Help Peers Get Certified
- Technical assistance & administrative support from SJ





Participants Map Search

Use the [Participating Municipalities & Approved Actions](https://sustainablejersey.com/certification/search-participating-municipalities-approved-actions) (*sustainablejersey.com/certification/search-participating-municipalities-approved-actions*) page to find examples of documentation from certified towns and connect with municipal green teams

Search by action

By Certified Action

Arts & Creative Culture

- Establish a Creative Team
- Creative Assets Inventory
- Creative Placemaking Plan
- Municipal Commitments to Support Arts and Creative Culture
- Utilizing Your Creative Assets

View certified towns approved for that action

MUNICIPALITY	COUNTY	CERTIFICATION
Asbury Park City	Monmouth	SILVER
Atlantic Highlands Boro	Monmouth	BRONZE
Belleville Twp	Essex	BRONZE
Bogota Boro	Bergen	BRONZE
Bordentown City	Burlington	SILVER
Bradley Beach Boro	Monmouth	BRONZE
Brigantine City	Atlantic	BRONZE
Cape May City	Cape May	SILVER
Chatham Boro	Morris	SILVER

View certification report for example documentation

Bordentown City
Certification Level: Silver
Certified On: October 28, 2022
Total Points: 615
Certification Report: [View Report](#)
Applicant Profile: [View Profile](#)

SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT



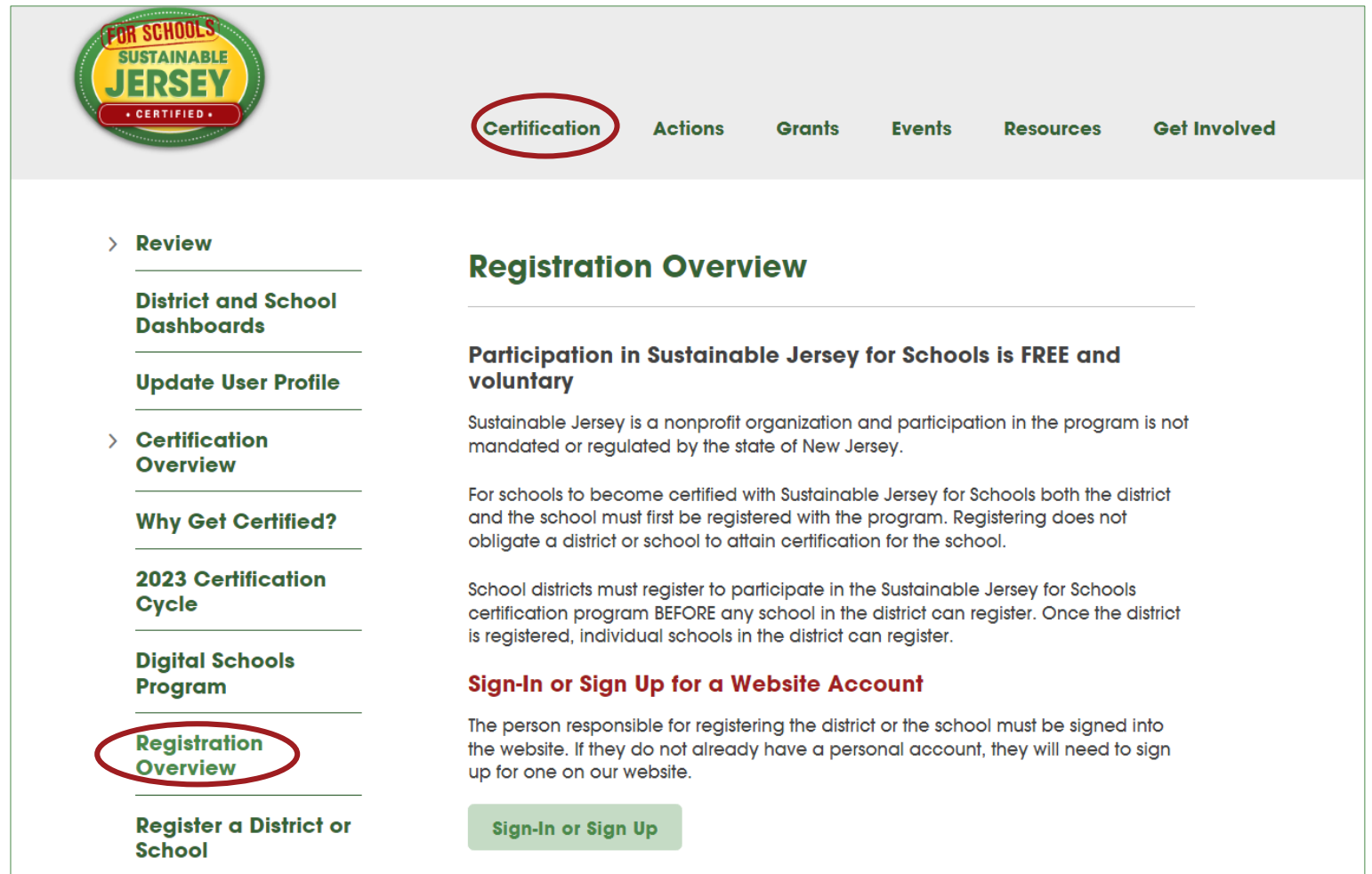
Getting Started with School Certification



Getting Started

Registration

- Districts
 - Board Resolution
- Schools
 - Participation letter

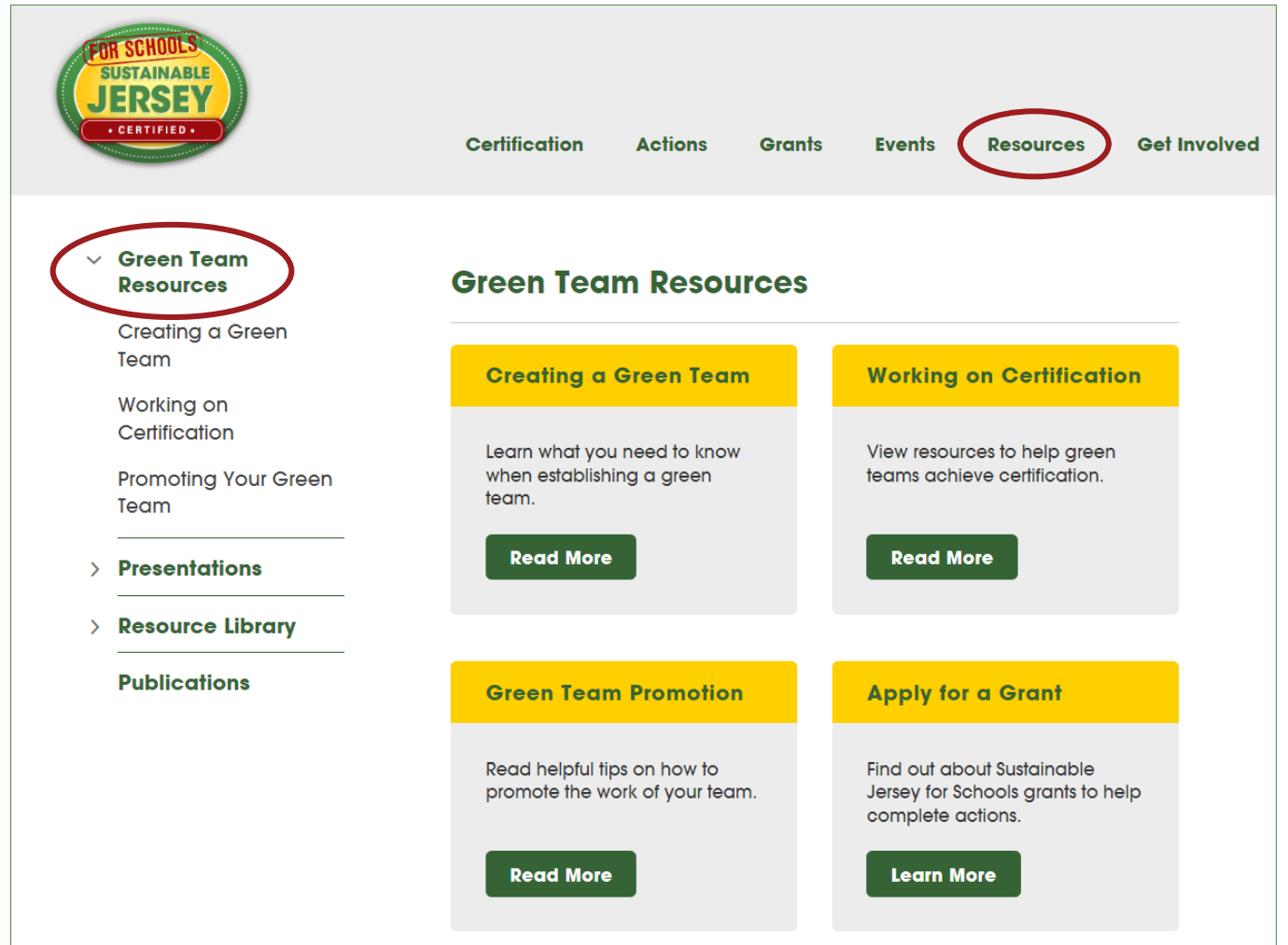


The screenshot shows the website for Sustainable Jersey for Schools. At the top left is the logo, which is a green and yellow circular emblem with the text 'FOR SCHOOLS SUSTAINABLE JERSEY CERTIFIED'. To the right of the logo is a navigation menu with the following items: 'Certification' (circled in red), 'Actions', 'Grants', 'Events', 'Resources', and 'Get Involved'. Below the navigation menu is a sidebar with a list of links: '> Review', 'District and School Dashboards', 'Update User Profile', '> Certification Overview' (circled in red), 'Why Get Certified?', '2023 Certification Cycle', 'Digital Schools Program', 'Registration Overview' (circled in red), and 'Register a District or School'. The main content area on the right is titled 'Registration Overview' and contains the following text: 'Participation in Sustainable Jersey for Schools is FREE and voluntary', 'Sustainable Jersey is a nonprofit organization and participation in the program is not mandated or regulated by the state of New Jersey.', 'For schools to become certified with Sustainable Jersey for Schools both the district and the school must first be registered with the program. Registering does not obligate a district or school to attain certification for the school.', 'School districts must register to participate in the Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification program BEFORE any school in the district can register. Once the district is registered, individual schools in the district can register.', and 'Sign-In or Sign Up for a Website Account'. At the bottom of the main content area is a green button labeled 'Sign-In or Sign Up'.

Getting Started

Forming a Green Team

- District vs School
- Diverse green team members from different parts of the school
- Can be an existing school committee such as a wellness committee

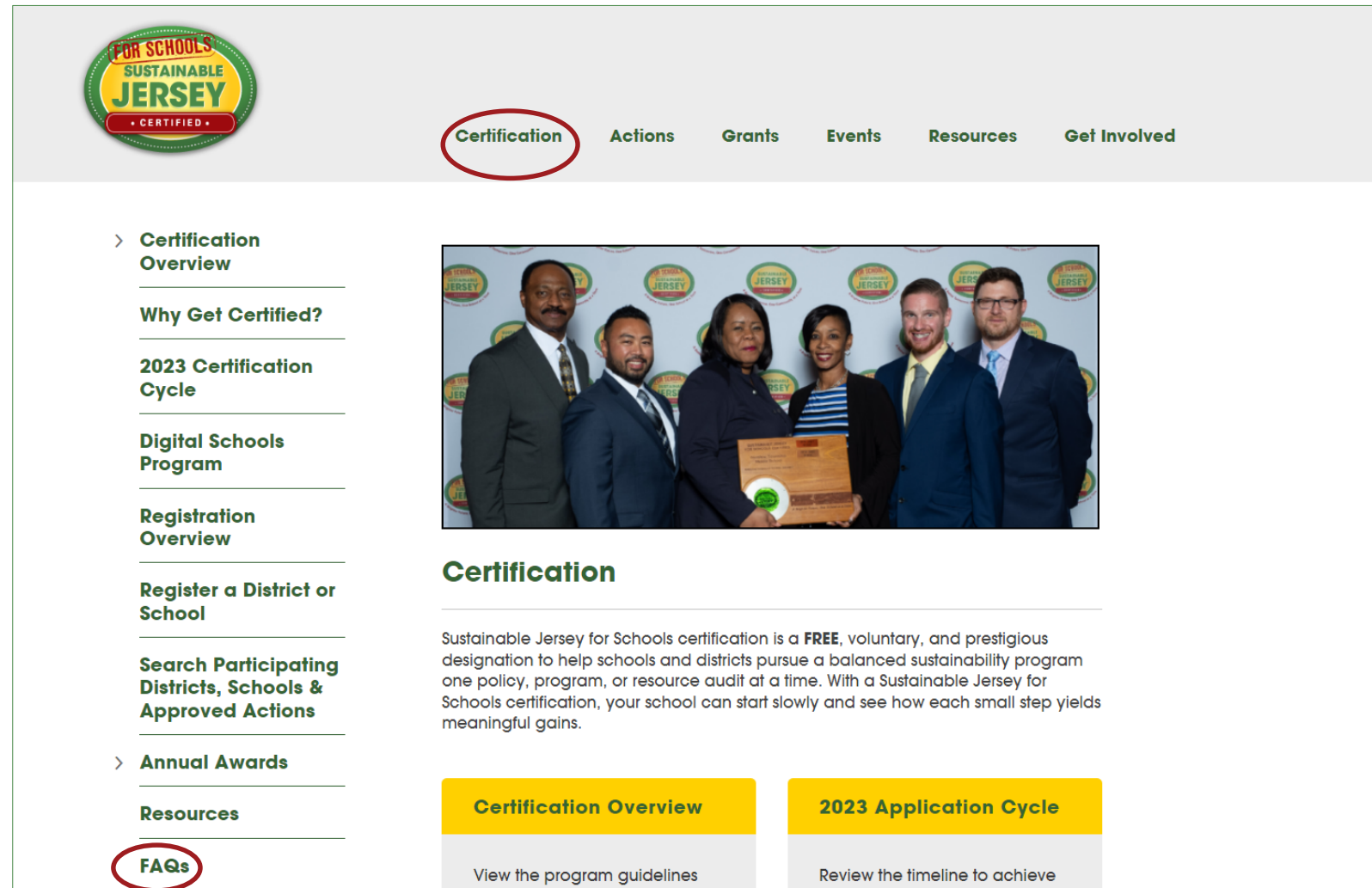


The screenshot displays the Sustainable Jersey for Schools website. At the top left is the logo for 'FOR SCHOOLS SUSTAINABLE JERSEY CERTIFIED'. The navigation menu includes 'Certification', 'Actions', 'Grants', 'Events', 'Resources' (circled in red), and 'Get Involved'. On the left sidebar, 'Green Team Resources' is also circled in red and expanded to show a list of links: 'Creating a Green Team', 'Working on Certification', 'Promoting Your Green Team', 'Presentations', 'Resource Library', and 'Publications'. The main content area is titled 'Green Team Resources' and features four yellow header cards with 'Read More' or 'Learn More' buttons. The cards are: 'Creating a Green Team' (Learn what you need to know when establishing a green team), 'Working on Certification' (View resources to help green teams achieve certification), 'Green Team Promotion' (Read helpful tips on how to promote the work of your team), and 'Apply for a Grant' (Find out about Sustainable Jersey for Schools grants to help complete actions).

Resources

FAQs

- Navigate to the FAQ page from the certification menu.



The screenshot displays the Sustainable Jersey for Schools website. At the top left is the logo, which is a green circle with a yellow center containing the text "FOR SCHOOLS SUSTAINABLE JERSEY" and "CERTIFIED" below it. The navigation menu includes "Certification" (circled in red), "Actions", "Grants", "Events", "Resources", and "Get Involved". A sidebar on the left lists various links: "Certification Overview", "Why Get Certified?", "2023 Certification Cycle", "Digital Schools Program", "Registration Overview", "Register a District or School", "Search Participating Districts, Schools & Approved Actions", "Annual Awards", "Resources", and "FAQs" (circled in red). The main content area features a photo of six people in professional attire, with a woman in the center holding a wooden plaque. Below the photo is the heading "Certification" and a paragraph explaining that the certification is a free, voluntary, and prestigious designation. At the bottom, there are two yellow buttons: "Certification Overview" (with a link to "View the program guidelines") and "2023 Application Cycle" (with a link to "Review the timeline to achieve").

Resources

Certification Timeline

- Two review deadlines, followed by a final deadline.
- Follows a similar timeline each year.

2024 Certification Application Cycle

Sustainable Jersey for Schools operates on a once a year application cycle, with three submission dates. See the chart below for details on the structure and timing of the application cycle. To maximize the potential for feedback and ultimately achieve certification, it is highly recommended to submit an application with documentation for at least two rounds of review. Applicants who wait until the final deadline to submit an initial application will have to wait until the next year's certification cycle to address any issues identified during the review process.

Request a help session with our staff to make progress on your certification application. Someone from our staff will reach out to finalize a time for a Zoom meeting or phone call.

[Request a Help Session](#)

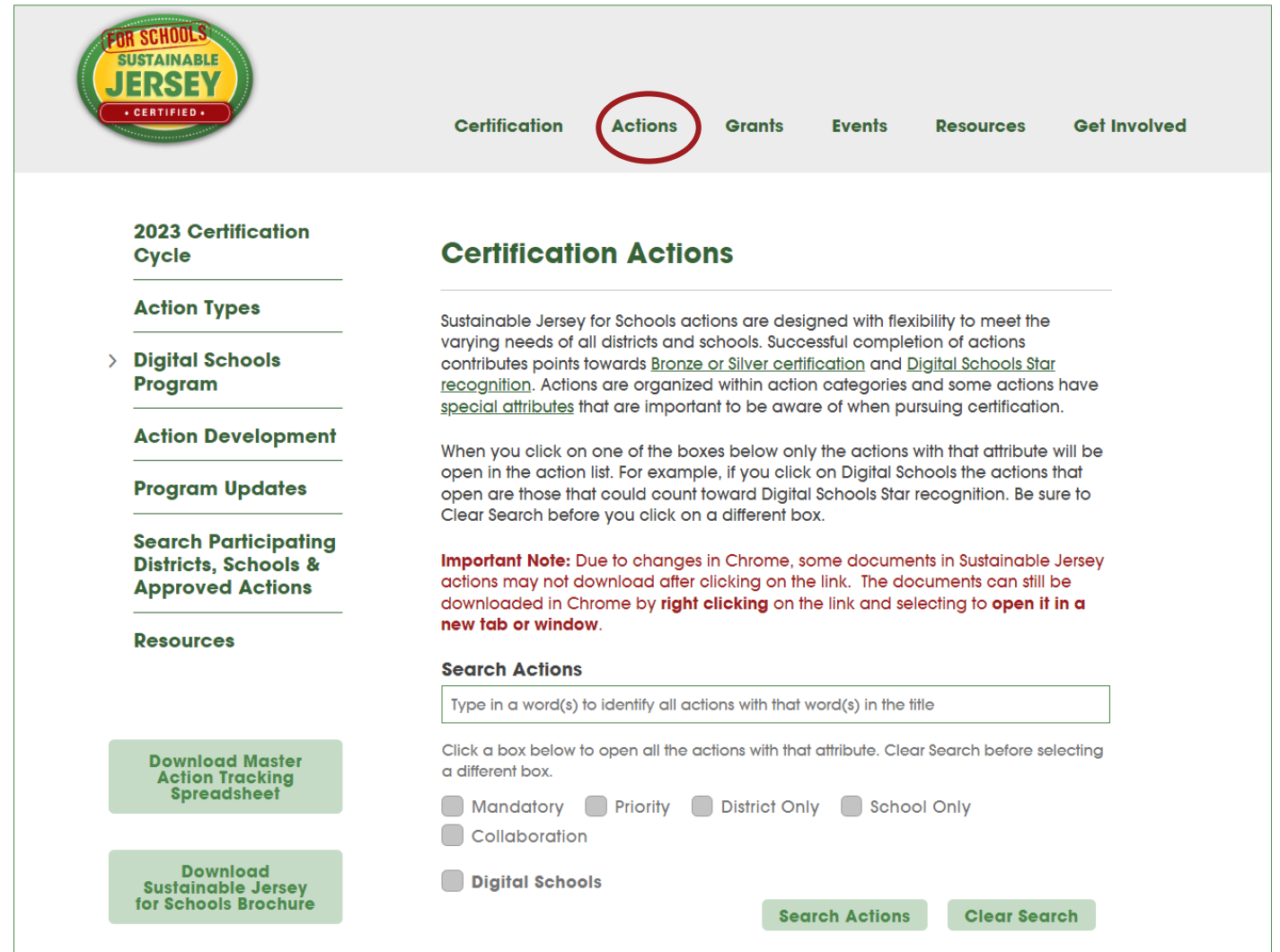
Timeline

	FIRST ROUND	SECOND ROUND	THIRD ROUND
Submission Deadline	January 12	March 22	June 13
Return Date	Late February	Early May	Late August

Actions

Actions

- The only mandatory action is the Green Team.
- District Only vs School Only.
- Digital schools actions.



The screenshot shows the Sustainable Jersey for Schools website. At the top left is the logo, which is a green circle with a yellow border containing the text "FOR SCHOOLS SUSTAINABLE JERSEY CERTIFIED". To the right of the logo is a navigation menu with the following items: "Certification", "Actions" (circled in red), "Grants", "Events", "Resources", and "Get Involved".

Below the navigation menu, the page is divided into two main sections. On the left is a sidebar with the following links: "2023 Certification Cycle", "Action Types", "Digital Schools Program" (with a right-pointing chevron), "Action Development", "Program Updates", "Search Participating Districts, Schools & Approved Actions", and "Resources". At the bottom of the sidebar are two green buttons: "Download Master Action Tracking Spreadsheet" and "Download Sustainable Jersey for Schools Brochure".

The main content area on the right is titled "Certification Actions". It contains the following text: "Sustainable Jersey for Schools actions are designed with flexibility to meet the varying needs of all districts and schools. Successful completion of actions contributes points towards [Bronze or Silver certification](#) and [Digital Schools Star recognition](#). Actions are organized within action categories and some actions have [special attributes](#) that are important to be aware of when pursuing certification."

Below this text is another paragraph: "When you click on one of the boxes below only the actions with that attribute will be open in the action list. For example, if you click on Digital Schools the actions that open are those that could count toward Digital Schools Star recognition. Be sure to Clear Search before you click on a different box."

Next is an "Important Note" in red text: "Due to changes in Chrome, some documents in Sustainable Jersey actions may not download after clicking on the link. The documents can still be downloaded in Chrome by **right clicking** on the link and selecting to **open it in a new tab or window**."



Below the note is a "Search Actions" section. It features a text input field with the placeholder text "Type in a word(s) to identify all actions with that word(s) in the title". Below the input field is a paragraph: "Click a box below to open all the actions with that attribute. Clear Search before selecting a different box." This is followed by several radio button options: "Mandatory", "Priority", "District Only", "School Only", "Collaboration", and "Digital Schools". At the bottom right of the search section are two green buttons: "Search Actions" and "Clear Search".



Actions

Actions

- What to look for:
 - Look-back period
 - What to do and how to do it
 - What to submit to earn points for this action
 - Resources

District Sustainability Policy

10 Points  Priority  District



 Print  Get PDF

<u>Why is it important?</u>	An important role of every school board is to set policy that governs the actions of the district. Policies, some of which are mandated by law, cover a broad range of topics. Policies developed by the district that are not state-mandated generally reflect district interests and standards. Adopting a policy on sustainability would convey a commitment on the part of the school district and the community towards sustainability.
<u>Who should lead and be involved with this action?</u>	
<u>Timeframe</u>	
<u>Project costs and resource needs</u>	Sustainability is defined as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It considers the interrelationship of economic, social, and environmental factors that protect and enhance present and future quality of life.
<u>What to do, and how to do it ("How to")</u>	The sustainability policy should include a definition of sustainability, indicate the district's desire to conduct its operations, and make decisions and conduct operations with identified sustainability priorities that include at a minimum: protecting students, staff and community from environmental harm; preparing student for the future by educating for sustainability (knowledge of concepts and practices of environmental, social, and economic responsibility and sustainability); and include an intent to preserve current and future
<u>What to submit to earn points for this action</u>	
<u>Spotlight: What New Jersey</u>	

Application

School Application

- District Only actions and actions claimed by the District will show up grey in school applications.

- District Only 
- School Only 

School District Foundation


10 Points STATUS: APPROVED

• EXPIRES ON 08/31/24 • LAST UPDATED 04/25/23 • THIS SUBMISSION IS CURRENTLY LOCKED

Climate Mitigation & Renewable Energy ^

School Carbon Footprint

10 Points STATUS: UNPLANNED

 Priority

Resources

User Guide & Tracking Spreadsheet

- Navigate to the Resources menu, Green Team Resources, and then Working on Certification

Quick Start Resources

Application User Guide

This document provides step-by-step guidance on all aspects of the District Dashboard, School Dashboard and online certification application including using the online application, updating the District or School profile, and adding users to the account.

[Download Application User Guide](#)

Master Action Tracking Spreadsheet

This spreadsheet provides an inventory of program actions, abbreviated submission requirements, look back and approval periods, resubmission requirements, and point values. It is a great tool to help a green team identify which actions should be completed by the district or the school. The spreadsheet can also be used to assess which actions the school or district may already be doing and plan for new actions it hopes to pursue. It can also be used to track progress in completing actions and compiling the required documentation.

[Download the MATS](#)

Resources

Resource Library

- Navigate to Resources and then Resource Library

Resource Library

Sustainable Jersey for Schools endeavors to connect schools, community partners, volunteers and green team members with resources that can help them identify strategies and implement initiatives towards greater sustainability.

Remote Learning & Operations

Resources to help staff, students, and families with learning and providing services remotely.

[View Resources](#)

Climate Change Curriculum

Curricula resources from national organizations, universities and schools to support preK-12 education about climate change.

[View Resources](#)

Professional Development

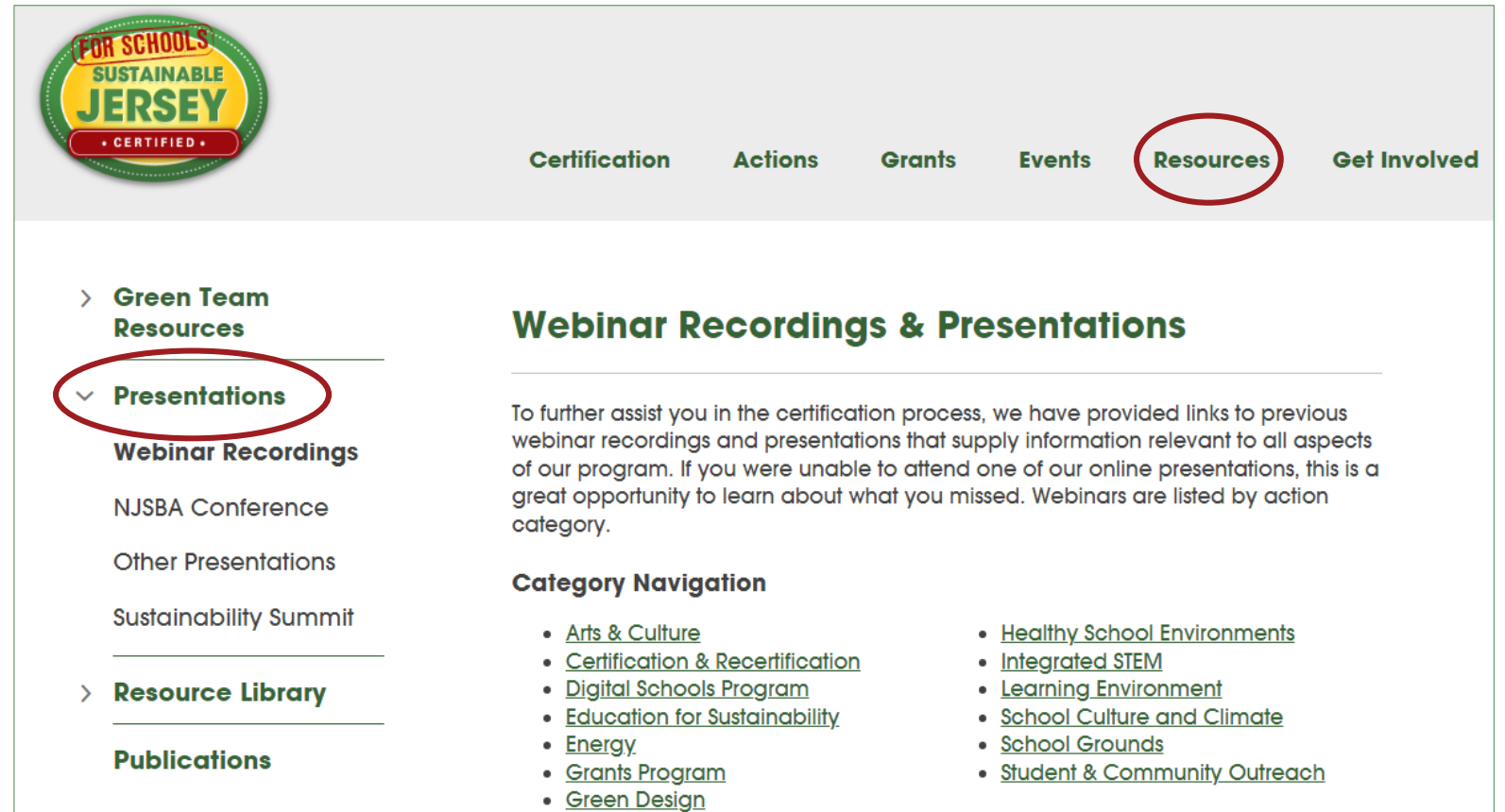
Resources for virtual training to enhance knowledge on a broad range of sustainability topics from equity to indoor air quality.

[View Resources](#)

Resources

Webinar Recordings

- Navigate to the Resources menu, Presentations, Webinar Recordings



The screenshot shows the 'Resources' page of the Sustainable Jersey website. At the top left is the 'FOR SCHOOLS SUSTAINABLE JERSEY CERTIFIED' logo. The navigation menu includes 'Certification', 'Actions', 'Grants', 'Events', 'Resources' (circled in red), and 'Get Involved'. The left sidebar has a 'Presentations' menu item (circled in red) with sub-items: 'Webinar Recordings', 'NJSBA Conference', 'Other Presentations', and 'Sustainability Summit'. Below this is a 'Resource Library' section with a 'Publications' sub-section. The main content area is titled 'Webinar Recordings & Presentations' and contains a paragraph explaining the purpose of the recordings and a 'Category Navigation' section with two columns of links.

FOR SCHOOLS SUSTAINABLE JERSEY CERTIFIED

Certification Actions Grants Events **Resources** Get Involved

> Green Team Resources

▼ **Presentations**

Webinar Recordings

NJSBA Conference

Other Presentations

Sustainability Summit

> Resource Library

Publications

Webinar Recordings & Presentations

To further assist you in the certification process, we have provided links to previous webinar recordings and presentations that supply information relevant to all aspects of our program. If you were unable to attend one of our online presentations, this is a great opportunity to learn about what you missed. Webinars are listed by action category.

Category Navigation

- [Arts & Culture](#)
- [Certification & Recertification](#)
- [Digital Schools Program](#)
- [Education for Sustainability](#)
- [Energy](#)
- [Grants Program](#)
- [Green Design](#)
- [Healthy School Environments](#)
- [Integrated STEM](#)
- [Learning Environment](#)
- [School Culture and Climate](#)
- [School Grounds](#)
- [Student & Community Outreach](#)



Participants Map Search

Use the [Participating Districts & Schools](https://sustainablejersseyschools.com/certification/search-participating-districts-schools-approved-actions/) (*sustainablejersseyschools.com/certification/search-participating-districts-schools-approved-actions/*) page to find examples of documentation from certified schools and connect with school green teams

Search by action

By Certified Action

Board Leadership & Planning

- District Sustainability Policy
- Professional Development for Sustainability
- Green Enhancement of District Strategic Plans
- Strategic Plan Implementation of Green Initiatives
- School Community Asset Mapping
- School District Foundation

View certified schools approved for that action

APPLICANT	COUNTY	CERTIFICATION
Alexandria Middle School (Hunterdon)	Hunterdon	BRONZE
Lester D. Wilson Elementary School (Hunterdon)	Hunterdon	BRONZE
Florence M. Burd Elementary School (Sussex)	Sussex	BRONZE
Long Pond School (Sussex)	Sussex	BRONZE
Atlantic Highlands Elementary School (Monmouth)	Monmouth	BRONZE
Bedminster Township Elementary School (Somerset)	Somerset	BRONZE
Roy W. Brown Middle School (Bergen)	Bergen	BRONZE
Berkeley Elementary School (Essex)	Essex	BRONZE

View certification report for example documentation

East Brunswick Campus (Middlesex)
Certification Level: Bronze
Certified On: August 25, 2021
Total Points: 190
Certification Report: [View Report](#)
Applicant Profile: [View Profile](#)

Collaboration

Actions Municipalities & Schools Can Work on Together

- Anti-Idling Programs
- Community Education & Outreach
- Civic Stewardship Activities
- Community Asset Mapping
- Green Challenges
- Green Fairs
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety & Promotion Initiatives
- Safe Routes to School
- School Travel Plan for Biking & Walking
- Recycling Non-Mandated Materials
- Waste Audit

SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT



Jumpstart Your Certification with a Grant





SUSTAINABLE JERSEY GRANTS PROGRAM

Free program for participating schools and municipalities

- Offers \$2,000-\$20,000 grants to help complete program actions
- Since 2009, over **\$7.9 million** awarded to fund over **1,350** sustainability projects
- **218 / 406 (53.69%)** registered districts have received at least one school and/or district grant
- **287 / 466 (61.59%)** registered municipalities have received at least one grant
- **50%** of all funding is reserved for certified communities

MUNICIPAL GRANTS



SCHOOL GRANTS



Eligibility

- **New Jersey municipality or school/school district that is **registered** in Sustainable Jersey**
 - Registration is free and easy
 - Follow the guidance [here](#) for schools/school districts and [here](#) for municipalities
- **With an established **green team****
 - Follow the guidance via the [school](#) and [municipal](#) green team action
 - Can designate an existing group or use your project team as a starting point



Use of Funding

- Must be used for projects that could earn the municipality or school points in the Sustainable Jersey program
- \$2,000 grants that can also be used to support the green team's certification efforts by funding annual initiatives and promotional materials
- Eligible expenses include everything except
 - Facilities/administrative (overhead) costs
 - Reimbursement of a project that has already been completed
- If you are not sure if your project is eligible, do not hesitate to contact us to find out

NOTE: Some cycles have more specific requirements for funding usage

Community and School Gardens



Greenhouse



Traditional



Aquaponics



Indoor Tower

Green Infrastructure and Stormwater Management



Bio-Swale



Rain Garden

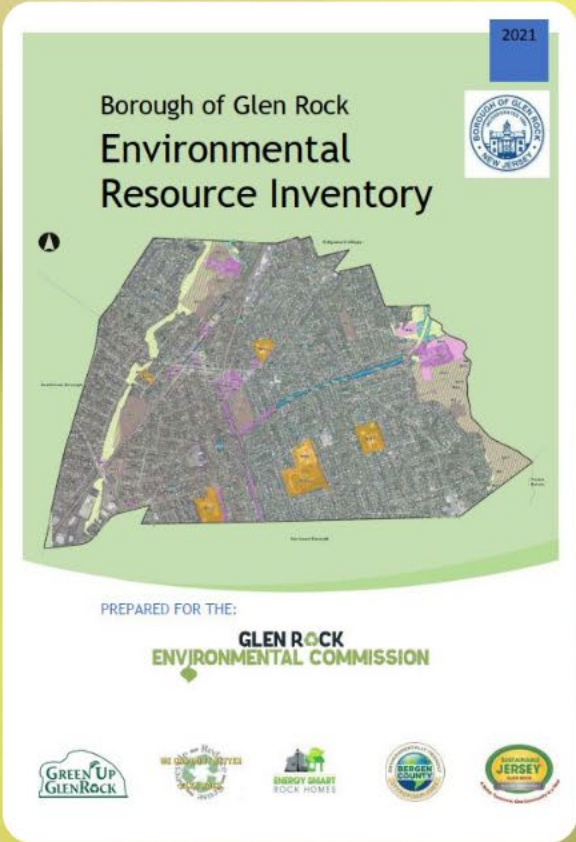


Adopt-A-Drain

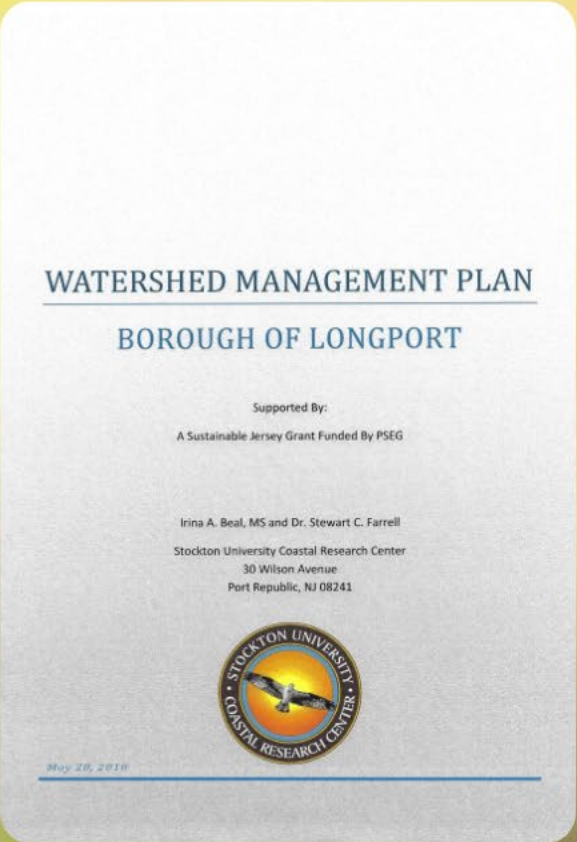


Planning

Planning, Studies and Inventories



ERI



Watershed Management



Community Visioning



Creative Assets Inventory

Sustainable Landscaping and Pollinators



Gardens



Certifications



Education



Beekeeping

Recycling and Waste Management



Glen Ridge is Green

RECYCLING GUIDE

Single Stream Recycling

 ALL CARDBOARD, BOXBOARD & CHIPBOARDS	 ALL PAPER & PAPER PRODUCTS	 ALL CLEAR, BROWN & GREEN GLASS <small>REMOVE & DISCARD LIDS</small>
 ALL TIN, ALUMINUM & STEEL	 #1, #2, #5 PLASTIC BOTTLES, JUGS & CONTAINERS <small>REMOVE & DISCARD LIDS</small>	 SCAN TO VIEW CALENDAR

What You Need To Know

- WEEKLY PICK UP, VARIES BY NEIGHBORHOOD
- PLACE AT CURB NIGHT BEFORE TO ENSURE COLLECTION
- CONTAINERS MUST BE FREE OF DEBRIS & FOOD CONTAMINATION

 PLASTIC BAGS	 PLASTIC LIDS OR CAPS	 WAX CARDBOARD <small>DO NOT CUT, OR USE FOR OTHER PURPOSES</small>	 BATTERIES
 CLAMSHELL OR PRODUCE CONTAINERS	 FROZEN FOOD BOXES	 SOILED PAPER, NAPKINS OR PIZZA BOXES	 STYROFOAM <small>REMOVE & DISCARD PRODUCTS</small>



Waste Audits

Improved Recycling

TerraCycle

Non-Mandated Collection

Reduce, Reuse, Recover Food Waste



Greener Cafeteria



Reusable Food Containers



Share Tables



Composting

Health and Wellness



Promoting Physical Activity



Nutrition Education



Health Fairs



Anti-Idling Campaigns

STEAM / Sustainability Education



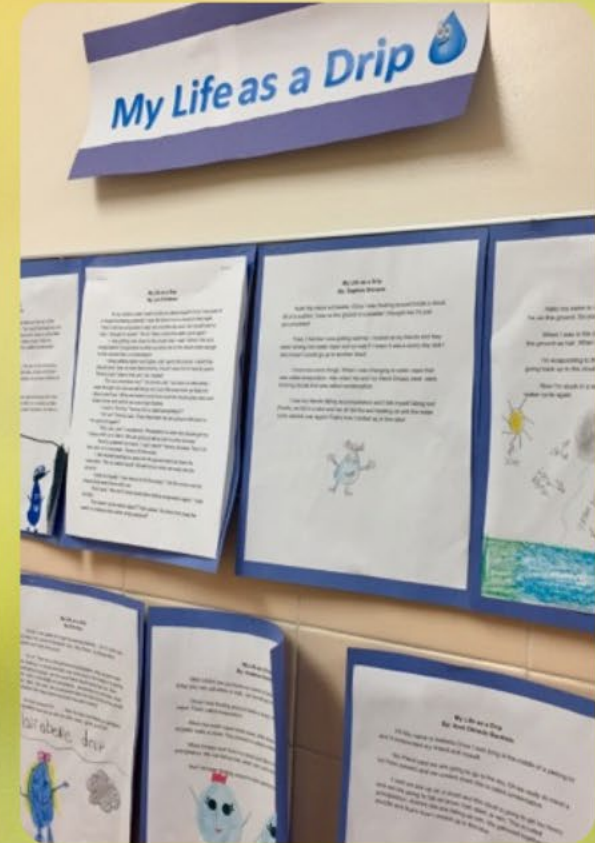
Outdoor Classrooms



Partnerships

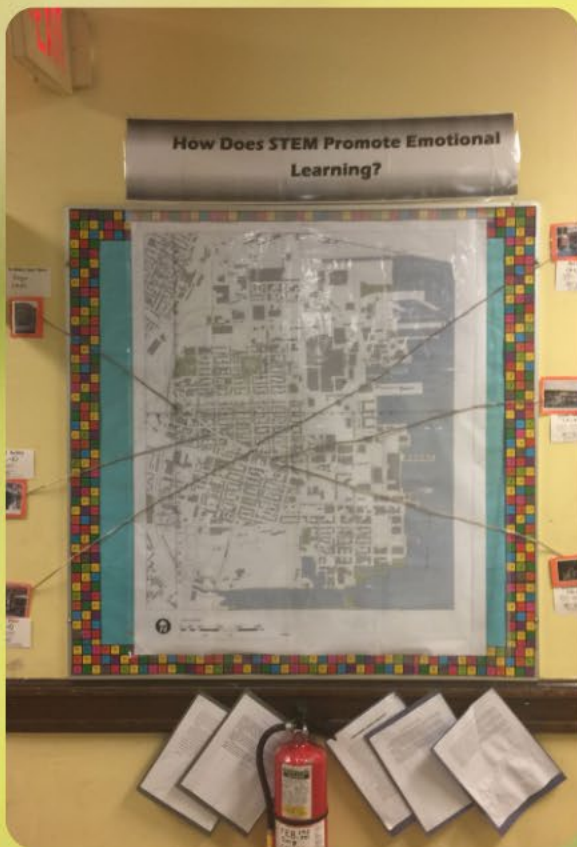


Campaigns



Curriculum Development

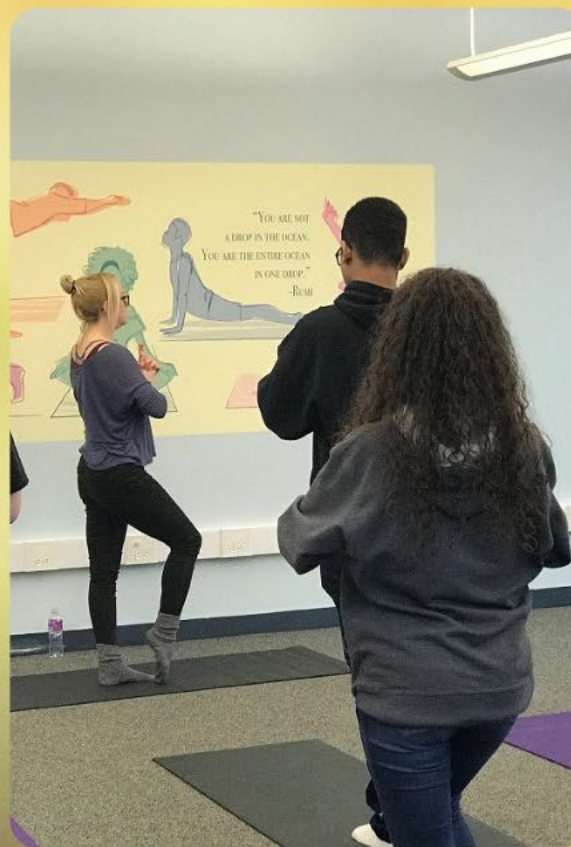
Social and Emotional Learning



Culture and Climate Assessments



Flexible Seating



Mindfulness



Equity and Diversity

Energy Projects

Click [here](#) to check out DEP's presentation of funding sources that includes funding for energy projects.



Energy Efficiency Upgrades

- Energy audits and energy efficiency projects (i.e. lightning, furnaces, etc.) are NOT eligible



Electric Vehicle Charging Stations




- EV charging station(s) installation projects are NOT eligible



Electric Vehicle Purchases

- The purchase of electric vehicles (except for Class 4-8 medium and heavy-duty vehicles) is NOT an eligible project for this grants cycle.

CURRENT ANNUAL CYCLES

CYCLE SPONSOR	PROJECT TYPE	ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS	GRANT AMOUNTS	CYCLE LAUNCHED	FUNDING AVAILABLE
 <p>atlantic city electricSM AN EXELON COMPANY</p>	Env. Stew. and Resiliency	Munis in ACE Territory	\$5k	Late April	\$50,000
 <p>njea NEW JERSEY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION®</p>	General Sustainability	NJEA-Affiliated Schools	\$2k & \$10k	Late August	\$180,000
 <p>PSEG Foundation</p>	General Sustainability	Public Schools Munis	\$2k & \$10k \$2k, \$10k & \$20k	Mid-Oct Mid-Nov	\$100,000 \$200,000

Standard Grant Application

Grant Proposal Sections

- **All** Grant Applications Include:
 - **Project Title and Brief Description**
 - **Action Plan and Timeline**
 - **Budget Narrative**
 - **Detailed Project Budget**
- **Only** 10k/20k Grant Applications Include:
 - **Project Team**
 - **Community Engagement**
 - **Project Impact and Evaluation**

There are templates available to help you quickly and easily complete each section of the application, such as the action plan & timeline and budget sections.

Green Team Documentation

- Currently certified municipalities/schools **DO NOT** need to provide this information
- Otherwise, we need the following green team documentation:
 - List of green team members
 - Summary of green team activities
- If a green team was recently formed, you can submit your future plans in lieu of a summary of activities

Note: this documentation is not needed for the Sustainable Communities grant application



Grant Authorization Doc

- **Upload a Grant Authorization Document in support of the grant project and application**
 - Municipalities must pass a resolution and schools have the additional option of submitting a letter from the principal, BA or superintendent
 - Must specify the specific grants cycle you are applying in
 - Must be signed and dated
 - Can use the same documentation for grant applications within the same program year

This resolution is DIFFERENT than the resolution required to register in the Sustainable Jersey certification program OR to establish a green team.



SUSTAINABLE JERSEY GRANTS PROGRAM



FUNDED BY:

PSEG
Foundation

Sustainable Jersey Grants Program Account

This grant account can be used from year to year to submit applications to be considered for funding by the Sustainable Jersey Grants Program. A municipality should use one account to submit its grant applications with. Below is more information on how to utilize your grant account.

Sign In

Email

Password



Log In

[Forgot your password?](#)

Need an Account?

Sign Up

✓ **Thinking about
Applying for Grants?**

Eligibility

Use of Funding

Application Tips

Required
Documentation

Online Application
Portal Instructions



Eligibility overview

Includes examples

Lists all application sections

Download templates

***Grant application portal and
account creation walkthrough***

Application Tips



- **Apply for both a small and a large grant**
 - Can copy and paste information; just need to change the budget and action plan and timeline
- When deciding what project to apply for funding for, **think outside the box!**
 - Choose projects that address a need in your community
 - Find ways to make your project innovative, even if it is a more common project such as a garden—there are ways to make your project stand out
- **Connect your project to your Sustainable Jersey certification efforts**
 - Explain how the grant will get you the last points needed to get certified
- **Get started early**—do not wait until the last minute to work on the app

Application Tips



- Pay attention to the **evaluation criteria** that aligns directly with the app sections
 - While the criteria is always the same, the point totals often differ
- **Include the community and stakeholders** in as many of the steps to complete the project as possible, including the planning phase
 - Invite residents, local businesses, and organizations
 - Collaborate with your school/municipality and/or local non-profit and apply strategically
- **Identify sources of in-kind** donations of time, labor, and funding to show that your community has skin in the game
 - Not required but always helps make your app more competitive



SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES GRANT PROGRAM

ADMINISTERED BY:



Applications Due Thursday, June 27

Cycle for Municipalities Located in Atlantic City Electric Service Territory

Environmental Stewardship Grants

- Five (5) \$5,000

Intended to help municipalities plan for, protect and improve public spaces such as local parks, natural areas, and recreation resources.

Resiliency Grants

- Two (2) \$5,000 grants

Awarded for projects that enhance a municipality's capacity to prevent and respond to catastrophic events and emergencies

Join us for an informational webinar on May 13, 2024

SJ Grants Program Survey

- We want to hear from you! Please use the QR code or link below to complete the 2024 Sustainable Jersey Grants Program survey
 - Your feedback will be taken into consideration when we design future iterations of our annual grants cycles
 - Sustainable Jersey is especially interested in your thoughts regarding the **grant amounts offered**



bit.ly/2024SustainableJerseyGrantsSurvey

UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

EARNING YOUR DIGITAL SCHOOLS STAR: TIPS FOR SUCCESS WEBINAR

This webinar offers an overview of the Digital Schools program, insights and examples of ways to improve digital school action submissions and earn points to attain Digital Schools Star recognition. The informational webinar will be held on **Wednesday, May 8, 2024, 3:30pm-4:30pm.**

Register: bit.ly/4dhdj91

2024 MUNICIPAL CERTIFICATION CYCLE

The next deadline to apply for certification is **Friday, May 10, 2024.** The final application deadline is **Wednesday, July 31, 2024.** View the full cycle timeline on the 2024 Certification Cycle page.

Learn More: bit.ly/SJ2024CertCycle

NJBPU'S COMMUNITY ENERGY PLANNING GRANTS

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities is offering a new round of Community Energy Plan Grants for all New Jersey municipalities.

Application Deadline: **Friday, May 24, 2024**

Learn More: bit.ly/3WcmAt7

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 **Tuesday, May 28, 2024, 7:00pm-8:00pm.**

Learn More: bit.ly/Tri-CountySustainability

2024 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES GRANT PROGRAM

Atlantic City Electric is contributing \$35,000 to support municipal environmental stewardship and resiliency projects within its service territory. Join us for an informational webinar on **Monday, May 13 from 1:00pm-2:00pm** to learn more about the program and how to use the online application portal.

Application Deadline: **Thursday, June 27, 2024**

Learn More: bit.ly/SustainableCommunitiesGrantProgram

2024 SCHOOL CERTIFICATION CYCLE

The final deadline to apply for certification and Digital Schools Star Recognition is **Thursday, June 13, 2024.** View the full cycle timeline on the 2024 Certification Cycle page.

Learn More: bit.ly/SJS2024CertCycle

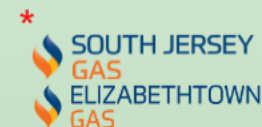
HOW TO ADOPT OR UPDATE A COMPLETE AND GREEN STREETS POLICY WEBINAR

Save the date! Join a one-hour walkthrough on how to create your own model municipal Complete and Green Streets Policy, brought to you by the Voorhees Transportation Center at Rutgers University, Sustainable Jersey, the New Jersey Department of Transportation, and the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, on **Tuesday, September 17, 2024, 12:00pm-1:00pm.** Registration information coming soon. Follow-up Open House Q&A for attendees to be held virtually on **Wednesday, October 30, 2024 from 3:00pm-5:00pm.**

PROGRAM UNDERWRITERS



CORPORATE SPONSORS



*Digital Schools Sponsor

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Join Sustainable Jersey
and/or Sustainable Jersey
for Schools mailing list



Complete
Grant Survey

CEU SIGN OUT



QR Code Instructions:

1. Open Camera app on your phone.
2. Hold your phone so the QR code appears in view.
3. Tap notification to open link.
4. You **MUST** sign out to receive CEU credits.

Wifi: [Bell_Works_Conf_Center](#)