



# Environmental Justice Task Force Newsletter

## September 2021

[covering 7/28/2021 – 8/27/2021] <https://www.uufaithaction.org/blog/>

**UU Seventh Principle: Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. Environmental Justice (EJ): Addressing disproportionate and adverse human health or environmental effects in communities of low-income residents or persons of color.**

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### UUFANJ Fall Issues Conference - Virtual

Saturday, October 16, 2021 ([see p. 9](#))

The UUFANJ Fall Issues Conference is when we will decide EJTF's goals for 2022.



**There is still work to be done on EJTF's goals and issues of concern for 2021**, particularly advocating for bills in the NJ legislature to be addressed during the "lame duck" session, which begins after the November 2 election and ends January 11, 2022. Listed below are several items of EJTF interest for which actions are needed - you can make a difference!

- **Clean Energy Equity Act** - passed Senate but still in Assembly committee; contact Assembly members or committee chair ([see p. 8](#))
- **Green Amendment** - needs additional support from legislators and a vote; contact legislative members ([see p. 13](#))
- **Pinelands Commission Vacancies** - Gov. Murphy nominated candidates two years ago but still awaiting NJ Senate confirmation; contact Gov. Murphy ([see p. 2](#))
- **Liberty State Park Protection Act** - still in Senate and Assembly committees; contact legislators ([see p. 18](#))

### TO OUR EJTF MEMBERS

**Thank you for all you do, and for your interest in environmental justice in NJ!** Would you please consider inviting another UU you know to become involved in the work of our Task Force? We will welcome other UU's to join us to whatever extent they feel comfortable, and we will gladly mentor anyone who wants to do more but is uncertain about how to proceed. We hold Zoom meetings on the first Thursday of each month from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. (information is on the UUFANJ Community Calendar at <https://www.uufaithaction.org/events/>). To join the Task Force, or to request additional information, please send an email to <mailto:environment@uufaithaction.org>.

## A Focus on NJ Pinelands Issues



As described on the National Park Service website, the NJ Pinelands "is truly a special place. It's classified as a United States Biosphere Reserve and in 1978 was established by Congress as the country's first National Reserve...it is the largest body of open space on the Mid-Atlantic seaboard between Richmond and Boston...home to dozens of rare plant and animal species and the Kirkwood-Cohansey aquifer system, which contains an estimated 17 trillion gallons of water. In 1979, New Jersey formed a partnership with the federal government to preserve, protect and enhance the natural and cultural resources of this special place." Through its implementation of the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan, the New Jersey Pinelands Commission is tasked with protecting the Pinelands in a manner that maintains the region's unique ecology while permitting compatible development.

Unfortunately, the reserve is currently threatened by unwise development projects such as the SRL pipeline and the unwillingness of the state to protect the Pinelands from these incursions (see <https://pinelandsalliance.org/protecting-the-pinelands/threats-to-pinelands/>).

**The Pinelands needs good leaders.** Ongoing vacancies on the Pinelands Commission severely weaken it and result in risky development projects not having proper oversight. The candidates that Governor Murphy nominated two years ago are still waiting for confirmation by the State Senate; urge Governor Murphy to get them approved! You can contact him here: <https://pinelandsalliance.salsalabs.org/govmurphypinelandscommissionappointments/>.

**ORVs are destroying the Pinelands.** Off Road Vehicles (ORVs) have been and continue to be the largest threat to the fragile Pinelands ecosystems. The Pinelands Preservation Alliance (PPA - see description below) has been vocal about this issue for years. They are developing an ORV policy, and helping to develop maps which show which trails are appropriate for ORVs and which ones prohibit them. However, the Pinelands is targeted by ORV owners who come long distances to recreate there from many different states. Residents need to understand the issue and join in speaking out for both good policies and enforcement. You can learn more and join the movement to advocate for balanced and safe ORV practices here: <https://pinelandsalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/NJ-ORV-BINDER-7-10-19.pdf>.

**The nonprofit Pinelands Preservation Alliance (PPA)** advocates for, and provides education about, the Pinelands. See [p. 5](#) in the "Future Events" section for information about a film and music event on September 4, 2021. Also, Pinelands Adventures, an initiative of PPA, offers self-guided and guided Pine Barrens nature experiences such as canoeing, kayaking, hiking, educational hikes, and talks about area history and culture; information is available here: <https://pinelandsalliance.org/explore-the-pinelands/pinelands-adventures/>.

## **FUTURE EVENTS - *Virtual and In-Person***

**[EJTF members - also watch for email announcements of events with short lead times!]**

### SEPTEMBER 2021

(with [hyperlinks](#) to details on the following pages)

Sun.	Mon.	Tues..	Wed	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
			<b>1</b>	<p><b>2</b>  <a href="#">Biochar and Carbon Trading</a> - 11:00 a.m.</p> <p><a href="#">Climate Change And Jobs</a> - 5:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>3</b>  <a href="#">Zero Waste Fridays: Back to School with Zero Waste</a> - 5:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>4</b>  <a href="#">Middle of Nowhere: Film and Music Experience at NJ Pinelands</a> - 3:00 p.m.</p>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<p><b>9</b>  <a href="#">DRBC Third Quarter Business Meeting</a> - 10:30 a.m.</p> <p><a href="#">Personal &amp; Congregational Socially Responsible Investing</a> - 8:00 p.m.</p>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>	<p><b>13</b>  <a href="#">BPU EV MHD Charging Proposal Public Stakeholder Meeting</a> - 10:00 a.m.</p>	<b>14</b>	<p><b>15</b>  <a href="#">Women of Color Leading the Energy Justice Transition</a> - 2:00 p.m.</p> <p><a href="#">NJ Clean Air Council Monthly Meeting</a> - 9:00 a.m.</p> <p><a href="#">Developing and Maintaining Workforce and Equity Partnerships</a> - 12:00 p.m.</p> <p><a href="#">Renewable Energy Public Opinion and Strategies for Effective Communication</a> - 12:00 p.m.</p> <p><a href="#">BPU EV MHD Charging Proposal Public Stakeholder Meeting</a> - 1:00 p.m.</p>	<b>16</b>	<p><b>17</b>  <a href="#">BPU EV MHD Charging Proposal Public Stakeholder Meeting</a> - 10:00 a.m.</p> <p><a href="#">Zero Waste Fridays: Plastic Bags: Where are we now?</a> - 1:00 p.m.</p>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<p><b>21</b>  <a href="#">BPU EV MHD Charging Proposal Public Stakeholder Meeting</a> - 10:00 a.m.</p>	<b>22</b>	<p><b>23</b>  <a href="#">Clean Energy Equity Town Hall Meeting</a> - 5:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>24</b>  <a href="#">BPU EV MHD Charging Proposal Public Stakeholder Meeting for Public Comments</a>- 10:00 a.m.</p>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<p><b>29</b>  <a href="#">9th Annual Delaware River Watershed Forum</a> - 9:00 a.m. (thru 10/1)</p>	<p><b>30</b>  <a href="#">9th Annual Delaware River Watershed Forum</a> - 9:00 a.m. (thru 10/1)</p> <p><a href="#">All In: Fight For a Livable Climate - Food &amp; Water Watch Conference</a> - 3:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>[Oct. 1]</b>  <a href="#">9th Annual Delaware River Watershed Forum</a> - 9:00 a.m.</p>	

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## Rutgers Climate Institute Listing of **Virtual** Climate Seminars

Multiple online events are listed on this site, including those from the Rutgers Climate Institute and also many climate-related events sponsored by various groups such as EPA, NOAA, and others. Listed below is a sampling of webinars taking place in September 2021. The site includes updated information over time; **check the site periodically for an updated list:**  
<https://climatesociety.rutgers.edu/events/all-climate-events/year.listevents/2021/>.

### **"Biochar and Carbon Trading" - Webinar** **Thursday, September 2, 2021, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

In this webinar, (sponsored by the US Biochar Initiative, the US Forest Service, and the Southern Regional Extension Forestry) Dr. Melissa Kreye, Assistant Professor of Forest Resource Management in the Department of Ecosystem Science and Management at Penn State, and Calvin Norman, Forestry and Wildlife Extension Educator for Cambria and Blair Counties with Penn State, will discuss Biochar and Carbon Trading. Biochar was among the IPCC's short-list of Negative Emission Technologies (NETs) that could provide a significant carbon sequestration impact, and it has been listed on several voluntary carbon marketplaces. More information and the registration link are here:  
<https://climatesociety.rutgers.edu/events/all-climate-events/icalrepeat.detail/2021/08/02/6667/-/webinar-biochar-and-carbon-trade>.

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### **"Climate Change And Jobs" - Webinar** **Thursday, September 2, 2021, 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**

The Communications Workers of America (CWA) District 1, which includes NJ, is presenting a webinar addressing the current once-in-a-generation opportunity to shape a low-carbon future and create good union jobs that benefit communities across the Northeast. The webinar will focus on making sure these are good jobs that benefit the climate, workers, and communities and that those who lose their jobs during the transition are taken care of. Leading the webinar are: Mariah Dignan, Long Island Organizer for the Climate Jobs NY & Climate Jobs NY Education Fund, and Zach Cunningham from the ILR Worker Institute at Cornell University. The registration link is here:  
<https://www.mobilize.us/cwad1/event/406359/>.

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### **"Zero Waste Fridays: Back to School with Zero Waste" - Webinar** **Friday, September 3, 2021, 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

"Join Clean Water Action and partners to learn about zero waste in the lunch bag and how schools throughout the Mid-Atlantic are taking action to reduce waste in the schoolroom! Get back to school on the right foot with cleaner, greener lunch choices." The registration link is here:  
<https://cleanwateraction.org/events/zero-waste-fridays-back-school-zero-waste>.

**"Middle of Nowhere: A Magical Film and Music Experience at Pinelands Preservation Alliance" - In-Person and Virtual (some portions)  
Saturday, September 4, 2021, (see schedule below)  
Live events are in Southampton, NJ**

Join the Pinelands Preservation Alliance for a one-of-a-kind interactive film and music event on Saturday, September 4, 2021. "Middle of Nowhere: a chosen place" is a series of four live and virtual events invoking dreams of the NJ Pinelands and other elusive landscapes. The schedule is as follows:

3:00 pm – "Inhabited" – A Series of Short Experimental Films

5:45 pm – Music by "KooF" and "Glenn Jones"

8:00 pm – "The Pine Barrens" Film with live score by The Ruins of Friendship Orchestra

Additional information and tickets (\$35 for on-site activities; \$20 for virtual) are available here: <https://pinelandsalliance.org/explore-the-pinelands/pinelands-events-and-programs/middle-of-nowhere/>.

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**Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) Third Quarter 2021 Business Meeting  
Thursday, September 9, 2021, 10:30 a.m. - via Zoom**

The September 9 Public Business Meeting will include the following: adoption of the minutes of the Commission's February 25, 2021 Special Meeting and the June 9, 2021 Business Meeting; announcement of upcoming meetings and events; a report on hydrologic conditions; reports by the Executive Director and the Commission's General Counsel; and consideration of any items for which a hearing has been completed or is not required. There will be no opportunity for additional public comment for the record at the September 9 Business Meeting on items for which a hearing was completed on August 11 or a previous date. After all scheduled business has been completed and as time allows, the Business Meeting will also include up to one hour of Open Public Comment (prior sign-up by 5 p.m. on September 8, 2021 is required). Additional details, Zoom link for the meeting, and information for prior sign-up for the Open Public Comment portion are available here:

<https://www.state.nj.us/drbc/meetings/upcoming/>. The meeting will also be livestreamed here: <https://www.youtube.com/user/delrivbasincomm>.

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**"Personal & Congregational Socially Responsible Investing" - Webinar  
Thursday, September 9, 2021, 8:00 p.m.**

Sponsored by Unitarian Universalists for a Just Economic Community (UUJEC), this webinar is presented by Julie Skye, who has vast experience with values-based investing and currently works with the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility through her appointment to the Unitarian Universalist Association's Socially Responsible Investment Committee. She was a part of the team that led to the UUA's divestment from fossil fuels at the 2014 General Assembly. Additional information and instructions to watch on Facebook Live or to email for Zoom link are here: <https://uujec.org/webinars>.

**“Women of Color Leading the Energy Justice Transition” - Webinar**  
**Wednesday, September 15, 2021, 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

This September, the Institute for Sustainable Communities (ISC) will launch its webinar series, “Climate Equity In Action.” The program provides an accessible platform for engaging climate change, environmental justice, and climate equity leaders across the globe in conversations around the important work of developing a better future shaped and shared by all. The first conversation, “Women of Color Leading the Energy Justice Transition,” features ISC's CEO and President, Deohn Ferris, moderating a panel with Biden-Harris Administration Appointees about energy democracy, environmental justice, and Just Transition. They will discuss what a just energy transition looks like from the perspective of the Biden Administration, as well as at the community level, and what is needed to ensure that communities and equity stay at the center in the push to meet climate objectives. Additional information and the registration link are here: <https://sustain.org/climate-equity-in-action-webinar/>.

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**NJ Clean Air Council Monthly Meeting - Virtual**  
**Wednesday, September 15, 2021, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

The meeting will be held on Microsoft Teams; information on joining the meeting is here: <https://www.nj.gov/dep/calendar/public.html>.

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**"Developing and Maintaining Workforce and Equity Partnerships" - Webinar**  
**Wednesday, September 15, 2021, 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

This is part of the "Creating the Water Workforce of the Future" webinar series, a joint endeavor of the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and other water associations and groups, to address workforce challenges. In the latest installment of the series, "Developing and Maintaining Workforce and Equity Partnerships," Candi Jones, the Deputy Commissioner of Human Resources at Philadelphia Water, will discuss ways the utility partnered with PowerCorps Philadelphia, a program designed to support workforce development priorities, to recruit men and women from disadvantaged communities into water careers. Andy Kricun, Managing Director of Moonshot Missions and the former Director of the Camden County Municipal Authority, will join her to discuss his experience partnering with agencies and organizations across NJ to develop a state-wide water workforce program. Additional information and the registration link are here: <https://www.amwa.net/article/epa-webinar-utilities-building-maintaining-workforce-partnerships>.

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**"Renewable Energy Public Opinion & Strategies for Effective Communication" Webinar**  
**Wednesday, September 15, 2021, 12:00 p.m.**

The webinar, part of the Dartmouth series "New Energy: Conversations with Early-Career Energy Researchers," is presented by Dr. Abel Gustafson, an Assistant Professor of public relations and environmental communication at the University of Cincinnati. He will present recent research showing what Americans think about renewable energy, and how public opinion has changed over time, and will discuss research that examines the best (and worst) strategies for communicating about renewable energy to various population segments. Additional information about the series and the webinar, and the registration link, are here: <https://irving.dartmouth.edu/engagement/new-energy-conversations-early-career-energy-researchers>.

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**"Zero Waste Fridays: Plastic Bags: Where are we now?" - Webinar**  
**Friday, September 17, 2021, 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

"Join Clean Water Action and partners to learn about bag bans and fees, and the status of the various laws designed to curb plastic bag pollution in the Mid-Atlantic." The registration link is here: <https://cleanwater.salsalabs.org/md-zw-plastic/index.html>.

**BPU New Jersey Electric Vehicles Infrastructure Ecosystem 2021 –Medium And Heavy Duty Straw Proposal Public Stakeholder Meetings via Zoom**  
**Various dates (see below)**

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) is continuing to work to build out an equitable, reliable electric vehicle (EV) Ecosystem infrastructure. In 2020, the Board established minimum filing requirements (MFR) for light-duty publicly accessible charging. The utility programs that will result from those MFRs will increase access to EV charging in community locations, workplaces, and Multi-Unit Dwellings, address obstacles to adoption, and provide valuable data on residential and commercial use. BPU staff acknowledges that light-duty and personal-use vehicles are only one part of the transportation sector. The BPU has developed a Straw Proposal that will address larger light-duty fleet charging, as well as the charging of Medium and Heavy Duty (MHD) vehicles, as their energy needs and uses are closely aligned. A copy of the Straw Proposal, with additional information about the public input process, is available here:

<https://www.bpu.state.nj.us/bpu/pdf/publicnotice/Notice%20Medium%20Heavy%20Duty%20EV%20Straw%20Proposal.pdf>. The remaining public stakeholder meetings are as follows:

September 13, 2021, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Topic: "Understanding What MHD Vehicle Use Looks Like and How Charging Will Occur." Register here:

[https://uso6web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_W4oO1a5TRCilg6hLgHoKoA](https://uso6web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_W4oO1a5TRCilg6hLgHoKoA)

September 15, 2021, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Topic: "How to Determine Rates." Register here:

[https://uso6web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Tc5uOr6NQVCSVR9ffhYDVw](https://uso6web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Tc5uOr6NQVCSVR9ffhYDVw)

September 17, 2021, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Topic: "Determining Areas of Last Resort and Utility Ownership Model." Register here:

[https://uso6web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_KobFDn6ES8SHRCpi54sMxA](https://uso6web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_KobFDn6ES8SHRCpi54sMxA)

September 21, 2021, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Topic: "Renewables, Storage, and Charging." Register here: [https://uso6web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_ieZ6IjyiQXGnzLunkIzTHw](https://uso6web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ieZ6IjyiQXGnzLunkIzTHw)

September 24, 2021, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Topic: "Open Meeting." - for public comments. Register here: [https://uso6web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_8LcpcgflRHukI9sJnx-bag](https://uso6web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_8LcpcgflRHukI9sJnx-bag)

**The deadline for public comments is 5:00 p.m. on October 5, 2021**, and may be submitted electronically for "Docket No. QO21060946" at <https://publicaccess.bpu.state.nj.us>.

**Clean Energy Equity Town Hall Meeting - Virtual**  
**Monday, September 23, 2021, 5:00 p.m.**

The NJ Shines coalition (of which UUFANJ is a member) is hosting a virtual town hall for legislators and constituents to discuss clean energy and energy justice opportunities in the Garden State that benefit overburdened communities, specifically the Clean Energy Equity Act, an energy justice bill championed by the coalition (see information in box below). Invited participants include mayors of NJ overburdened communities, legislative champions, and legislative targets. The goal is to give the legislative champions a platform to connect with their constituents as the Clean Energy Equity Act bill heads into lame duck session after passing the Senate last November, to equip them with the momentum to get it across the finish line, and to create opportunities to champion this urgent cause for legislators not yet supporting the bill by demonstrating widespread support. Join in to show your support! Contact <mailto:elena@votesolar.org> for additional information.

**NJ CLEAN ENERGY EQUITY ACT BILL UPDATE - ACTION STILL NEEDED**

**The NJ Clean Energy Equity Act bill (A4185/S2484) passed the NJ Senate 11/16/2020, but as of 8/25/2021 it was still waiting to be considered in the Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee. Our partner "NJ Shines" issued a video describing how environmental justice and low-income New Jersey families stand to benefit the most from lower monthly electric bills, local jobs and a more resilient community that would result from passage of the bill. View the video here: <https://vimeo.com/537797375>. You can send a message to your Assembly representatives telling them to support the Clean Energy Equity Act, or place a call directly to Assembly member DeAngelo, the chair of the Telecommunications and Utilities Committee, here: <https://www.NJShines.org/Take-Action/>.**

**"All In: Fight For a Livable Climate"**  
**Food & Water Watch Virtual Conference & Benefit**  
**Thursday, September 30, 2021, 3:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

Food & Water Watch, a group that focuses on corporate and government accountability relating to food, water, and corporate overreach, is holding a virtual conference and benefit on September 30m 2021.

**There will be 12 sessions across two tracks:**

**Track 1 - Food, Water & Climate 101** - will offer the latest research and policy updates on pressing food, water and climate issues.

**Track 2 - Mobilizing for our Future** - features a series of training sessions to build up your skills as an activist as we take on big fights to protect our environment!

Speakers include Amy Goodman of the independent news program "Democracy Now!" A list of speakers, complete schedule, additional information, and ticket information is here:

[https://www.foodandwaterwatch.org/specialevent/?j=1202731&sfmc\\_sub=660571800&l=35&mid=100001791#](https://www.foodandwaterwatch.org/specialevent/?j=1202731&sfmc_sub=660571800&l=35&mid=100001791#). Note: ticket prices (tax-deductible) are \$50 and up.



**9th Annual Delaware River Watershed Forum - Virtual and In-Person  
September 29, 2021, 9:00 a.m. through October 1, 2021, 4:00 p.m.**

Although this forum is focused on protecting the Delaware River Watershed, many of the sessions will be relevant to environmentalists from throughout the East-central U.S. Each day is planned to feature many sessions (some concurrent) that include engaging speakers, facilitated discussions, workshops, and "virtual (and some in-person) field trips." Links to the detailed schedule, list of sessions, and registration (\$100) are available here: <http://www.delriverwatershed.org/2021-forum>.

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**UU Project Drawdown Initiative's 2021 EcoChallenge - Online  
Ongoing - extended through December 31, 2021**

UUs are collectively lowering carbon footprints through participation in the Drawdown EcoChallenge. The online EcoChallenge is focused on collective action to reduce carbon in the atmosphere, and is a fun and social way to take measurable action on the top solutions to global warming. Participants in teams choose actions, and track and share their progress. In mid-July, the UU Drawdown team was #2 of all participating organizations in the EcoChallenge, earning 71,000 points as of then. Join in to bring all of us 6500 actions closer to the point of atmospheric Drawdown ("Drawdown" is the future point in time when levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere stop climbing and start to steadily decline).

Join 277 UUs and friends applying science-based Drawdown solutions and getting measurable results. Additional information and instructions for joining are here:  
<https://www.uumfe.org/campaigns/project-drawdown-uu-initiative/>.

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**UUFANJ Fall Issues Conference - Virtual**

**Saturday, October 16, 2021, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
(coffee hour begins at 9:00 a.m.)**

**Keynote Speaker - Loretta Weinberg  
NJ Senate Majority Leader**

The Fall Issues Conferences is when we decide issues to focus on for the next year, so it is a very important event to attend. Schedule and registration information will be available here:  
<https://www.uufaithaction.org>.

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## **VIDEOS+ OF PAST EVENTS**

### **NJ League of Conservation Voters (NJLCV) "Letter To The Editor Training" Video of Webinar**

"We need to keep our members of Congress focused on fighting for big, bold action. Imagine what a message it will send when we have a letter to the editor in each and every local newspaper that our representatives read! Watch this special activist training on how to write a compelling Letter to the Editor and how to get it published." The video is here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IbKF2korcic&t=554s>.

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### **NJ League of Conservation Voters (NJLCV) "Art Activism Training" Video of Webinar**

"Art speaks the language of the heart, and it can make a difference in this campaign. Watch this training session to learn how you can use art to make a difference in the fight for clean energy, jobs, and justice!"

The video is here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YSX8dQbE5X8>.

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### **"EPA Environmental Justice and Systemic Racism Speaker Series: Featuring the Climate Safe Neighborhood Partnership" - Video of Webinar**

The goal of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) EJ and Systemic Racism Speaker Series is to illustrate how addressing systemic racism is highly relevant to the missions of EPA and other environmental agencies. The current focus of the series examines the relationship of redlining to current environmental disparities. Redlining data was key to Groundwork Trusts' community organizing efforts to secure climate provisions in Richmond, Virginia's master plan, green infrastructure in Elizabeth, NJ, and other public policy advances. Linking evidence of structural racism to current environmental conditions provides a powerful tool for communities working for transformative change. This webinar showcased the Climate Safe Neighborhoods Partnership and described how youth in two of Groundwork's Trusts - Groundwork Hudson Valley and Groundwork Richmond, VA - and other places are leading the way in working closely with residents and stakeholders to organize, mobilize, and effect systems change to make communities more resilient to extreme heat and flooding. The video is here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C9YrqooUzZY>.

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### **"EPA Environmental Justice and Systemic Racism Speaker Series: Featuring California EPA's Pollution and Prejudice Project" - Video of Webinar**

The goal of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) EJ and Systemic Racism Speaker Series is to illustrate how addressing systemic racism is highly relevant to the missions of EPA and other environmental agencies. The current focus of the series examines the relationship of redlining to current environmental disparities. This session presented California EPA's (CalEPA) Pollution and Prejudice project. At CalEPA, understanding the role of government in perpetuating institutional and structural racism is essential to its work, and their racial equity team has designed a set of tools to explore the connection between land use practices of the 1930s and the persistence of environmental injustice. This webinar described the project and provides information about what you can do in your state. The video is here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WxNN5TORKzQ>.

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## **Jersey Water Works 2021 Membership Meeting: "Different Perspectives, New Opportunities, Win-Win Solutions" - Videos of Webinars**

Jersey Water Works' (JWW) annual membership meeting included: State leaders' perspectives on different challenges within the water sector; opportunities for JWW's members in advocating for water infrastructure solutions; hot-off-the-press member updates; and top highlights from JWW working committees. At this pivotal moment for NJ's water infrastructure, the meeting addressed how JWW can serve as a platform to foster new opportunities, connections, and win-win solutions to NJ's toughest water challenges, and how NJ's potential share of federal funds can propel the state's water infrastructure into a resilient, innovative, and effective water future. Videos are available here: <https://www.jerseywaterworks.org/events/annual-membership-meeting/2021/event-gallery/>.

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### **"Electric Vehicles & Climate Change - Biden's Car Rules Explained!" Eco-Logic Program on WBAI - Recording of Radio Program**

The Eco-Logic radio/internet program on WBAI (co-hosted by **EJTF member Sally Gellert**) presented a program with Scott Hochberg, transportation attorney for the Climate Law Initiative of the Coalition for Biological Diversity, who provided a comprehensive discussion of the Biden/U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) car standards. [Note: Eco-Logic is a weekly program, airing Fridays from 2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on WBAI - 99.5 fm radio, and streaming at [www.wbai.org](http://www.wbai.org).] The audio recording is here: <https://www.wbai.org/archive/program/episode/?id=25037>.

### ***EJTF's GOALS FOR 2021***

#### **1) Reduce fossil fuel emissions, especially in EJ neighborhoods, with focus on transportation**

Follow the lead of our Environmental Justice partners including the NJ Environmental Justice Alliance, the Ironbound Community Corporation, and Clean Water Action. This will have direct impact on health of residents in EJ neighborhoods. See articles on p. 12.

#### **2) Reduce lead in households, both in drinking water and lead paint**

Following the lead of our EJ partners (see #1, above), help promote outreach to residents about avoiding or reducing lead in drinking water and lead paint in their households. See article on p. 13.

#### **3) Promote the Green Amendment**

Support the Green Amendment: conduct outreach, especially through UU Congregations, to build understanding and support for the NJ pending legislative resolutions (SCR30/ACR80), which promote the right to clean air, clean water and a healthy environment. Follow the lead of "Green Amendments for the Generations." The Green Amendment is supported by our EJ partners. See information and articles on pp. 13 - 14.

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## NEWS RELATED TO EJTF ISSUES

### ELECTRIC VEHICLES

- **Deployment of Zero-Emission Battery Electric Trucks Comes to Port Newark** - A fleet of 10 zero-emission battery-electric trucks was unveiled at Port Newark. The fleet, partially funded by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) with Volkswagen Mitigation Trust Funds, represents the single largest deployment of such vehicles in the eastern U.S. to date.  
<https://www.tapinto.net/towns/newark/sections/green/articles/deployment-of-zero-emission-battery-electric-trucks-comes-to-port-newark>
- **NJ Boosts Incentives to Get EVs on the Road** - The NJ Board of Public Utilities (BPU) has greatly expanded its program that awards grants to state and local government agencies for buying electric vehicles and installing charging stations. (The BPU press release, with detailed information, is available here: <https://www.nj.gov/bpu/pdf/publicnotice/NJBPU%20Clean%20Fleet%20Expansion%20Press%20Release.pdf>.) The program is expanding from a \$210,000 pilot to a \$7 million program for FY 2022, and also is being modified to raise caps on the numbers of vehicles and charging stations covered.  
<https://www.njspotlight.com/2021/08/ev-electric-vehicles-bpu-incentives-transition-clean-cars-nj-roads/>
- **Opinion: Trucks Have Polluted Black Neighborhoods for Decades. NJ Has a Chance to Correct This Wrong** (by Alli Gold Roberts, director of the state policy program at Ceres and a member of Gov. Phil Murphy's Council on the Green Economy, and Marcus Sibley, Environmental and Climate Justice chairman at the NJ State Conference NAACP) - The authors describe and champion the Advanced Clean Trucks (ACT) rule, under consideration by NJ. It would aim to "replace dirty trucks with zero-emission versions for models ranging from larger pickups to 18-wheelers. By setting higher sales targets each year, the rule would supercharge the clean-trucking industry, with these vehicles representing up to half of sales by 2030." <https://www.njspotlight.com/2021/08/truck-pollution-hazard-damaged-predominantly-black-brown-neighborhoods-time-for-nj-to-enact-clean-truck-rule/>
- **Opinion: Electric Vehicles Will Put NJ on the Road to Better Public Health** (by Dr. Herb Conaway, who represents the 7th District in the NJ Assembly) - The author, chairman of the Health and Senior Services Committee in the NJ Assembly, focuses on policies that will improve both public health and the economy; investing in electric vehicles supports both of these objectives.  
<https://www.njspotlight.com/2021/08/nj-electric-vehicles-air-pollution-climate-change-better-public-health/>

### FOSSIL FUEL INFRASTRUCTURE

- **Malinowski-Backed Bill Would Protect Landowners from Tolling Orders** - Representative Malinowski (D-NJ-7) has reintroduced the "Landowners' Right to Due Process in Rehearings at FERC Act" in the U.S. House of Representatives. This Act would amend the Natural Gas Act to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to respond to a rehearing request by petitioners (often landowners) within a fixed timeline of 60 days. During this time, FERC would be prohibited from authorizing construction, and pipelines could not exercise eminent domain. Currently, under the Natural Gas Act, FERC issues "tolling orders" in response to a rehearing request from a petitioner. These tolling orders give FERC additional time to examine the request while preventing the petitioner from engaging in any further litigation. Because of this, tolling orders have allowed FERC to delay judgment indefinitely while developers (e.g., PennEast) are allowed to proceed with taking property through eminent domain and beginning construction activities, such as cutting down trees, that can permanently alter the petitioner's private land. <https://north-jerseynews.com/2021/08/20/malinowski-backed-bill-would-protect-landowners-from-tolling-orders/>

- **State's Largest Energy Company Sells Off Fossil-Fuel Plants** - Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG) has made arrangements to sell all of its fossil-fuel plants, in line with plans it announced last year. The plans include focusing on its regulated utilities, and also expanding into wind energy. The company will retain its three nuclear power plants in NJ. <https://www.njspotlight.com/2021/08/pseg-sell-fossil-fuel-solar-resources-retains-nuclear-fleet-2-15-billion-after-tax-profit/>



## LEAD REDUCTION IN HOUSEHOLDS

- **Opinion: Watch Out for Cost of NJ Mandated Replacement of Lead and Galvanized Pipes** (*Press of Atlantic City*) - Although stating that NJ's new law that requires replacement of all lead service pipes within ten years is a good idea, this opinion piece highlights the "potential unfairness in the government mandate and funding of lead removal projects" because "utilities can have the work done and charge customers" and "businesses and homeowners who have replaced their lead service lines at their own expense not only wouldn't get reimbursed, but they might have to help pay to replace the lead lines of others through their utility bills or taxes." [https://pressofatlanticcity.com/opinion/editorial/watch-out-for-cost-of-nj-mandated-replacement-of-lead-and-galvanized-pipes/article\\_645f4f16-fb93-11eb-83cd-2f4710fd5619.html](https://pressofatlanticcity.com/opinion/editorial/watch-out-for-cost-of-nj-mandated-replacement-of-lead-and-galvanized-pipes/article_645f4f16-fb93-11eb-83cd-2f4710fd5619.html)

## GREEN AMENDMENT

### NJ GREEN AMENDMENT APPROVAL PROCEDURE - ACTIONS NEEDED

NJ has an "either/or" system for qualifying a proposed NJ constitutional amendment for inclusion on the ballot to be voted on by the citizens of NJ; it can be passed by simple majority in two separate legislative sessions, or by a 60 percent supermajority vote of one session. The NJ Green Amendment (SCR30/ACR80), which promotes the right to clean air, clean water and a healthy environment for every person in the state, is gaining ground in the NJ legislature but has not yet come to a vote. At last count, the Senate resolution had 19 sponsors, and the Assembly resolution had 43 sponsors. In the Senate, 24 votes are needed, and in the Assembly, 48 votes are needed, in order for a resolution to pass. You can easily send a message to your state legislators to support the Green Amendment here:

<https://actionnetwork.org/letters/protect-environmental-rights-for-the-people-of-new-jersey>.

- **Recent Green Amendment News From Other States (PA and MT have passed Green Amendments; NY has it on the ballot for this November)**
  - **Montana Youth Plaintiffs Receive Favorable Ruling, Affirms Strength of Green Amendment** - A Montana judge ruled in favor of sixteen youth plaintiffs, who are suing the state for its promotion of a fossil fuel-driven energy system, as a violation of their constitutional right to a clean and healthful environment. <https://forthegenerations.org/wp-content/uploads/MontanaRulingPR2021.pdf>
  - **In Boost for Environmental Rights, [PA] Supreme Court Rules Drilling Revenue from State Forests Must Be Used for Conservation** - The PA state Supreme Court ruled that it is unconstitutional to use certain money raised from oil and gas leases in public forests for general government operations. <https://stateimpact.npr.org/pennsylvania/2021/07/28/in-boost-for-environmental-rights-supreme-court-rules-drilling-revenue-from-state-forests-must-be-used-for-conservation/>
  - **Push is On for NY to Add Environmental Rights to State Constitution** - Green Amendment language is on the November ballot in NY, and according to a recent poll, 80% of New Yorkers support adding it to the NY Constitution. <https://www.publicnewsservice.org/2021-07-28/environment/push-is-on-for-ny-to-add-environmental-rights-to-state-constitution/a75145-1>

## RENEWABLE RESOURCES

- **After Years of Debate, NJ Agrees to New Solar Incentives** - For the past three years, the NJ Board of Public Utilities (BPU) has been engaging with stakeholder,s and utilizing modeling, to develop a successor program to the previous Solar Renewable Energy Certificate (SREC) incentive program. A new program, the Successor Solar Incentive Program (SuSI) has been approved by the BPU (press release with details is here: <https://www.nj.gov/bpu/newsroom/2021/approved/20210728.html>). The goal was to minimize the cost to ratepayers and also encourage growth to the solar sector. <https://www.njspotlight.com/2021/07/nj-solar-sector-new-development-incentives-adopted-target-rapid-increase/>
- **NJ Readies for Green Future but Says Little about Costs** - NJ's Energy Master Plan, issued in 2019, did not include the promised cost analysis, which was further delayed due to COVID-19 economic issues. The NJ Board of Public Utilities (BPU) awarded a contract for a cost analysis, but it is not planned to be completed for 18 months. In the meantime, decisions are being made that will impact ratepayers and costs for energy projects. A number of groups are doing their own analyses, with varying results. (Also see the following article.) <https://www.njspotlight.com/2021/08/what-green-clean-energy-will-cost-new-jersey-customers-climate-change-murphy-offshore-wind-fears-customers-delayed-analysis/>
- **Critics Want Administration to Put Price on Clean-Energy Transition ASAP** - NJ's Energy Master Plan, issued in 2019, did not include the promised cost analysis (see the previous article). A recent report (New Jersey's Energy Future: At What Cost to You?" available here: <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5956385fe4fcb5606a4d46ac/t/60f062c3boec6d06f7fcd23/1626366660103/EMPcombined.pdf>) by a conservative research group raises "questions every New Jerseyan should be asking about our state's Energy Master Plan" and concludes that "any action on the plan's major elements must be delayed until, at the very least, the cost analysis is finished." <https://www.njspotlight.com/2021/08/emp-cost-of-move-to-clean-energy-administration-price-tag-18-months-out-gsi/>

- **12 = NJ's Ranking among States That Produce Solar Energy** - According to a report ("Which States Produce the Most Solar Energy?" available here: <https://commodity.com/blog/states-solar-energy/>) that uses U.S. government data, NJ ranks twelfth among states for production of solar energy. <https://www.njspotlight.com/2021/08/nj-ranked-12th-among-states-for-solar-energy-production-2019/>



- **Will Feds Pay Compensation to Fishermen for Wind Farm Losses?** - In June 2021, governors from NJ and eight other East Coast states with sizable fishing fleets sent a letter to President Biden supporting offshore wind energy development and providing five strategies for its implementation, one of which was "Provide support for other marine industries and users," including fishermen (the letter is available here: [https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2021-06/Joint\\_Governors\\_Letter\\_to\\_Biden\\_Admin\\_OSW\\_priorities\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2021-06/Joint_Governors_Letter_to_Biden_Admin_OSW_priorities_FINAL.pdf)). Building on this request, discussions have begun between federal and state officials to consider "compensatory mitigation" for the commercial fishing industry, which has been in opposition to offshore wind projects, contributing to delays in the permitting process for the projects. <https://enviropolitics.com/will-feds-pay-compensation-to-fishermen-for-wind-farm-losses/>

## CLIMATE CHANGE

- **Pressure Grows for NJ to Act as Report Says Climate Disaster Looms** - This article includes responses to the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report as it relates to NJ. <https://www.njspotlight.com/2021/08/pressure-grows-for-nj-to-act-as-report-says-climate-disaster-looms/>
- **Climate Change: How Could NJ Be Impacted — And How Should It Respond?** (news video) - Based on the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report, potential climate change-based impacts on NJ are described. <https://www.njspotlight.com/video/climate-change-how-could-nj-be-impacted-and-how-should-it-respond/>
- **Rising Seas Present Hidden Dangers to Sandy Hook's Ecology, Report Says** - A report by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) examined, through modeling, the potential effects of sea-level rise on the fresh-groundwater system at Sandy Hook, which sustains ecosystems like the old-growth American Holly maritime forest in the Gateway National Recreation Area (one of only two remaining in the U.S.). Impacts were found even at low levels of sea-level rise. <https://www.njspotlight.com/2021/08/sandy-hook-rising-seas-threat-ecology-maritime-freshwater-forests-american-holly-u-s-geological-survey/>

- **No Easy Fix for Flooding in NJ's Back Bays** - The Army Corps of Engineers' updated "New Jersey Back Bays Study" describes potential solutions to flooding in NJ's back bays - one of the most flood-prone areas in the U.S. Potential solutions include storm surge barriers, cross-bay barriers, other perimeter walls, and elevation of structures. The updated report responds to comments made on the initial feasibility report, and delineates the substantial environmental impacts of the potential solutions. <https://www.njspotlight.com/2021/08/back-bays-nj-one-of-most-flood-prone-superstorm-sandy-barriers-levees-billions/>
- **The Moon Is Set to Make NJ's Already Bad Floods Worse** - This article describes a report published by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) that takes into account the effect on high-tide flooding of both sea level rise and the lunar nodal cycle (the "lunar wobble," caused by the 5-degree tilt in the moon's orbit that alternately suppresses and amplifies tides in 18.6 year intervals). The next amplifying cycle begins in the mid-2030s. <https://www.njspotlight.com/2021/07/lunar-wobble-sea-level-rise-jersey-shore-flooding-nuisance-flooding/>
- **'Less Than 1% Probability' That Earth's Energy Imbalance Increase Occurred Naturally, Say Princeton and GFDL Scientists** - A published study by Princeton University and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory (GFDL) examined satellite observations of the growing imbalance in Earth's energy, resulting in extra heat being trapped in the atmosphere, and concluded that the satellite record "provides clear evidence of a human-influenced climate system." <https://www.princeton.edu/news/2021/07/28/less-1-probability-earths-energy-imbalance-increase-occurred-naturally-say>
- **Small-Scale Power Grids Face Giant Hurdles** - After Superstorm Sandy, town-center microgrids were looked upon as possible ways to limit the extent of future power outages. A report prepared for the NJ Board of Public Utilities ("Development of Local Government Resilient Microgrids" - available here: [https://microgrids.io/wp-content/uploads/Local\\_Govt\\_Resilient\\_Microgrids\\_Report.pdf](https://microgrids.io/wp-content/uploads/Local_Govt_Resilient_Microgrids_Report.pdf)) found that a number of issues - legal, regulatory, financial, and technical - would need to be addressed in order for such microgrids to succeed. The report defines a "town-center microgrid" as "a microgrid developed in an area of a community that delivers power to a physically non-contiguous group of critical facilities, often involving multiple distributed energy resources and crossing multiple public rights-of-way." <https://www.njspotlight.com/2021/08/nj-bpu-small-scale-electric-power-grids-face-hurdles/>
- **Montclair Takes on Climate Action Plan** - This article describes a number of actions the Township of Montclair, NJ has taken in response to the NJ Global Warming Response Act report. In addition to the actions already taken, a resolution was recently passed to conduct a study of emission levels and to create a Climate Action Plan that will contain emission reduction goals and strategies for municipal operations, residents and businesses, taking into consideration what is most impactful and feasible. <https://www.montclairlocal.news/2021/07/22/montclair-takes-on-climate-action-plan/>
- **Opinion: Why We Must Say Goodbye to Fossil Fuels Now** (by Tina Weishaus, co-chair of the DivestNJ Coalition and a member of the steering group of 350NJ-Rockland) - The author summarizes what has been done to date related to addressing reduction of fossil fuels in NJ, including in both the technological and financial sectors, and what still needs to be done to effect fossil fuel elimination. <https://www.njspotlight.com/2021/08/fossil-fuel-divest-greenhouse-gases-global-warming-tipping-point>

## POLLUTION

- **Acting AG Bruck Announces Settlement with EPA to Protect New Jersey from Air Pollution from Upwind States** - In 1/2021, NJ joined NY, CT, DE, MA, and the City of New York in a lawsuit alleging the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) had abdicated its duty to act on harmful ozone pollution flowing from upwind states, threatening the health of residents in the downwind states and making it harder for them to meet federal air quality standards. A settlement has been reached under



which the EPA must take action on air pollution reduction plans submitted by the upwind states (IN, KY, MI, OH, TX, and WV), and approve or disapprove emission control plans known as State Implementation Plans (SIPs) submitted by them by April 30, 2022. The EPA must finalize federal replacement plans for any SIPs it disapproves, by December 15, 2022. <https://www.njoag.gov/acting-ag-bruck-announces-settlement-with-epa-to-protect-new-jersey-from-air-pollution-from-upwind-states/>

- **Stuck in Truck Traffic for Port Newark? There's a \$44M Fix for That** (news video) - A project to realign the major access route to Port Newark will potentially eliminate "700,000 hours of travel time per year for truck traffic and slash accident rates by 40% at Corbin's hairpin exit ramp. It would also reduce diesel emissions near Newark neighborhoods, where kids suffer four times the national asthma rate." <https://www.njspotlight.com/video/stuck-in-truck-traffic-for-port-newark-theres-a-44m-fix-for-that/>

## DRINKING WATER-RELATED ISSUES (other than lead)



- **DEP Urged to Set Tough Limit on Likely Carcinogen in Drinking Water** - The NJ Drinking Water Quality Institute (which was established by legislation to make recommendations to the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) on Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) or standards for hazardous contaminants in drinking water) has recommended a strict standard of less than 0.33 parts per billion for the likely carcinogen 1,4 dioxane. The chemical is found in adhesives, resins, and waxes, and the main source of human exposure is through drinking water. <https://www.njspotlight.com/2021/08/nj-drinking-water-quality-institute-recommends-tough-limit-of-14-dioxane-likely-carcinogenic-chemical/>
- **Toxins Are Found in North Haledon, NJ Residential Wells** - Per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS - "forever chemicals") have been found in a number of wells in North Haledon, and residents with private wells have been advised by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to have them tested. Well owners must pay for two tests to verify that their water is contaminated, but if toxins are present the state will reimburse them for the second test and install a filtration system at no charge. <https://liquidhealth.news/toxins-are-found-in-north-haledon-nj-residential-wells/>

## OTHER

- **NJ Must Speed Transition to Green Energy, Group Says** - The NJ League of Conservation Voters Education Fund has issued its comprehensive "Environmental Policy Guide: Green in '21" (available here: [https://www.njlcvef.org/sites/default/files/2021-08/NJLCV\\_EPG2021\\_Aug24.pdf](https://www.njlcvef.org/sites/default/files/2021-08/NJLCV_EPG2021_Aug24.pdf)). Involving 25 organizations including environmental, justice, community-based, health, student and civil rights groups, "this broad and holistic compendium illustrates environmental, public health issues and equity challenges facing New Jersey and our communities, as well as the opportunities that lie ahead." The guide recommends greatly speeding up the timetable for transitioning to clean energy, from the current goal of 100% clean energy by 2050 to a goal of achieving it by 2035. <https://www.njspotlight.com/2021/08/climate-change-faster-transition-to-green-energy-new-report-nj-league-of-conservation-voters-education-fund/>

- **Senate Passes Infrastructure Bill: Includes Investments in Delaware River Basin Restoration Efforts** - The revised "Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act" passed by the U.S. Senate 8/10/2021 includes \$26 million of supplemental funding for the Delaware River Basin to support on-the-ground restoration projects and new and existing jobs across the 4-state (NJ, NY, PA, and DE) watershed through the Delaware River Basin Restoration Program (DRBRP). A previous version of the Act had passed the U.S. House of Representatives, but the revised version was returned to the House for a vote to approve the changes. As of 8/27/2021, the revised bill had not been voted on by the House.  
<http://www.delriverwatershed.org/news>
- **Opinion: Liberty State Park Is Our Tour de Force. Who Has the Courage to Defend It?** (*Star-Ledger* Editorial Board) - Liberty State Park, "a green oasis in the middle of metropolitan northern NJ," has been the target of repeated privatization and commercialization proposals since the park opened. Most recently, a billionaire golf club developer has wanted to expand Liberty National golf course into Caven Point, a wildlife sanctuary and the longest stretch of natural beach left in New York Harbor. A bill in the NJ legislature, the "Liberty State Park Protection Act" (S1449/A2189), would establish the Liberty State Park Advisory Committee and would codify requirements concerning allowable actions related to Liberty State Park, removing forever the possibility of private interests purchasing parts of the park for private gain. However, the bill has remained in committee in both houses since the beginning of 2020.  
**[Legislators may be contacted here: click on your district and then on your legislators' names: <https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/districts/njmap210.html>]**  
<https://www.nj.com/opinion/2021/08/liberty-state-park-is-our-park-who-has-the-courage-to-defend-it-editorial.html>



#### **MORATORIUM MONDAYS CONTINUE**

**Please continue to contact Gov. Murphy every Monday and urge him to declare a climate emergency moratorium on fossil fuel projects! These efforts have been successful in that a number of projects have been stopped or delayed in the past year. Either call through the EmpowerNJ number (866-586-4069) to get coaching on the topic of the week, emphasizing what is in the news, or call directly to the governor's office (609-292-6000). Over 50 environmental, citizen, faith, and progressive groups in NJ are calling on Governor Murphy to enact a moratorium on all new fossil fuel projects in New Jersey until there are rules in place to achieve 100% clean energy goals.**

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UU FaithAction NJ - Environmental Justice Task Force - <https://uufaithaction.org/environment/>  
Co-Chairs – Peggy Middaugh and Ray Nichols

Visit our website for Environmental links and resources / sign up for email alerts / join the EJTF

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