



Environmental Justice Task Force Newsletter - October 2022

<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.



FOCUS on OFFSHORE WIND

Offshore Wind is a centerpiece of NJ's plans to reach its clean energy goals. The following newsletter items highlight some of what's happening now in this key renewable energy sector:

- EJTF made comments on the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Ocean Wind 1 Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), in support of the project - [see p. 2](#).
- Representatives of the Ocean Wind 1 project are holding a public hearing in Ocean City on 10/6 on the Green Acres Diversion they have requested from the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) - [see p. 5](#). Also see [p. 21](#) for a related news article.
- The New Jersey Clean Energy Conference, in which offshore wind will be featured, will take place 10/3 and 10/4 in Atlantic City - [see p. 6](#).
- A webinar on "Offshore Wind Energy and New Jersey: Challenges of Sharing the Coastal Ocean" will be presented on 10/5 - [see p. 6](#).
- Comments are due 10/7 on the NJ Board of Public Utilities' (BPU) Request for Information for the 3rd Solicitation for Offshore Wind Renewable Energy Certificates (OREC) - [see p. 7](#).
- The "Time for Turbines" forum, in which government officials, wind developers, and labor leaders will discuss the offshore wind industry, will take place 10/27 and 10/28 in Atlantic City - [see p. 13](#).
- Gov. Murphy issued an Executive Order increasing NJ's offshore wind goal from 7,500 megawatts by 2035 to 11,000 megawatts by 2040 - [see p. 21](#).
- The Murphy administration announced the second round of research projects to ensure environmentally responsible offshore wind development - [see p. 22](#).
- Long Beach Island residents are suing the U.S. government over offshore wind leases - [see p. 22](#).

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EJTF ACTIVITIES

- **EJTF Co-Chair Peggy Middaugh and EJTF member Michael Skelly** submitted written comments (see box below) to the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Ocean Wind 1 offshore wind farm.

EJTF Comments on the BOEM Ocean Wind 1 Offshore Wind Farm DEIS (Excerpt)

We represent the Unitarian Universalist Faith Action of New Jersey and particularly its Environmental Justice Task Force. As Unitarian Universalists we affirm and promote seven principles including: the inherent worth and dignity of every person; justice, equity and compassion in human relations; and respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

We offer this comment on the Draft EIS in support of the Ocean Wind 1 Offshore Wind project.

Due to climate change and other circumstances that are already in motion we no longer have the luxury of time for delay or distraction. We could lament that things weren't done in the past, or even suggest alternatives to the current proposals like deeply cutting back on energy use. Today's process does not allow for that.

The question before us today, given these circumstances, has been limited to: Do we support the "no action alternative"; modifications; or other "alternatives"? Unfortunately, the natural systems that we depend upon for our lives, our children's lives and the lives of all living creatures are under immediate pressure and rapidly increasing threat. These harms are felt first, and most deeply, in our "overburdened communities". This places us in a most difficult position of having to consider saying "yes" to an action even when there are some known risks AND we don't fully know other possible impacts.

All life in New Jersey is suffering and we have it in our combined power to take some steps that will help now.

Therefore, we support the proposed Ocean Wind 1 Offshore Wind Farm Project [DEIS] Alternative B or C with Alternatives D AND E....

- **EJTF** prepared comments submitted by **UUFANJ** to the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) on the proposed rules implementing the EJ Law. A link to the comments is here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RCSIdWbR_M_nruDnsXeWnOFamqdaULW9/view?usp=sharing.

CONGREGATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Unitarian Universalist Ocean County Congregation (UUOCC)

Members of the Unitarian Universalist Ocean County Congregation (UUOCC), including **EJTF member Barbara Diamantopoulos** (at right in the photo) and **EJTF Co-Chair Peggy Middaugh** (not pictured), participated in a UUFANJ Postcard Campaign for Reproductive Equity. The Reproductive Equity Act bill (S2918/A4350) is a top priority of reproductive justice advocates across the state. Pre-printed postcards addressed to Senate Majority Leader Scutari and to Assembly Leader Coughlin were provided to each congregation. The postcards urged each legislator to support giving the bill a hearing so that it may progress for a vote in the legislature.



FUTURE EVENTS - Virtual, In-person, and Hybrid

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

OCTOBER 2022 (with hyperlinks to details on the following pages)						
Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
					Sept. 30 "Homecoming 2022 at Murray Grove"	1 "Liberty State Park Protect Caven Point Walk" - 10:00 a.m. "National Drive Electric Week - Electric Car Show" - 11:00 a.m. "National Solar Tour" "Homecoming 2022 at Murray Grove"
2 "National Solar Tour" "Homecoming 2022 at Murray Grove"	3 New Jersey Clean Energy Conference - 9:00 a.m. Ocean Wind 1 Public Hearing - 6:00 p.m.	4 New Jersey Clean Energy Conference - 9:00 a.m. "Challenges and Opportunities in Organic Urban Agriculture" - 3:00 p.m.	5 "Offshore Wind Energy and New Jersey: Challenges of Sharing the Coastal Ocean" - 7:30 p.m.	6 LWVNJ "Introduction to the Legislative Process" - 6:00 p.m.	7 Comments Due on NJBPU RFI for Offshore Wind ORECs	8 "Integrating Native Plants into your Home Landscape" (NJSOC) - 10:00 a.m. "Woodbridge, NJ: Stop The Keasbey Gas Plant" - 11:00 a.m. "Wild Edibles Information Walk"(NJSOC) - 12:30 p.m.
9	10	11 "New Approaches to the Economics of Climate Change: Urgency, Scale, Opportunity" - 4:30 p.m.	12 LWVNJ "Letter to the Editor Action Workshop" - 11:30 a.m. "Optimizing Collaborative Energy Storage Systems for an Equitable and Sustainable Energy Transition" - 12:00 p.m. "Key Findings from the Newest Global Assessment Report on Climate Change" - 1:00 p.m.- DRBC Advisory Committee on Climate Change - 1:00 p.m.	13 "Harvest Season: Organizing for Food Justice" - 8:00 p.m.	14 "The Changing Geopolitics of Climate Change and the Energy Transition" Andlinger Center Annual Meeting - 8:30 a.m. "Climate Change, Health, and Justice" Environmental Health Summit - 2:00 p.m.	15
						[Calendar continues on p. 4]

16 [Calendar continued from p. 3]	17 LWV NJ "Countdown to Election Day: Leave No Voter Behind"s - 6:00 p.m. "Adapting to Climate Change in Your Community" - 6:30 p.m.	18 "Heat Pump Dryers" - 7:00 p.m.	19 "Organic Waste Management Summit 2022: Climate Change Connection" - 8:00 a.m. NJ Clean Air Council - 9:30 a.m.	20 "Climate Change Loss and Damage" - 11:00 a.m. "Building Electrification: Increase Energy Efficiency, House Value and Save Money" - 7:00 p.m. "Forum on Decarbonizing New Jersey's Health Care Sector" - 7:00 p.m.	21	22
23	24 "Living Shorelines in the Decade Since Sandy: Lessons Learned and Implications for Future Design" - 6:30 p.m.	25 "Climate Change and the Farm Bill" - 7:00 p.m.	26	27 "Time for Turbines 5" (Reception) - 5:00 p.m. "Mutual Aid for Congregations" - 8:00 p.m.	28 "Time for Turbines 5" (Forum) - 8:00 a.m. "Climate Change, Planetary, and Human Health Challenges and Opportunities" Regional Symposium - 9:00 a.m.	29
30	31	<u>UUFANJ Fall Issues Conference - "Stronger Together" - 11/12/2022, 10:00 a.m.</u>				



"Homecoming 2022 at Murray Grove" - In-person
431 US Highway 9 at Church Lane, Lanoka Harbor, NJ 08734
Friday, September 30, 2022 - Sunday, October 2, 2022

This 3-day event at the historic Unitarian Universalist Murray Grove Retreat and Renewal Center will feature "Inspiring Speakers, Panels, Music and Motivation," including the opening night speech by UUFANJ Board President Mia Morse, a workshop on "Effective Legislative Action and Implementation" by UUFANJ Executive Director Charles Loflin, and a keynote speech on "Building for a Sustainable Future," focusing on "building organizations that are sustainable and strong going forward and protecting the environment that sustains all life." Additional information, a link to the schedule, and the registration link (there is a range of fees, tickets for just Saturday "Homecoming Day" may also be purchased) are available here: <https://murraygrove.org/homecoming-2022/>.

**"Liberty State Park Protect Caven Point Walk" - In-person
Saturday, October 1, 2022, 10:00 a.m.**

This walk, organized by the Friends of Liberty State Park, is to support the NJ bill (S2956/A4468) that "designates and preserves Caven Point Peninsula in Liberty State Park as natural habitat" and would keep it from being privatized or developed. There will be 10 minutes of remarks and photos when the group stops 5 minutes into the walk to Caven Point, at the bend under the Liberty National club house. It is a round trip of 1.5 miles to the Caven Point beach. Participants are welcome to stay later, but after the walk to the beach the only organized activity will be a children's/youth art activity from 11:00 to 11:30. The art activity pre-registration information, along with additional information about the walk, is available here: https://folsp.org/bill%20S2956_rally.pdf.

**"National Drive Electric Week - Electric Car Show" - In-person
Saturday, October 1, 2022, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
9-15 Hampton House Road, Newton, NJ 07860**

"Come to Sussex County Mall on Hampton Road in Newton NJ on October 1 between 11:00 and 4:00 to examine a display of electric vehicles (EVs). EV owners and dealers will share their experience with you in collaboration with the Central Jersey Electric Auto Association in order to highlight electric vehicles. Your host, Skylands Group, Sierra Club-NJ Chapter, will have information and handouts available." Additional information, including a list of vehicles registered to attend, is available here: <https://driveelectricweek.org/event?eventid=3378>.

**American Solar Energy Society (ASES) "National Solar Tour" - Hybrid
Saturday, October 1, 2022 and Sunday, October 2, 2022 (In-person)
Various locations and times
Virtual Tours available through January 15, 2023**

"The ASES National Solar Tour is the largest annual grassroots solar, renewable energy, and sustainable living event in the nation. Despite its name, the ASES National Solar Tour does not just feature solar power but instead a bevy of sustainable features." A map showing sites and tours, including a number of them in NJ, is available here: <https://www.nationalsolartour.org/map/>. (The map may take a few minutes to load.)

**Ocean Wind 1 Public Hearing on Green Acres Diversion in Ocean City - In-person
Monday, October 3, 2022, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Flanders Hotel, 719 E. 11th Street, Ocean City, NJ 08226**

Representatives of Ocean Wind LLC (Ocean Wind 1) will hold a public hearing "to receive public comment on the proposed diversion of an approximately +/- 0.647-acre portion of Ocean City-owned parkland." Ocean Wind 1, a joint venture between Ørsted and PSEG, will have representatives on-hand to present information about the proposed diversion, and receive public comments. Ocean Wind 1 has filed a petition with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) to acquire permanent rights of way and easements needed to install an underground cable in connection with its proposed Ocean Wind Offshore Wind Farm Project (Project). (continued on p. 6)

(continued from p. 5) The Ocean Wind I developers believe this route for transmission cable landings will be the cheapest and most effective route for transmission and will also be the cheapest route for ratepayers in the future. Numerous NJ environmental advocacy groups including NJ Wind Works, **of which UUFANJ is a partner**, strongly support the Ocean Wind 1 project. In addition to attending the public hearing, **the public may submit written comments for two weeks following the hearing. All written comments must be submitted by October 17, 2022** to Tom Suthard at Ørsted Ocean Wind, 600 Atlantic Ave., Suite 2, Atlantic City, New Jersey 08401 or Info@OceanWind.com. Please reference "Proposed Diversion" in the subject line. A copy of any written comments must also be submitted to the Green Acres Program at PublicLandCompliance@dep.nj.gov. Include "Ocean Wind 1" in the subject line. Additional information is available here: <https://oceanwindone.com/news-archive/2022/09/green-acres-public-hearing-october-2022>.

New Jersey Clean Energy Conference - In-person
Harrah's Atlantic City, Conference Hall
777 Harrah's Hotel and Casino, Atlantic City, NJ 08401
October 3 and October 4, 2022, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

The Clean Energy Conference, presented by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) and its Division of Clean Energy, is returning this year, and will be held in person. It will include industry experts, state and federal leaders, and advocates, with the keynote speaker being Gov. Murphy. Objectives include: taking a closer look at NJ's Energy Master Plan (EMP) and the nation-leading policy design and implementation work undertaken during the last three years; discussions of incentive programs; examination of how solar, offshore wind, electric vehicles, and energy efficiency can benefit communities, particularly environmental justice and low- and moderate-income communities; and discussions of how to move toward a clean energy economy and future that works for everyone. Additional information and the registration link are available here: <https://cpe.rutgers.edu/clean-energy>. Only Walk-in Registration is now available, at \$250.

"Offshore Wind Energy and New Jersey: Challenges of Sharing the Coastal Ocean"
- Webinar
Wednesday, October 5, 2022, 7:30 p.m.

The Central Jersey Group and the Hunterdon Warren Group of the Sierra Club-NJ Chapter are presenting this webinar in which Dr. Douglas Zemeckis of the Rutgers Cooperative Extension will provide an overview of the development of offshore wind energy off the NJ coast and the challenges associated with sharing the coastal ocean among many different users. Additional information and the link to RSVP are available here: [https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?formcampaignid=7013q000001btPZAAAY&mapLinkHref=.](https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?formcampaignid=7013q000001btPZAAAY&mapLinkHref=)

League of Women Voters of New Jersey (LWVNJ) Activist Trainings - **Virtual Various dates**

The League of Women Voters of New Jersey (LWVNJ) is presenting a public series of virtual activist training sessions designed to equip participants "with the knowledge and skills needed to carry out dynamic organizing strategies that can effectively influence public policy and the state of democracy in New Jersey." The sessions scheduled for October 2022 are listed below; descriptions of these and additional sessions, along with the links to register for all sessions, are available here: <https://www.lwvnj.org/training>.

LWVNJ "Introduction to the Legislative Process" Thursday, October 6, 2022, 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

"This training is perfect for anyone who is new to advocating for legislation or any veteran grassroots lobbyist looking for a refresher on how laws are made in the Garden State. Our trainers will provide an overview of the structure and powers of the New Jersey Legislature, explain how bills advance through each chamber, teach you how to research and track legislation, and let you know how you can start lobbying with the League." See above for registration link.

LWVNJ "Letter to the Editor Action Workshop" Wednesday, October 12, 2022, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

"When organizing your community to advocate for an issue you care about it is important to find unique ways to spread your message to different audiences. Writing a letter to the editor of your local newspaper is a great way to communicate your position and to encourage readers to take action in support of your cause. This training will prepare you to write letters to the editor that are compelling and effective. During this workshop you'll learn: What a letter to the editor is and why you should write one; How to write a letter to the editor and what the appropriate length and formatting is; How to submit your letter to the editor for publishing; and More about LWVNJ's legislative priorities." See above for registration link.

LWVNJ "Countdown to Election Day: Leave No Voter Behind" Monday, October 17, 2022, 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

"In the final days leading up to an election, it can be challenging for voters to navigate the process and get all the information they need to vote. But we can all play an important role in supporting and empowering voters. In this workshop we'll break down the strategies and resources you can use to Get Out The Vote in your community and make sure that no voter is left behind." See above for registration link.

NJBPU Request for Information for the 3rd Solicitation for Offshore Wind Renewable Energy Certificates (OREC) - Comments Due October 7, 2022

The NJ Board of Public Utilities (BPU) has issued a Request for Information (RFI) related to the opening of NJ's third solicitation for offshore wind renewable energy certificates (OREC). NJ's Offshore Wind Economic Development Act advised the Board of Public Utilities to establish a program for Offshore Wind Renewable Energy Certificates (ORECs) to incentivize the development of offshore wind facilities. An OREC is a certificate issued by the Board or its designee, representing the environmental attributes of one megawatt hour of electric generation from a qualified offshore wind

project, and ORECs provide the financing mechanism for the program. Environmental and fisheries mitigation plans are required, and environmental monitoring is also required. Questions related to these plans, as well as stakeholder review, are included in Section E of the RFI (available here: https://www.nj.gov/bpu/pdf/publicnotice/Notice_RFI_Offshorewind_ThirdSolicitation_Sept2022.pdf). The deadline for submitting comments is **5:00 p.m. on October 7, 2022**. Instructions for submitting comments are in the RFI.

"Integrating Native Plants into your Home Landscape" - In-person
Friends of The New Jersey School of Conservation (NJSOC)
NJ School of Conservation, 1 Wapalanne Road, Sandyston, NJ
Saturday, October 8, 2022, 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

"Improve your local ecosystem with native plants! Some attractive and pollinator-friendly possibilities are within reach. Join Master Gardener Barbara Rosenberg as she introduces you to the big impact of adding native plants to your gardens and lawns. What makes native plants natives? Why are they easier to care for? You will gain an understanding of their benefits for soil, rainwater management, pollinators and more. This ecological learning event is for gardeners who want to be part of a conservation project empowering biodiversity one yard at a time." This event is for adults and families. Minors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at all times. Additional information and the registration link (\$12.00) are available here: <https://friendsofnjsoc.org/event/integrating-native-plants-into-your-home-landscape/>.

"Woodbridge, NJ: Stop The Keasbey Gas Plant" - Virtual
Saturday, October 8, 2022, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

This virtual meeting of the Central Jersey Food & Water Volunteer Team is open to anyone who wants to participate in online and in-person actions to stop the gas plant planned for the Keasbey section of Woodbridge Township. At the meeting, you can learn "how to get involved in the campaign to stop another dirty gas power plant from polluting our air and making the climate crisis worse!" The link to sign up is available here: <https://www.mobilize.us/fww/event/482376/>.

"Wild Edibles Information Walk" - In-person
Friends of The New Jersey School of Conservation (NJSOC)
NJ School of Conservation, 1 Wapalanne Road, Sandyston, NJ
Saturday, October 8, 2022, 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

"Jumpstart a foraging habit for your soups, stews, salads, pestos and fritters! Your program leader, Joanne White, will lead you on a hike to discuss and take photos of whatever is available in woods and meadow-like areas. Although this is not an eating event, lots of follow-up information will be available including an email with photos and descriptions of items covered on the walk. There will be references to dichotomous keys, books, nutrition, safety, ethics, gastronomy, survival and fun science. Joanne is a former science teacher with over 40 years of teaching experience, and decades of enjoying wild edibles. This program is for older teens (age 16 and up) and adults. Registration (\$10.00) is required; additional information and the registration link are available here: <https://friendsofnjsoc.org/event/wild-edibles-information-walk-4/>.

"New Approaches to the Economics of Climate Change: Urgency, Scale, Opportunity"
- In-person

Tuesday, October 11, 2022, 4:30 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

Robertson Hall, Arthur Lewis Auditorium (Room 100), Washington Road and Prospect Avenue, Princeton, NJ 08540

This talk by Professor Lord Nicholas Stern, IG Patel Chair of Economics and Government, London School of Economics and chair, Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, is free and open to the public. It is co-sponsored by the following Princeton Centers: the Griswold Center for Economic Policy Studies; the Andlinger Center for Energy and the Environment (ACEE); the Center for Policy Research on Energy and the Environment (C-PREE); and the High Meadows Environmental Institute (HMEI). Additional information is available here:

<https://gceps.princeton.edu/events/>.

"Optimizing Collaborative Energy Storage Systems for an Equitable and Sustainable Energy Transition" - Webinar

Wednesday, October 12, 2022, 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

"To support the delivery of an equitable and just transition, it is imperative to study models of ownership that can sustainably promote adoption. The aim of the study is to assess the benefits of co-operatively owned and operated storage systems. The underlying hypothesis is that there is a monetary and non-monetary value to residential storage. The hypothesis is built on the flexibility offered by storage as a demand response asset, which can be used by residents in price-based demand response programs and equally provides consumers with increased autonomy and reduced cost." This webinar, part of the "New Energy: Conversations with Early-Career Energy Researchers" series, will be presented by Ogechi Vivian Nwadiaru, PhD Candidate/NRT ELEVATE ("Elevating Equity Values in the Transition of the Energy System") Fellow, University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Her research with ELEVATE explores equitable demand response strategies, such as pricing schemes for deploying solar and storage technologies to reduce cost and improve reliability in low-income communities. Additional information and the registration link are available here:

<https://irving.dartmouth.edu/news-events/news-events/new-energy-series>.

"Key Findings from the Newest Global Assessment Report on Climate Change" - Webinar
Wednesday, October 12, 2022, 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Sponsored by the Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI), this briefing will examine the implications of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) most recent report - the Sixth Assessment Report - for the upcoming international climate negotiations in Egypt (COP27) and for work on Capitol Hill. Panelists, who participated in drafting sections of the report, will discuss key findings from the report and how the information can be used by decision-makers at the national and international levels. Additional information and the link to RSVP are available here:

<https://www.eesi.org/briefings/view/101222cop>.

**Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) Advisory Committee on Climate Change
- Via Zoom**

Wednesday, October 12, 2022, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

The meeting will be held via Zoom Webinar. Zoom information and the agenda will be available here:
<https://www.state.nj.us/drbc/meetings/advisory/>.

**"Harvest Season: Organizing for Food Justice" - Webinar
Thursday, October 13, 2022, 8:00 p.m.**

Sponsored by Unitarian Universalists for a Just Economic Community (UUJEC), this webinar will address how congregations can work with others to create an ethical and sustainable food economy, including presentations from UU congregations about feeding the hungry, fair trade economics, and economic and environmental justice. "Emphasis is on congregation-based programs that help to nourish and empower communities, small business, and food industry workers. Our harvest season cookbook identifies recipes and resources for environmentalists and community organizers. Information about harvest celebrations will be included." Music will be provided by UU composer and musician Jim Scott, co-chair of the UU Ministry for the Earth and one of the creators of the Green Sanctuary program. Additional information and a link to register for the Zoom or to join the Facebook Live event are available here: <https://uujec.org/webinars>.

**"Climate Change, Health, and Justice" Environmental Health Summit - In-person
Friday, October 14, 2022, 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
President's Tent, 15 Seminary Place, New Brunswick, NJ 08901**

The Rutgers Center for Environmental Exposures and Disease (CEED), one of the Centers of the Rutgers Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute (EOHSI), is holding its Environmental Health Summit 2022. Additional details will be available here:
<https://nbdiversity.rutgers.edu/event/environmental-health-summit-2022>.

**The Andlinger Center for Energy and the Environment 2022 Annual Meeting
"The Changing Geopolitics of Climate Change and the Energy Transition" - In-person
Friday, October 14, 2022, 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Maeder Hall Auditorium, Princeton University, 92 Olden Street, Princeton, NJ 08540**

"The past year marked record heatwaves, flooding, and droughts around the world, while surging inflation and supply chain disruptions threaten to derail energy transition efforts. The Annual Meeting features speakers from business, national security, and academia sharing their experiences and offering insights on the changing geopolitics of the global energy transition." Keynote speakers are Amanda Lacaze, CEO and Managing Director, Lynas Rare Earths and Jigar Shah, Director, Loan Programs Office, U.S. Department of Energy. Additional information and the registration link (Regular Attendee - \$195; Non-Profit Organization - \$100; Small Business \$150) are available here:
<https://acee.princeton.edu/2022-annual-meeting/>.

"Adapting to Climate Change in Your Community" - Webinar
Monday, October 17, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

"As the impacts of climate change become increasingly evident, we are learning how to be resilient in facing the challenges brought by climate-related events or conditions. We are also working to understand how to adapt the way we plan and design our communities to be climate ready." In this webinar, Tanya Rohrbach of NJ Future will discuss some the strategies for advancing local climate readiness.

This webinar is part of the "Weathering The Storm: Increased Resiliency After Superstorm Sandy" program, a collaboration between two Rutgers Cooperative Extension programs, the Earth Day, Every Day program and the Marine Extension Program Seminar Series (MEPSS), in recognition of the 10th anniversary of Superstorm Sandy. Registration is available here:

https://rutgers.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_1cU5rGBRQmCLP3OY6GtnBg.

"Heat Pump Dryers" - Webinar
Tuesday, October 18, 2022, 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Heat pump dryers can reduce energy usage by as much as 50% and directly impact your energy costs. In addition, they have a very fast return on investment, and they save an average of \$0.29 per load, which adds up quite quickly over time. The Skylands Group of the Sierra Club-NJ Chapter is presenting a webinar on Heat Pump Dryers, including the following topics: Low Impact Laundry – Front Load Washers/Hang Drying; Energy Star Savings on Heat Pump Dryers; What is a Heat Pump Dryer; How a Heat Pump Dryer Works; Advantages; Benefits of a Heat Pump Dryer; and Are They Worth the Money. Additional information and the link to RSVP are available here:

[https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?formcampaignid=7013q000001brQ8AAI&mapLinkHref=.](https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?formcampaignid=7013q000001brQ8AAI&mapLinkHref=)

NJ Clean Air Council - Virtual
Wednesday, October 19, 2022, 9:30 a.m.

The Council meets via Microsoft Teams. Information to join the meeting is provided by clicking on the date on the calendar, available here: <https://www.state.nj.us/dep/cleanair/cac-calendar.html> or contact Heidi Jones at (609) 777-0598.

"Organic Waste Management Summit 2022: Climate Change Connection" - In-person
Wednesday, October 19, 2022, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Rutgers Eco Complex, 1200 Florence Columbus Road, Bordentown, NJ 08505

"The NJ Composting Council and the Rutgers EcoComplex will host the 2022 Organics Waste Management Summit: Compost - Climate Change Connection. Organics processors, composters, haulers, regulators, academics, organics waste management professionals, sustainable community organizations, and nonprofits are invited to join the conversation about New Jersey's organics management practices. The Summit will host panels featuring experienced industry professionals, academics and regulators on topics of: State and city food waste initiatives and climate change programs; The role and how to work with compostable packaging; Compost facility management

(economics, PFAS, new techniques); and Funding and operating climate friendly organics businesses." General admission - \$165.00 +\$11.68 Fee; Government, non-profits, municipal admission - \$90.00 +\$7.11 Fee. Additional information and the link for tickets are available here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/organic-waste-management-summit-2022-tickets-372766654097>.

"Climate Change Loss and Damage" - Webinar
Thursday, October 20, 2022, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Sponsored by the Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI), this briefing will address the topic of loss and damage from climate change, in the lead-up to the international climate negotiations in Egypt (COP27). This topic is expected to be one of the most discussed issues at COP27. Impacts like land loss in Louisiana and homes falling into the ocean in North Carolina are being felt around the world. Leaders are reckoning with how to address this growing challenge, particularly in countries without the financial and technical tools needed to respond. "Panelists will discuss the tools the international community has designed so far to address loss and damage, the current status of international climate negotiations on this issue, expectations of what might happen next on the topic at COP27, and why the international conversation on loss and damage matters for U.S. policymakers." Additional information and the link to RSVP are available here:

<https://www.eesi.org/briefings/view/102022cop>.

"Building Electrification: Increase Energy Efficiency, House Value and Save Money"
- Webinar
Thursday, October 20, 2022, 7:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.

This webinar, organized by the Sierra Club-NJ Chapter, will feature the owner of Oceanside Service in Allenhurst, NJ, who is also a board member of the NJ Air Conditioning Contractors Association. He will provide a heat pump dealer's view of consumer HVAC options. In addition, the Parsippany Green Team co-Leader will describe his ground sourced heat pump, rooftop solar, energy storage, amped-up insulation, and two hybrid EV vehicles, and participants will be given an opportunity to describe energy enhancements of their homes. Additional information and the link registration link are available here:

<https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?formcampaignid=7013q000001bsKLAAY&mapLinkHref=>.

"Forum on Decarbonizing New Jersey's Health Care Sector" - Virtual
Thursday, October 20, 2022, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

This forum is sponsored by Health Care Without Harm and the Clinicians for Climate Action New Jersey. "By generating 8.5% of our national carbon pollution emissions, the U.S. health care sector excessively contributes to the increasingly severe health impacts of climate change. If the sector was a country, it would rank 13th globally for greenhouse gas emissions. This needs to change." During the 2-hour event, you will: learn about how hospitals drive down their greenhouse gas emissions; hear case studies from NJ health systems - including how systems make decisions about why and how to change; and learn how health professionals successfully advocate to do more." The registration link is available here: <https://states.ms2ch.org/nj/nj-2022-forum/>.

"Living Shorelines in the Decade Since Sandy: Lessons Learned and Implications for Future Design" - Webinar
Monday, October 24, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

"Superstorm Sandy both affirmed the effectiveness of beaches and dunes at protecting oceanfront communities and highlighted the need for new techniques for restoring New Jersey's long neglected interior shorelines. In the decade since Sandy, New Jersey has expanded its nourishment efforts along the oceanfront and has begun incorporating living shorelines along its interior shorelines." In this webinar, Dr. John Miller, Research Associate Professor at Stevens Institute of Technology, and the New Jersey Sea Grant Coastal Processes Specialist, will review the progress made over the past decade along both coasts, and will offer a perspective on how the lessons of the past can inform projects of the future.

This webinar is part of the "Weathering The Storm: Increased Resiliency After Superstorm Sandy" program, a collaboration between two Rutgers Cooperative Extension programs, the Earth Day, Every Day program and the Marine Extension Program Seminar Series (MEPSS), in recognition of the 10th anniversary of Superstorm Sandy. Registration is available here:

https://rutgers.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_1cU5rGBRQmCLP3OY6GtnBg.

"Climate Change and the Farm Bill" - Webinar
Tuesday, October 25, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

In the October National Zoom Call of the Elders Climate Action network, Jonathan Coppess, who wrote "The Fault Lines of Farm Policy: A Legislative and Political History of the Farm Bill," and who has extensive related experience on the National level, will review the farm bill and its history, as well as recent developments and the potential for the next farm bill to make real progress on climate change issues. "Every five years, Congress is scheduled to reauthorize the myriad programs in the Farm Bill. The current statute, the Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018, is scheduled to expire in 2023 and the next Congress is expected to attempt reauthorization but much remains uncertain. Addressing climate change in agriculture—reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving resiliency, and practices that can help capture and sequester greenhouse gases—is increasingly a priority for many Members of Congress and interests." Additional information and the link to register are available here: https://www.eldersclimateaction.org/event/natcal_oct22/.

"Time for Turbines 5" - In-person
Thursday, October 27, 2022, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. (Reception)
Sirens Bar and Grill, 447 Carson Ave., Atlantic City, NJ 08401
Friday, October 28, 2022, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (Forum)
Stockton University, 3711 Atlantic Ave., Atlantic City, NJ 08401

"Time for Turbines 5" hosted by Jersey Renews will feature a networking reception on Thursday, October 27, 2022 and a full-day forum on Friday, October 28. "The forum will feature speakers and panels from leading voices in the offshore wind space including federal and state government officials, wind developers, and labor leaders discussing the most pressing topics related to the offshore wind industry." General admission is \$200 and nonprofit admission is \$100. Additional information including the agenda and featured speakers, as well as the registration link, are available here: <https://www.timeforturbines.org>.

"Mutual Aid for Congregations" - Webinar
Thursday, October 27, 2022, 8:00 p.m.

Sponsored by Unitarian Universalists for a Just Economic Community (UUJEC), in this webinar the "mutual aid" concept and its importance for UUs will be explained. "The fate of Mother Earth and her children depends on mutual aid. Mutual aid projects are voluntary, participatory, empowering, and equalitarian arrangements, that provide goods or services. Personal and social wellness are encouraged. The emphasis is on direct action and on being the change that you want to see in the world. This webinar will introduce Climate Justice, mental health, and food justice programs that involve Unitarian Universalists. Resources will be identified. It's basic information that congregations and communities can use as neighbors care for each other and their environment." Additional information and the link to register are available here: uujec.org/webinars.

Rutgers Climate Institute Listing of 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. Currently there are limited events listed for October 2022 (a sampling is below), but the site includes updated information over time; check the site periodically for an updated list: <https://climatesociety.rutgers.edu/events/all-climate-events/range.listevents/>.

"Challenges and Opportunities in Organic Urban Agriculture" - Webinar
Tuesday, October 4, 2022, 3:00 p.m.

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), this webinar will address "production and marketing challenges and opportunities for farming organically in urban environments. Organic producers of all sizes and across all landscapes must follow the same national standards to meet the requirements of USDA organic certification. However, certified organic farmers and farmers using organic growing practices may have different production and market opportunities and challenges when growing in an urban environment. This webinar will explore research in this field, as well as perspectives from farmers on growing organically in urban spaces." Additional information, including how to join, are available here: <https://climatesociety.rutgers.edu/events/all-climate-events/icalrepeat.detail/2022/10/04/7271/-/webinar-challenges-and-opportunities-in-organic-urban-agriculture>. [Note: this event uses Adobe Connect.]

"Climate Change, Planetary, and Human Health Challenges and Opportunities"
Regional Symposium - In-person

Friday, October 28, 2022, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Rutgers University Cook Student Center, 59 Biel Road, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

"Climate change is the single biggest health threat facing humanity (WHO 2021). The impacts are already being felt through air and nonrecyclable waste pollution, disease, extreme weather events, forced displacement, food insecurity, and pressures on mental health. Every year, environmental factors take the lives of 13 million people. Sixty-three percent of Americans say climate change is affecting their local community. The picture is bleak, but not all hope is lost. The time to act is now.

(continued on p. 15)

(continued from p. 14) With the above in mind, Rutgers University, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Princeton University, and Stevens Institute of Technology have joined forces to hold a Regional Symposium on Climate Change, Planetary, and Human Health. The goal of this symposium is to learn what each of the respective institutions are engaged with in research, innovation and implementation to address one the 21st century biggest challenges, and to identify potential areas of collaboration that would benefit the population of New Jersey and beyond. Space is limited and registration is required. Links for additional information, and to register, are available here:

<https://climatesociety.rutgers.edu/events/all-climate-events/icalrepeat.detail/2022/10/28/7291/-/regional-symposium-climate-change-planetary-and-human-health-challenges-and-opportunities>.

SAVE THE FOLLOWING DATES....



**UUFANJ Fall Issues Conference - "Stronger Together"
- Hybrid**

**Saturday, November 12, 2022, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Morristown Unitarian Universalist Fellowship,
21 Normandy Heights Road, Morristown, NJ 07960
In-person and on Zoom**

To all NJ UUs - UUFANJ needs you at the 2022 Issues Conference, to share your congregation's unique experience, to learn from fellow New Jersey UU congregations, and to participate in shaping UUFANJ's common action plan for the year ahead. "This is the time for UUs (and our allies!) across the state to gather to envision, strategize and collaborate on the social justice issues that we face in New Jersey. This year's theme of 'Stronger Together' recognizes that, to be most effective, the work of UU FaithAction NJ needs to be grounded in the work of UU Congregations across the state. At its heart, the Issues Conference is about accountability between our organization and the congregations that make this work possible." Additional information and the registration link are available here: <https://uufaithactionnj.salsalabs.org/2022-issues-conference/index.html>.

**10th Annual Delaware River Watershed Forum - In-person
November 3 and 4, 2022
The Logan Hotel, One Logan Square, Philadelphia, PA 19103**

"The Delaware River Watershed Forum features a mix of engaging speakers, facilitated discussions to work toward shared watershed priorities, and field trips." This year the Forum will be hosted in-person at the Logan Hotel in downtown Philadelphia, PA. There will also be in-person field trip experiences and an in-person networking reception. The Forum will include 27 sessions, 3 Plenary sessions, 7 field trip excursions, and networking with 250 watershed advocates. The two-day Forum registration rate is \$175 through October 16th, and \$200 October 17th and beyond; registration is limited to 250 people. Additional information and links to the agenda and to registration are available here:

<https://www.delriverwatershed.org/2022-forum>.

VIDEOS+ OF PAST EVENTS

"Organic Agriculture as a Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Strategy" Video of Webinar

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), this webinar addressed the role of organic agriculture in presenting climate change solutions and adaptation strategies, as we seek to increase the resilience of our food system. A link to register to view the video is available here: <https://conservationwebinars.net/webinars/organic-agriculture-as-a-climate-change-mitigation-and-adaptation-strategy?sr=wp~mkt-whenPub>.

"Climate Justice: Advancing Health Equity in the Face of a Changing Climate" Video of Webinar

This webinar, sponsored by the Rutgers Institute for Corporate Social Innovation, featured the following speakers: Philip Dahlin, Johnson and Johnson; Kristin Stevens, AmeriCares; and Jeana Wirtenberg, Rutgers Business School. "The World Health Organization has declared climate change as the single biggest threat to humanity." In this webinar, Phil and Kristin discussed how they are working proactively to drive positive changes on issues that affect climate change and health equity. They explored how to create high impact strategies and scale workable solutions, especially in communities where health disparities are stark. "AmeriCares recently launched the Climate Health Equity for Community Clinics Program with a \$2 million grant from Johnson & Johnson. The three-year program will strengthen the resilience of over 100 safety net health clinics where climate change disproportionately impacts the health of vulnerable communities." The video is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wk8NGytbJkk>.

"Ideas for Organizing a Climate Change Task Force in your Congregation, with Interfaith Partners" - Video of Webinar

Sponsored by Unitarian Universalists for a Just Economic Community (UUJEC), in this webinar representatives from climate action teams from two UU congregations shared how they "have organized, with local action, to address causes and prevention of our climate crisis... It is UUJEC's hope, with a series of webinars, that we can spark lively dialogue, share useful 'how-tos' and support one another as we address this increasing challenge to the earth and the hometowns we love." The video is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NGA4biRZ4iM>.

"From One Extreme To Another: Climate Change Driven Storm Events and What To Do About Them" - Video of Webinar

Since Superstorm Sandy, New Jersey has faced its share of storm events described as 'extreme', 'severe', or 'unprecedented' with associated impacts of excessive flooding, property damage, and electricity and water disruptions. In this webinar, Dr. David Robinson, Rutgers University Professor and NJ's State Climatologist, explained what causes these storms, how they are predicted, and what can be done to protect our environment and ourselves from their impacts. (continued on p. 17)

(continued from p. 16) This webinar is part of the "Weathering The Storm: Increased Resiliency After Superstorm Sandy" program, a collaboration between two Rutgers Cooperative Extension programs, the Earth Day, Every Day program and the Marine Extension Program Seminar Series (MEPSS), in recognition of the 10th anniversary of Superstorm Sandy. The video is available here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oxEtWhMWWc4>.

"Lithium-ion Battery Material Circularity: Reduce, Reuse, Repurpose, and Recycle" - Video of Webinar

"The lithium-ion battery is a key enabling technology for transport decarbonization. While substantial impact reduction can be achieved, their use has also sparked concern due to the use of critical materials such as cobalt, nickel, and lithium. Through the circularity principles of reduce, reuse, repurpose, and recycle, resource conservation and impact mitigation can be achieved." In this presentation, part of the "New Energy: Conversations with Early-Career Energy Researchers" series, Jessica Dunn, Senior Analyst at the Union of Concerned Scientists, discussed current research, industry development, and policy which supports lithium-ion battery material circularity. The video is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Neiei9qsuCc>.

"Decarbonizing Buildings: A primer for the systems thinker" - Video of Webinar

"The built environment accounts for about 50% of global CO₂ emissions. Reducing energy use and converting to renewables go a long way toward decarbonizing a building. But, energy is one system in a whole set of building systems. So, focusing on the whole building has additional energy and carbon reduction payoffs." This webinar, sponsored by the Security and Sustainability Forum and George Washington University (GWU), was presented by Smita Chandra Thomas. She is the founder and principal of Energy Shrink - a Washington DC consulting practice focused on decarbonizing buildings for international, national, and local clients, and is also an instructor in the GWU Clean Energy Resilience Certificate Program. The video is available here: <https://ssfworld.org/decarbonizing-buildings-a-primer-for-the-systems-thinker/>.

"Pathways toward Grid Decarbonization" - Video of Webinar

"The power sector is the second-largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States—accounting for a quarter of total emissions. Experts have noted that decarbonizing this sector and electrifying other sectors is crucial for achieving economy-wide emissions reductions. A new report from Resources for the Future (RFF) and the Clean Electricity Buyers Institute examines five pathways toward decarbonization of the power sector. The report finds that three of them would reduce costs and inflation: a national transmission macrogrid, further competition among electricity generators, and expansion of retail supply choice among buyers. The other two are candidates for going beyond the recently passed Inflation Reduction Act: a national clean electricity standard and utility-led decarbonization." The video is available here: <https://www.rff.org/events/rff-live/pathways-toward-grid-decarbonization/>.

Cumberland County EJ DEP Community Engagement Session - Video of Meeting

The NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) invited Cumberland County residents to attend an EJ Community Engagement Session regarding Environmental Justice. This community engagement session provided residents, community groups, and other members of the public with a chance to discuss Cumberland County environmental justice issues with DEP Deputy Commissioner Sean Moriarty and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 2 Chief of Staff & Senior Advisor for Equity Olivia Glenn. It was one of a series being conducted by DEP in communities across NJ. The video is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hxEvPh9G5pM>.

"Protecting Liberty State Park" - Recording of Radio Show

The Eco-Logic radio/internet program on WBAI (co-hosted by **EJTF member Sally Gellert**) presented a program on Protecting Liberty State Park. "The wealthy and powerful have been making an assault on the Public Commons all over the U.S." Liberty State Park's Caven Point is a significant natural resource, a priceless and irreplaceable urban Natural Area, a Migratory Bird Habitat and Nesting Area on the Atlantic Flyway, and an urban science education STEM resource. In this episode, guest Sam Pesin of Friends of Liberty State Park described how he has been working to protect Liberty State Park, picking up from his parents' initiative in the founding of this beautiful oasis and important part of the ecosystem of our metro area. The recording is available here: <https://wbai.org/archive/program/episode/?id=34541>.

"Connect the Dots: Jobs & Energy" - Recording of Radio Show

The Eco-Logic radio/internet program on WBAI (co-hosted by **EJTF member Sally Gellert**) presented a program exploring a number of issues related to jobs and energy - "the good news is that green-energy jobs are plentiful and good for society and the planet!" Politicians rationalize their support of the fossil-fuel and nuclear industries by declaring that they are good for jobs. The truth is that renewable energy supplies more jobs per dollar or per watt than poison power does. This program explained how the renewable energy industry does that. The recording is available here: <https://wbai.org/archive/program/episode/?id=34544>.

EJTF's GOALS for 2022

- 1. Advocating for the adoption of the Green Amendment in New Jersey through work in our congregations and as a Task Force;**
- 2. Working toward resolving the many challenges in NJ related to food-insecurity, including but not limited to promoting regenerative agriculture, increasing accessibility of healthy food, reducing food waste, and encouraging community and family gardens;**
- 3. Supporting 100% renewable energy and energy conservation through measures such as the Clean Energy Equity Act, and those affecting transportation and Electric Vehicles (EVs).**

NEWS RELATED TO EJTF ISSUES

[covering 8/27/2022 – 9/26/2022]

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- **U.S. EPA Launches Environmental Justice Office** - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) launched a new office that will be focused on the needs of minority communities overburdened by pollution and will oversee the delivery of \$3 billion in environmental justice grants created by the recent passage of new climate legislation. The new Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights "will dedicate more than 200 EPA staff in EPA headquarters and across 10 regions towards solving environmental challenges in communities that have been underserved for far too long. These staff will engage with communities with environmental justice concerns to understand their needs, as well as Tribal, state, and local partners; manage and disburse historic levels of grants and technical assistance; work with other EPA offices to incorporate environmental justice into the agency's programs, policies, and processes, as allowed by law; and ensure EPA funding recipients comply with applicable civil rights laws. The office will be led by a U.S. Senate-confirmed Assistant Administrator, to be announced at a later date." <https://www.shorenewsnetwork.com/2022/09/26/u-s-epa-launches-environmental/>

GREEN AMENDMENT

- **What a “Green Amendment” Can Do for Environmental Justice** - This article provides an excellent description of the status and potential impacts of Green Amendments in a number of states that are pursuing them. Maya K. van Rossum, founder of Green Amendments For the Generations, and **EJTF partner Kim Gaddy** of Clean Water Action are quoted in the article. <https://www.yesmagazine.org/environment/2022/09/02/climate-green-amendment>

ELECTRIC VEHICLES & VEHICLE EMISSION REDUCTION

- **NJ DEP to Provide \$1.2M for Electric Garbage Truck and Hop Shuttle Bus in Hoboken** - As part of NJ's Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) Strategic Funding Plan, RGGI auction proceeds funds were awarded to Hoboken for an electric garbage truck and a Hop shuttle bus, which will bring the city to a total of 19 electric or hybrid vehicles. <https://hudsoncountyview.com/nj-dep-to-provide-1-2m-for-electric-garbage-truck-and-hop-shuttle-bus-in-hoboken/>
- **Will NJ Follow California's Call to Halt Gas Engines?** - This article describes California's new rule that phases out the sale of gasoline-powered vehicles by 2035, and how clean-energy advocates are pushing for NJ to adopt a similar strategy. See <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2022/08/will-nj-follow-california-ban-gas-engine-climate-change-greenhouse-gas-emissions-gov-phil-murphy/>. In a related segment on the Brian Lehrer radio show on WNYC, there was a discussion of the California ban, which touched on many issues surrounding electric vehicles (EVs), including a call-in by a start-up company in NYC that is dealing with the equity issue surrounding EVs and charging. The link to listen or to view the transcript is available here: <http://www.wnyc.org/story/californias-ban-gas-powered-car-sales/>.

LAND MANAGEMENT/AGRICULTURE/FOOD



- **Mayor Baraka Announces Recipients of \$2 Million Emergency Aid to Combat Food Insecurity and Food Deserts** - Using funds from the American Rescue Plan, Newark has created the "Nourishing Newark Community Grants Program" that provides grants of \$10,000 to \$350,000 to combat food insecurity and provide low-income households with direct access to fresh, locally-grown produce. Grant focus areas are: Growing & Urban Agriculture; Regular Community Distribution; and Training & Community Education. Descriptions of the fourteen Round 1 grantees are available here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Lg9E4GVQbbGjRIDU2uQJoFvR4Vjnhog-/view>. They include programs that: "will increase the capacity of farm stands and farmers markets in the City of Newark to operate the Good Food Bucks SNAP Nutrition Incentive;" "will establish a Farmer's Market and the first resident-run food Co-op in the South Ward;" "will launch a citywide, sustainable network of community gardens on-site at Newark Public Schools;" and "will provide education, networking and collaboration, gardening skills workshops, and food distribution to expand healthy food access and empowerment for community residents." <https://www.newarknj.gov/news/mayor-baraka-announces-recipients-of-2-million-emergency-aid-to-combat-food-insecurity-and-food-deserts>
- **Jersey City Launches First Food Rescue Mapping; Saving Taxpayer Dollars, Fighting Hunger, and Promoting Sustainability** - Jersey City has undertaken several programs to address food insecurity and food waste, including a first-in-the-nation collaboration with AeroFarms, a composting program, and partnership in the National Resources Defense Council's (NRDC) "Food Matters Regional Initiative." In that Initiative, city representatives network with one another, with NRDC, and with local partner organizations to develop strategies to prevent food from becoming waste, to rescue surplus food to feed members of the community in need of food assistance, and to recycle food scraps into nutrient-rich soil amendments rather than letting them rot in a landfill. Jersey City just launched a partnership with EcoTechnology to identify significant players in the area, including community food banks, food pantries, and other food distributors to vulnerable residents. <https://www.jerseycitynj.gov/news/jerseycitylaunchesfirstfoodrescuemapping>
- **New Jersey Minority, Women, And Underserved Farmer Registry Signed Into Law** - The bill (S772/A1929) that directs the NJ Department of Agriculture (NJDA) to establish a "New Jersey Minority, Women, and Underserved Farmer Registry" has been signed into law by Gov. Murphy. It will establish a registry in NJ that parallels the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Minority Farm Registry, and is intended to strengthen the participation of minorities, women, disabled, LGBTQIA+, and historically underserved farmers in available NJ and federal loan and assistance programs for farmers. <https://www.shorenewsnetwork.com/2022/09/23/new-jersey-minority-women-and-underserved-farmer-registry-signed-into-law/>]

FOSSIL FUEL INFRASTRUCTURE

- **Developer Gets Three More Years to Build South Jersey LNG Terminal** - The permit for building the Gibbstown liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal had expired in June, but the Delaware River Basin Commission's (DRBC) executive director extended it, in an action that was objected to by groups including the Delaware Riverkeeper Network as being outside of his authority. A formal 3-year extension was subsequently approved, however, by the DRBC's commissioners without additional public participation. Commissioners from NJ, PA, DE and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) voted to approve; the NY commissioner abstained. The project has been opposed by environmentalists both for the threat to public safety of shipping LNG through densely populated areas, and for its running counter to NJ's efforts to curb fossil-fuel production leading to greenhouse gas emissions. See <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2022/09/developers-three-year-extension-building-liquified-natural-gas-lng-terminal-gibbstown-delaware-river-basin-commission-vote/>. Additional history of the project is available here: <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2022/09/liquified-natural-gas-lng-export-terminal-three-years-extension-construction-permit-delaware-river-basin-commission-delaware-riverkeeper-network-delaware-river-partners-gov-phil-murphy/>.
- **Sayreville Borough Council Members Voice Opposition to Proposed Keasbey Power Plant** - The Borough of Sayreville became the sixth municipality to oppose the Competitive Power Ventures (CPV) proposed 960 megawatt gas-powered power plant intended to be constructed in the Keasbey section of Woodbridge. <https://centraljersey.com/2022/09/22/sayreville-power-plant-opposition/>

RENEWABLE RESOURCES

- **Offshore Wind Public Hearing To Be Held In Ocean City** - A public hearing on proposed transmission lines running through Green Acres land under Ocean City beaches and wetlands, hosted by Ocean Wind, LLC, the developers behind Ocean Wind 1, is scheduled for 10/3/2022 (see "Future Events" on p. 5). Environmental advocates are, for the most part, strongly in favor of the Ocean Wind 1 project but Ocean City and its residents have previously spoken out against the cables running through beaches multiple times. <https://patch.com/new-jersey/oceancity/offshore-wind-public-hearing-be-held-ocean-city>
- **Murphy Orders Big Jump in Offshore Wind** - Gov. Murphy issued an Executive Order increasing NJ's offshore wind goal from 7,500 megawatts by 2035 to 11,000 megawatts by 2040, and asking the NJ Board of Public Utilities (BPU) to study the possibility of a higher target. This article also touches on green jobs implications (see article below and on p. 22). <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2022/09/gov-phil-murphy-increased-nj-offshore-wind-farms-target-50-increase-green-jobs-expansion/>
- **Jersey Renews Response on the Release of the Council on the Green Economy Green Jobs Report** - In this article, "Jersey Renews," a coalition of which UUFANJ is a member, applauds the release of the NJ Council on the Green Economy's "Green Jobs for a Sustainable Future" report (available here: <https://www.nj.gov/governor/climateaction/council/greenreport/>) as well as its "Future of Green Jobs in New Jersey - One Year Plan" (available here: <https://www.nj.gov/governor/climateaction/documents/CGE%20Roadmap%20One%20Year%20Plan.pdf>). The article describes the report and the state's roadmap for achieving its goals. According to the report, in NJ there may be "an additional 314,888 net job-years supported over the next 10 years based on current green policies and investments... to date." <https://www.insidernj.com/press-release/jersey-renews-response-on-the-release-of-the-council-on-the-green-economy-green-jobs-report/>

- **Employers Pledge to Support Green Workforce to Mirror State's Leadership in Clean Energy Transition** - A group of NJ employers have signed onto a "Corporate Green Workforce Development Pledge" (available here: https://www.ceres.org/sites/default/files/Corporate%20Pledge_Green%20Jobs%2009.21.pdf), in alignment with the "Green Jobs for a Sustainable Future" report just released by NJ (see article on p. 21). <https://www.ceres.org/news-center/press-releases/nj-employers-pledge-support-green-workforce-mirror-states-leadership>



- **Murphy Administration Marks Climate Week by Announcing Second Round of Research Projects to Ensure Environmentally Responsible Offshore Wind Development** - The second round of research projects funded under the auspices of NJ's Offshore Wind Research and Monitoring Initiative (RMI) have been selected. These projects "will study potential impacts to the recreational fishing industry, use acoustic telemetry to track fish movements, deploy passive acoustic technologies to monitor whale movements, and evaluate offshore wind infrastructure as potential platforms for long-term environmental and ecological monitoring. The projects have been selected to address short-term high-priority research needs, identified with input by stakeholders – including a variety of state, federal, fishing industry and environmental organizations – and the New Jersey Environmental Resources Working Group." The projects are supported through a \$26 million fund that received initial funding from two offshore wind developers as part of the NJ Board of Public Utilities' (BPU) second offshore wind solicitation award. https://www.nj.gov/dep/newsrel/2022/22_0922.htm
- **LBI Residents Sue Government Over Offshore Wind Farm** (5-minute news video) - In this video, different viewpoints about the lawsuit filed in 1/2022 by Save Long Beach Island are given. The lawsuit states that the U.S. Bureau of Ocean Management (BOEM) should have completed a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) rather than an Environmental Assessment (EA) prior to offering leases for offshore wind farms, and asks for the lease decision to be "reversed and set aside." Other groups have maintained that the EIS process does not apply to decisions such as delineating where the leases may take place, but only becomes relevant when actual project planning is being done by the leaseholders. The full EIS process is being undertaken by the companies that were selected. See <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/video/lbi-residents-sue-government-over-offshore-wind-farm/>. Additional background information about the lawsuit is provided here: <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2022/06/-wind-supporters-lawsuit-long-beach-island-residents-turbine-height-environmental-impact-birds-marine-mammals-ocean-views/>.
- **Lawmakers Advance Bill to Study Energy From Waves and Tides** - A bill (A4483) that "Requires study of ocean energy potential; directs BPU to establish wave and tidal energy generation goals and take other action to establish NJ as nationwide leader in ocean energy" advanced out of the Special Committee on Infrastructure and Natural Resources and was referred to the Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee. Wave energy has great potential for energy production, but harnessing it has been problematic and there are concerns raised by groups such as those representing commercial fisheries. [FYI, currently, the only grid-connected wave energy testing site in the U.S. is at the Navy's Wave Energy Test Site in the waters near the Marine base in Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, where wave energy research has been conducted since 2002. It currently has more than one

megawatt of capacity.] The NJ FY 2023 budget includes \$500,000 for a wave and tidal energy study and pilot program. <https://newjerseymonitor.com/2022/09/23/lawmakers-advance-bill-to-study-wave-and-tidal-energies-as-renewable-energy-goals/>

CLIMATE CHANGE

- **Enviros Raise Pressure on Murphy Over Fate of Proposed Emergency Flood Rule** - As part of the NJ PACT ("Protecting Against Climate Threats") process, the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) revealed plans in late May to issue an emergency amendment to NJ Flood Hazard Area Control Act rules and Stormwater Management rules, using "imminent peril" to justify them. However, after letters were sent to Gov. Murphy from the business groups (asking for a delay in rule issuance) and environmental groups (asking that the rules be issued immediately) there has been no further mention of the rules' issuance; DEP has stated that additional stakeholder meetings will be held, but none have been scheduled. Thirteen NJ environmental groups have called on Gov. Murphy to move forward with the rules immediately. See <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2022/08/environmentalists-pressure-gov-murphy-adopt-emergency-flood-rule-bigger-storms-tropical-storm-ida-climate-change/>. Additional information, and a link to email Gov. Murphy to ask him for immediate issuance of the rules, are available on the website of NJPACTNOW (a collective endeavor of more than 30 nonprofit organizations), here: <https://www.njpactnow.org>.
- **NJ Catalogs Health Troubles Expected From Climate Change** - As required in an executive order issued by Gov. Murphy, in 2020 the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) issued the "2020 New Jersey Scientific Report on Climate Change" (available here: <https://www.nj.gov/dep/climatechange/docs/nj-scientific-report-2020.pdf>). Now, DEP has issued an addendum to that report "Climate Change Impacts On Human Health & Communities" (available here: <https://nj.gov/dep/climatechange/docs/nj-scientific-report-human-health-addendum.pdf>) on the impacts of climate change on human health and communities, making it one of the first states to do so. The report is planned to be used as a public education tool, and to provide input to NJ's climate change planning and development of the climate change resilience strategy. See <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2022/09/nj-report-catalogs-climate-change-harm-health-more-cardiovascular-disease-respiratory-illness-cancers/>. Additional information and a summary of key findings, as well as actions the public can take, are available in Gov. Murphy's press release, here: <https://www.state.nj.us/governor/news/news/562022/approved/20220920a.shtml>.
- **Murphy Administration Faces Fight Over New Rule to Combat Climate Change** - As part of the NJ PACT ("Protecting Against Climate Threats") process, the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is poised to finalize the "Control and Prohibition of Carbon Dioxide Emissions from Stationary Sources" rule that would require thousands of apartment buildings, schools and government buildings to replace fossil fuel boilers with electric boilers. DEP has stated that it is considering comments, many made by business organizations citing increases in rents, property taxes, and grocery bills that they envision will result from implementing the rule. A bill (A3935/S2671) has been introduced in the legislature that would prohibit any State agency from "adopting rules and regulations that mandate the use of electric heating systems or electric water heating systems as the sole or primary means of heating buildings or providing hot water to buildings, including, but not limited to, residences or commercial buildings. The prohibition would remain in effect until the NJ Department of Community Affairs (DCA) issues a report on the costs and benefits of electric heating, as required by the bill." <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2022/09/business-coalition-fights-murphy-electric-boilers-public-buildings-apartments-schools/>

- **Opinion: Affordability of Clean Energy Is Brought Into Sharp Focus by BPU Study** (by Barbara Blumenthal, research director with the New Jersey Conservation Foundation) - The author touts the findings of the study recently released by the NJ Board of Public Utilities (BPU) that showed that "wider use of electric vehicles and electric appliances in buildings greatly reduces the impact of clean-energy programs on electric rates." <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2022/08/barbara-blumenthal-nj-conservation-foundation-lauds-bpu-clean-energy-affordability-report-says-gas-oil-companies-raising-misleading-arguments/>

POLLUTION



UPDATE ON NJ'S SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BAG BAN

On 5/4/2022, NJ implemented the strongest law in the country to help reduce plastic pollution. Since then, a survey (available here: <https://www.delriverwatershed.org/news/2022/9/9/new-jersey-has-plastic-reduction-in-the-bag>) found that **most people support the law and are finding it easy to shift to reusable grocery bags.**

However, **one unanticipated consequence seems to be in the area of food delivery**, in which reusable bags are accumulating with consumers, as described in the 4-1/2-minute news video available here: <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/video/reusable-bags-accumulate-from-food-delivery-creating-concern-over-waste-build-up/>.

Based on the food delivery issue, **Senator Smith, the co-sponsor of the original bill, is proposing to amend it**, as described in the article available here: <https://www.nj.com/news/2022/09/nj-might-require-stores-sanitize-reusable-bags-refund-shoppers-after-bag-ban-goes-awry.html> and the 4-minute news video available here: <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/video/smith-is-ready-to-amend-njs-single-use-plastic-bag-ban/>.

Senator Smith was interviewed on WNYC's Brian Lehrer radio show, where he discussed three possible modifications to the bill that are being considered, including: delivery services must take back their delivery bags, sanitize them and reuse them; delivery services may deliver in paper bags; or the "Costco model" where a store makes available their used cardboard shipping boxes for customers to use instead of bags. Senator Smith didn't think that customers accumulate bags because they forget them and have to buy more, and he pointed out that NJ already looks much cleaner without so many plastic bags littering the landscape, and that the elimination of the plastic bags also will impact the amount of peoples' microplastics exposure. The link to listen to the episode or to view the transcript is available here: <https://www.wnyc.org/story/nj-single-use-bag-ban>.

Food pantries are already anticipating the upcoming 11/4/2022 deadline for them to stop using single-use plastic bags, and are asking for donations of reusable bags, as noted in the 1-1/2-minute news video available here: <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/video/food-banks-are-asking-people-to-donate-reusable-shopping-bags/>. Currently 300 partners in the Community Food Bank of NJ are accepting donations of reusable shopping bags. **NJ food bank sites that will accept reusable bags are shown on the map available here:** <https://cfbnj.org/donate-reusable-shopping-bags/>.

- **Microplastics Are Throughout Delaware River Estuary, Study Finds** - A report, "Reducing Microplastics in the Delaware River Estuary" (available here: https://www.nj.gov/drbc/library/documents/DRBC_MicroplasticsDelRvrEstuary_Aug2022.pdf), based on samples taken between 2019 and 2021 by the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC), found microplastics at all sampled locations, with the greatest concentration in the Rancocas Creek. The most common type was from fiber such as is found in synthetic fleece. One thing that can be done to address this is to install filters on washing machines and water treatment plants. <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2022/08/delaware-river-basin-commission-study-microplastics-delaware-estuary-17-kinds-microplastics-polyurethane-nylon-polyester/>
- **Complaint Filed with DEP over Controversial Camden Recycling Center** (4-minute news video) - Questions have been raised about whether a South Camden recycling plant and scrap metal yard is actually a recycling center. The Center for Environmental Transformation environmental group has filed a complaint with the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and has stated it may file a lawsuit related to the facility, which has repeatedly caught fire sending noxious smoke into surrounding neighborhoods. <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/video/complaint-filed-with-dep-over-controversial-camden-recycling-center/>
- **Opinion: Protect Public Health by Reducing Toxic Emissions** (by Aviva Gans, PT MS, a pediatric physical therapist and a member of Clinicians for Climate Action of New Jersey) - The author describes risks to health due to toxic emissions, emphasizing the transportation sector, and summarizes a letter recently sent to Gov. Murphy and NJ lawmakers by Clinicians for Climate Action New Jersey ("a network of health professionals and administrators concerned about the effects of climate change and pollution on health") to publicly demand faster action on reducing vehicle emissions and climate pollutants from the transportation sector. <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2022/09/cars-trucks-buses-motorcycles-pollutants-greenhouses-gases-pollutants-nitrous-oxides-ozone-carbon-monoxide-particulates/>

DRINKING WATER-RELATED ISSUES (other than lead)

- **More Volunteers Needed in 'Forever Chemical' Study** - In late 2019, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) awarded eight grants, of \$1 million each, for a multi-site health study to investigate the relationship between drinking water contaminated with per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS - "forever chemicals") and health outcomes. In NJ, Gloucester County was chosen, and the Rutgers University School of Public Health was to perform the study with voluntary participants (1,000 adults and 300 children) from Paulsboro and West Deptford. The study was delayed by COVID-19, but is now underway; however, only 396 people have enrolled and additional volunteers are being sought. <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2022/09/paulsboro-gloucester-county-nj-forever-chemicals-study-more-volunteers-needed/>
- **NJDEP Informs Hopewell Township about Contaminated Well Water** - Hopewell Township and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) hosted a virtual public meeting to address contaminants found in residential water. Between 1/3 and 2/3 of groundwater samples collected in Hopewell Township have exceeded standards for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS - "forever chemicals"). Information about treatment options and funding were provided. <https://mercerme.com/njdep-informs-hopewell-township-about-contaminated-well-water/>

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

- **NJ Board of Public Utilities Approves Energy and Water Benchmarking Program for Large Commercial Buildings** - From the NJ Board of Public Utilities (BPU) website: "Following stakeholder input, intensive research and design based on best practices, and expert guidance, the [BPU] has approved the Benchmarking Program for Commercial Buildings... Commercial buildings over 25,000 square feet will be required to benchmark their energy and water usage annually, beginning in 2023." BPU President Fiordaliso stated that "This is the next important step in implementing a best-in-class, statewide, energy efficiency program which will help us achieve Governor Murphy's goal of 100 percent clean energy by 2050. Creating a system of benchmarking allows us to measure the use of energy (electricity and gas) and water by the state's biggest buildings and support building owners in reducing energy and water usage and operating costs." <https://enviropolitics.com/new-jersey-board-of-public-utilities-approves-states-energy-and-water-benchmarking-program-for-large-commercial-buildings/>

EDUCATIONAL and YOUTH-RELATED



- **New K-12 Curriculum Covers Climate Change, First in Nation to Do So** (4-1/2-minute news video) - This video includes some examples of how climate change may be incorporated into the K-12 curriculum, beginning this year. According to Gov. Murphy's press release (available here: <https://www.nj.gov/governor/news/news/562022/approved/20220906a.shtml>), "The New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS), which outline what is taught in New Jersey's public schools and set the foundation for school districts to craft instruction and curricula, adopted climate change education in 2020. The climate change aspects of the NJSLS are designed to prepare students to understand how and why climate change happens and the impact it has on our local and global communities as well as to act in informed and sustainable ways. These standards will be incorporated across seven content areas: 21st Century Life and Careers; Comprehensive Health and Physical Education; Science; Social Studies; Technology; Visual and Performing Arts; and World Languages. Climate change standards have also been added to the appendices of the Mathematics and English Language Arts guidelines, which are up for review this year." See <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/video/new-k-12-curriculum-covers-climate-change-first-in-nation-to-do-so/>. An ABCNews video interview with NJ First Lady Tammy Murphy is available here: <https://abcnews.go.com/US/jersey-state-introduce-climate-change-curriculum-schools/story?id=90322277>.

OTHER

- **State DEP Seeks Quotes for Liberty State Park, Greenway Master Plans** - The NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has issued a Request for Quotes (RFQ) related to the Master Plan for Liberty State Park included in recently-approved legislation. The RFQ (available here: <https://nj.gov/dep/parksandforests/parks/jerseygreenwaydocs/Parks%20Development%20Consultant%20RFQ%20-%20Greenway%20+%20Liberty.pdf>) asks for firms with "demonstrated experience... to assist with the planning and design activities to facilitate the creation of master planning and detailed design documents (Master Plans & Designs) for Liberty State Park (LSP) and the recently acquired 9-mile abandoned rail corridor in Essex and Hudson Counties (Greenway) (collectively the Parks)." The due date for submission is 10/17/2022. <https://www.nj.com/hudson/2022/09/state-dep-seeks-quotes-for-liberty-state-park-greenway-master-plans.html>
- **Advocates Angry That Lakewood Cut Trees to Keep Homeless People Away** (5-minute news video) - Lakewood Township, in response to "numerous complaints from residents and township employees" (as stated by the Lakewood mayor), has cut down all of the trees providing shade at the Town Square, and also at a nearby public parking lot. The mayor stated that the quality-of-life task force suggested this approach. There has been an outcry from many quarters, including those groups that provide assistances to the homeless and now will have more trouble locating them. The impact of tree removal on the environment, urban heat, and crime reduction was apparently not taken into consideration in making the tree-removal decision. <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/video/advocates-angry-that-lakewood-cut-trees-to-keep-homeless-people-away/>
- **NJ Moves on Key Conservation Projects** - Although Gov. Murphy is in agreement with the Friends of the New Jersey School of Conservation (NJSOC) being given responsibility for managing the school, and for funding to be provided, he conditionally vetoed the bill that would have given them that responsibility and provided the funding (A-3149 - the text of the conditional veto is available here: <https://www.state.nj.us/governor/news/news/562022/docs/20220915a/A3149CV.pdf>). The conditional veto asks that language be added that requires formalizing a lease between the Friends of NJSOC and the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), which owns the property. In addition, funding would be provided through the DEP rather than the NJ Department of Education (DOE) as was stated in the existing bill. <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2022/09/friends-of-the-new-jersey-school-of-conservation-stokes-state-forest-greenway-gov-phil-murphy-dep-department-of-environmental-protection-master-plan/>
- **"Katie bar the door! Look who New Jersey Republicans have put on the uber-liberal Environment and Energy Committee"** (4-minute video EnviroPolitics interview) - In this video, EnviroPolitics interviews the Republican truck driver, Edward Durr, who unseated Senate President Steve Sweeney, and who has been named to serve on the Environment and Energy Committee. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7k6wWdP3BDo>
- **Lower Hackensack River Named NJ's 115th Superfund Site** (5-minute news video) - As a result of six Superfund sites and landfills that have deposited toxic chemicals into the Hackensack River for decades, the river bottom is covered with toxic sediment. Climate-change-intensified storms can have the effect of stirring up toxic-laden mud, as happened during Superstorm Sandy. Nineteen miles of the Lower Hackensack River has now been designated a Federal Superfund site; the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that the cleanup may cost between \$2 billion and \$3 billion, and take 20 years. See <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/video/lower-hackensack-river-named-njs-115th-superfund-site/>. A podcast that describes the effects of Superstorm Sandy on the river is available here: <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/podcast/hazard-nj-episode-4-a-comeback-on-the-hackensack/>.

- **New PSEG Chief Continues on Energy Giant’s Green Path** - Ralph LaRossa, who replaced the 15-year CEO of PSEG, Ralph Izzo, has stated that part of what is needed in the transition to clean energy is to get people to use less energy, in order to offset rate increases resulting from investing in clean-energy initiatives. <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2022/09/pseg-ceo-larossa-clean-energy-climate-change-solar-offshore-wind-evs-less-gas-electric-crucial/>
- **One Year Later: How NJ Municipalities Have Implemented DEP’s Stormwater Management Rules** - In 3/2021, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection’s (DEP) 2020 amendment to the Stormwater Management Rule took effect. The amendment requires NJ municipalities to utilize green infrastructure as a stormwater management technique on all new public and private major developments. Localities carry out these requirements through their Stormwater Control Ordinances. This article describes how several NJ cities are following the requirements of the amendment. <https://www.njfuture.org/2022/06/27/one-year-later-how-nj-municipalities-have-implemented-deps-stormwater-management-rules/>



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.

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
