



A newsletter focused on environmental justice-related events and actions specifically affecting New Jersey.

<https://www.uufaithaction.org/blog>

## EJTF ACTIVITIES



### NJ Climate Superfund Act Rally & Lobby Day

On November 17, 2025, UUFANJ, coalition partners and allies sponsored a NJ Climate Superfund Act Day of Action at the State House in Trenton, NJ. Despite frigid temperatures, environmental advocates enthusiastically listened to speakers including: Food & Water Watch NJ Director Matt Smith (upper left photo\*); noted environmentalist, author, and Third Act founder Bill McKibben (center right photo\*); and UUFANJ Executive Director Rev. Charles Loflin (lower right photo\*). Advocates are continuing to lobby legislators for the Act to be passed during the lame duck NJ legislative session. See the article on [p. 16](#) and information on [p. 2](#) about upcoming lobbying and other events scheduled in support of the Act.

\* Photos by Mike Skelly

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## **The NJ Climate Superfund Act Is Part of “The People’s Agenda”**

The People’s Agenda highlights legislative priorities that would meaningfully advance justice, equity, and opportunity across NJ. Together, advocates are calling on lawmakers to take action on the following legislation:

- S3672/A4987 – Immigrant Trust Act
- S3009/A4083 – New Jersey Voter Empowerment Act
- S3545/A4696 – **Climate Superfund Act**
- S3491/A4656 – Protections for gender affirming care
- S3452/A4601 – Affordable access to reproductive health care
- S2338/A4463 – Rehabilitative release for incarcerated elders
- S2348/A4175 – Codification of protections against police use of force

### **Upcoming Opportunities For Direct Action**

#### **Training for "The People's Agenda" District Lobby Day**

**12/1/2025, 12:30 p.m. - Virtual**

"Are you participating in 'The People's Agenda' District Lobby Day on 12/2/2025 (see below)? Join us for this office hour to go over final reminders and help answer any outstanding questions ahead of the event." Registration is available here:

<https://tinyurl.com/mrxxftkx>.

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#### **"The People’s Agenda" District Lobby Day**

**12/2/2025, Various Times**

**Individual District Offices - In-person**

Tuesday, 12/2/2025 features in-person visits to all local district legislative offices to deliver "The People’s Agenda." This effort is being coordinated by the NJ League of Women Voters. Additional information and registration are available here:

<https://tinyurl.com/2yx4vnpc>

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#### **"The People's Agenda" Rally & Lobby Day**

**12/8/2025, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**Trenton, NJ - In-person**

"Take this opportunity with Garden State Equality, to stand in support of a more accessible, affordable, safe, and welcoming New Jersey for all. Please join us for 'The People’s Agenda' official Lobby Day. Our collective advocacy effort will urge the Legislature to pass critical social justice legislation during this year’s lame duck session."

Additional information and registration are available here:

<https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/871549/>.

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**Please consider wearing a UU FaithAction T-shirt to the in-person events!**

## **FUTURE EVENTS - Virtual, In-person, and Hybrid**

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

**Others - send an email to [uufaihactionejtf@gmail.com](mailto:uufaihactionejtf@gmail.com) requesting to receive information about environmental issues and upcoming events.**

<b>DECEMBER 2025</b>						
<b>(with <a href="#">hyperlinks</a> to details on the following pages)</b>						
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>Mon.</b>	<b>Tues.</b>	<b>Wed.</b>	<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>Fri.</b>	<b>Sat.</b>
	<p><b>1</b>  <a href="#">Training for "The People's Agenda" District Lobby Day</a>                      - 12:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>2</b>  <a href="#">"The Climate Crossroads: Why Haven't We Changed — and How We Do Now"</a>                      - 11:00 a.m.</p> <hr/> <p><a href="#">Lead-Free NJ Advocacy Coordinating Committee Meeting</a>                      - 3:00 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p><a href="#">"The People's Agenda" District Lobby Day</a>                      - Various times</p>	<p><b>3</b>  <a href="#">LWVNJ - "Navigating the Lame Duck Session: Advocacy Strategies for the Final Push"</a>                      - 6:00 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p><a href="#">"Not So Pretty" – The Tea on Toxic Beauty Virtual Film Screening</a>                      - 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>4</b>  <a href="#">OASIS &amp; NJ Audubon Eco-Schools Conference: School Sustainability Success Stories</a>                      - 9:00 a.m.</p> <hr/> <p><a href="#">NJ WasteWise Business Network Meeting</a>                      - 10:00 a.m.</p> <hr/> <p><a href="#">"Deer Dilemma"</a>                      - 10:30 a.m.</p> <hr/> <p><a href="#">"Planning with Intention"</a>                      - 12:00 p.m.</p>		
<p><b>7</b>  <a href="#">"Good Grain" Film Screening at West Windsor Arts Center</a>                      - 4:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>8</b>  <a href="#">"The People's Agenda" Rally &amp; Lobby Day</a>                      - 11:00 a.m.</p>	<p><b>9</b>  <a href="#">Orange and East Orange EJ DEP Community Engagement Session</a>                      - 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>10</b>  <a href="#">DRBC 4Q Business Meeting</a>                      - 10:30 a.m.</p> <hr/> <p><a href="#">"New Jersey Nature Based Solutions for a Changing Climate"</a>                      - 12:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>11</b>  <a href="#">Jersey Water Works Conference 2025</a>                      - 8:00 a.m.</p> <hr/> <p><a href="#">Circular Bioeconomy and Regenerative Food Systems Conference</a>                      - 8:30 a.m.</p> <hr/> <p><a href="#">NJ Community Forestry Council</a>                      - 10:00 a.m.</p> <hr/> <p><a href="#">"Building Through Multilateralism &amp; Sustainable Development"</a>                      - 8:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>12</b>  <a href="#">"Where Key Clean Energy Tax Credits Stand"</a>                      - 12:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>13</b>  <a href="#">Join Clean Water Action for a Port Tour!</a>                      - 10:00 a.m.</p>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<p><b>16</b>  <a href="#">DRBC Advisory Committee on Climate Change</a>                      - 11:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>17</b>  <b>Comments Due:</b>  <a href="#">NJBPU Third Triennium of Energy Efficiency and Peak Demand Reduction Programs - Straw Proposal</a></p>	<p><a href="#">NJ Student Learning Standards Public Hearings - Registration to Testify Open 12/16/2025 - 1/8/2026 (noon)</a></p>		

## **FUTURE EVENTS**

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### **"The Climate Crossroads: Why Haven't We Changed — and How We Do Now"** **12/2/2025, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** **- Webinar**

This webinar is hosted by Elders Action Network, Elders Climate Action, and The Way Forward Regenerative Conversations Podcast. It will feature "Bill McKibben, Dr. Rupert Read, and Brian McLaren, in a live conversation moderated by Dr. John Izzo, confronting the hard truth of where we stand and explore what it will take to move from paralysis to action.... Virtual attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions." Additional information and registration are available here: <https://secure.everyaction.com/YRWcz4qbrUCIbeXqAFWeRA2>.

Note: "The Way Forward Regenerative Conversations Podcast" website (available here: <https://wayforwardpodcast.com>) includes links to a number of conversations that may be of interest. Each episode "dives deep into the heart of our planet's most pressing challenges and the transformative opportunities they present to us" focusing on *"What is the way forward?"*

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### **Lead-Free NJ Advocacy Coordinating Committee Meeting - Virtual** **12/2/2025, 3:00 p.m.**

The Lead-Free NJ Advocacy Coordinating Committee brings stakeholders together to identify advocacy strategies and coordinate individual advocacy activities. If you are interested in finding out their role, minutes of the last meeting are available here: <https://www.leadfreenj.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/9.4.25-LFNJ-Advocacy-Coordinating-Committee.pdf>. Registration for the December meeting is available here: <https://tinyurl.com/2ps7nwm2>.

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

The League of Women Voters of New Jersey (LWVNJ) (of which **EJTF member Nancy Griffeth** is co-chair of the Natural Resources Committee) has been 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 December 2025 session is listed below.

### **LWVNJ - "Navigating the Lame Duck Session: Advocacy Strategies for the Final Push" - via Zoom** **12/3/2025, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

"The end of New Jersey's legislative session is approaching, and the final weeks known as the 'Lame Duck' period, offer a critical window to push key campaigns across the finish line. This fast-paced time calls for rapid mobilization, strong collaboration, and strategic advocacy to maximize impact and apply pressure where it counts. Join us for a discussion on how to make the most of the Lame Duck session, what actions you can still take to advance your campaigns, and how to prepare to respond effectively during these final weeks of the legislative calendar." Registration is available here: <https://tinyurl.com/yc7hd667>.

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### **"Not So Pretty" – The Tea on Toxic Beauty Virtual Film Screening** **12/3/2025, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

"Join Clean Water Action for 'Not So Pretty' - a virtual film screening and community conversation uncovering the hidden dangers in everyday beauty and personal care products. This event is part of our Tea on Toxic Beauty campaign, designed to raise awareness about the intersection of health, beauty, and justice. Together, we'll explore how toxic ingredients, industry racism, and the lack of regulation put our communities at risk, and what we can do to demand change!.... Hear from beauty justice experts such as the Clean Beauty Coalition, and partners from Crossroads4Hope, the New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance, and Rutgers EOHSI [Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute]." Additional information and registration are available here: <https://act.cleanwater.org/page/181783/subscribe/1>.

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**OASIS & NJ Audubon Eco-Schools  
Conference: School Sustainability Success  
Stories**

**12/4/2025, 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
Lawrenceville, NJ - In-person**

Green Amendments Founder and Delaware Riverkeeper Maya K. van Rossum will join NJ Senator Zwicker and Climate Revolution Action Network Founder Ben Dziobek at the OASIS and NJ Audubon Eco-Schools Conference: School Sustainability Success Stories. "Join us at The Lawrenceville School for an inspiring event showcasing sustainability success stories from schools. Learn about innovative projects, initiatives, and practices that are making a positive impact on our schools and the environment. Connect with like-minded individuals, share ideas, and be part of the movement towards a more sustainable future. Don't miss out on this opportunity to be inspired and motivated!" Additional information including the agenda and registration link (**\$55.00 + \$5.20 fee**) are available here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/oasis-and-nj-audubon-conference-school-sustainability-success-stories-tickets-1766515879549>.

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**NJ WasteWise Business Network Meeting  
12/4/2025, 10:00 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.  
- Virtual**

"The New Jersey WasteWise Business Network is a free educational program designed to help businesses and other organizations learn how waste reduction, recycling, and recycled product procurement not only help the environment, but also their bottom line." Some of the topics to be presented at this webinar/meeting are "Recycling and Waste Management Legislative Update," "The Good Guardians' SecondVerse Notebook Recovery/Waste Reduction Initiative," "New Jersey Clean Communities Single Use Plastics Update – with a focus on Skip the Stuff, Reusable Bag Resource Center and Anti-Litter messaging," "Saint Peter's University's Successful Waste Reduction, Recycling and Sustainability Initiatives," and "Introduction to Sustainable Fashion." Links to the agenda and to register are available here:

<https://www.anjr.com/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1974834&group=>.

**"Deer Dilemma"**

**12/4/2025, 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Jackson Township, NJ - In-person**

Deer have become an issue of great importance for NJ's forests. This NJ Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Forest Resource Education Center (FREC) program and hike will provide on-the-ground information about them. "December is a very important month for our local White-tailed Deer population. It is the height of their mating season and the beginning of the six-day firearms hunting season. This is a good time to learn about the lives of deer and their impact on us and our forests. Join us to find out more about these impressive animals and to have an opportunity to voice your opinion about them. Persons under 12 years of age should be accompanied by an adult." Additional information and registration (**free**) is available here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/deer-dilemma-registration-1975640350471>.

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**"Planning with Intention" - Webinar  
12/4/2025, 12:00 p.m.**

This webinar is sponsored by the American Forests' Tree Equity Coaching Network. "Join us for the sixth session of the Tree Equity Coaching Network with Michael Martini from the Sustainable Forestry Initiative [SFI]. We'll learn about SFI's Urban and Community Forestry standards and how tree equity is foundational to all city planning." The Tree Equity Coaching Network "is a community of practice for urban foresters, community advocates, city leaders and allied professionals to connect, learn, inspire and cultivate city commitments to advance Tree Equity." Registration is available here: <https://tinyurl.com/3n945phs>.

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**"Good Grain" Film Screening at West  
Windsor Arts Center  
12/7/2025, 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Princeton Junction, NJ - In-person**

"Join NOFA NJ [Northeast Organic Farming Association of NJ] and Hundred Year Films for a screening of Good Grain sponsored by the award-winning West Windsor Community Farmers Market (WWCFM) at the West Windsor Arts Council. Enjoy

a mini-market featuring Morganics Family Farm and vendors who use ingredients from Morganics in their offerings, snacks made from local grains and a post-screening discussion/Q&A.... In 2024, NOFA NJ partnered with filmmaker Jared Fleisher of Hundred Year Films to highlight the artisans behind the local grain movement in New Jersey. The resulting documentary, Good Grain, explores the opportunity and excitement that the local grain economy brings, and why it is important to shift away from our reliance on synthetic chemicals in the production of grain crops." Admission is **\$10 per person**. Light refreshments and samples of local grain products will be served. The movie trailer is available here:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cL\\_AryvqD9Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cL_AryvqD9Y).

Additional information and the link to register are available here: <https://tinyurl.com/5384tw7d>.

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**Orange and East Orange EJ DEP Community Engagement Session - Hybrid**  
**12/9/2025, 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**  
**East Orange, NJ - In-person & on Zoom**

The NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is inviting Orange and East Orange residents to attend a community engagement session regarding Environmental Justice. "Join DEP Commissioner Shawn LaTourette and Office of Environmental Justice Director Kandyce Perry... to discuss environmental justice issues impacting overburdened communities in Orange and East Orange, and share DEP resources." This community engagement session is one of a series being conducted by DEP in communities across NJ. The meeting will be in-person and also on Zoom. Registration is available here:

<https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/odanGvf0RUGmFk3rhKhsWQ>.

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**Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) Fourth Quarter 2025 Business Meeting**  
**12/10/2025, 10:30 a.m. - Virtual**

The Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) will hold its fourth-quarter business meeting on Wednesday, 12/10/2025. The business meeting is open to the public and will be held virtually via Zoom Webinar. A livestream via the DRBC's YouTube channel will also be offered. After all scheduled business has been completed and as time allows, the Business Meeting may be followed

by up to one hour of Open Public Comment. This is an opportunity to address the Commission on any topic concerning management of the Basin's water resources outside the context of a duly noticed, on-the-record public hearing. To provide open public comment, you must register for the Zoom Webinar by 5:00 p.m. on 12/9/2025 and note in your registration that you wish to provide open public comment (you cannot provide comment if watching on YouTube). Additional information, including a link to the agenda, a link to register for the Zoom webinar and to register to provide public comment, and a link to the YouTube livestream, are available here:

<https://www.nj.gov/drbc/meetings/upcoming>.

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**"New Jersey Nature Based Solutions for a Changing Climate" - Webinar**  
**12/10/2025, 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

This webinar is presented by the Rutgers - New Brunswick NJ Climate Change Resource Center. "Communities across New Jersey are turning to nature-based solutions (NBS) to address flooding, extreme heat, and other climate-related challenges. NBS use natural systems and processes to address environmental challenges while providing co-benefits for people and the environment. This webinar will introduce participants to key resources that can help planners, local officials, and conservation professionals learn about, plan for, and implement NBS. Participants will explore the opportunities and challenges associated with incorporating NBS into local planning efforts. Attendees will gain a deeper understanding of how to:

- Identify different types of nature-based solutions and determine which are most effective in various settings and environmental conditions.
- Design and maintain sustainable, ecologically based landscape projects that enhance resilience.
- Use online mapping and data visualization tools to inform decision-making."

Additional information and the link to register are available here:

[https://njclimateresourcecenter.rutgers.edu/upcoming\\_events/new-jersey-nature-based-solutions-for-a-changing-climate](https://njclimateresourcecenter.rutgers.edu/upcoming_events/new-jersey-nature-based-solutions-for-a-changing-climate).

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**Jersey Water Works Conference 2025**  
**12/11/2025, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**  
**Ewing, NJ - In-person**

Jersey Water Works (JWW) is presenting its Eleventh Annual Jersey Water Works Conference, with the theme "Our Commitment to Future Generations." This is a full-day in person only event and it includes a keynote speaker, featured speakers, twelve workshops, and lunch. Breakout sessions include: "Lead Service Line Replacement"; "PFAS and Emerging Contaminants"; and "Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI)." Additional information, including a link to the agenda and registration information (**General Registration - \$200, Nonprofit and Government Employees - \$100**), is available here:

<https://www.jerseywaterworks.org/events/annual-conference/2025>.

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**Circular Bioeconomy and Regenerative Food Systems Conference**  
**12/11/2025, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**  
**New Brunswick, NJ - In-person**

The Rutgers Department of Agriculture, Food, and Resource Economics is sponsoring this conference "to explore the Circular Bioeconomy and Regenerative Food Systems and potential to stimulate economic growth, enhance resource efficiency and promote sustainability. Discover programs at Rutgers and across New Jersey that are leading the way in advancing these principles and shaping a more sustainable future." A bioeconomy is an economic system based on renewable biological resources - like food scraps, manure, green waste, and forest residues - rather than fossil fuels or extractive industries. A circular system is one that returns resources to the land - recycling nutrients, organic matter, and energy back into regenerative cycles. Additional information and the link to RSVP are available here: <https://sebs.rutgers.edu/event/2025/seminar-circular-bioeconomy-and-regenerative-food-systems-new-jersey-carl-pray>.

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**NJ Community Forestry Council**  
**12/11/2025, 10:00 a.m. - Hybrid**  
**Jackson, NJ - In-person & Online**

"The NJ Community Forestry Council (Council) to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is comprised of members appointed by the State Forester, with expertise or interest in trees, forestry, or tree or forest management, maintenance, or care. The Council advises the State Forester, the Division of Parks and Forestry and the DEP.... in promoting, supporting and advancing healthy, safe and sustainable urban and community forests in New Jersey." The meeting agenda will deal with implementing the New Jersey Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act, the No Net Loss Reforestation Act, and issues concerning urban and community forestry and the forest and tree resources. Links to additional information, including how to join virtually, are available here: <https://dep.nj.gov/event/nj-community-forestry-council-8>.

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**"Building Through Multilateralism & Sustainable Development" - Webinar**  
**12/11/2025, 8:00 p.m.**

In this webinar sponsored by Unitarian Universalists for a Just Economic Community (of which **EJTF member Sally Jane Gellert is a Board of Trustees Co-chair**), "UUs Report Back from the United Nation's COP 30 with International Convocation of UU Women's members Carmen Capriles and Cindy Piester." Carmen is a UU from Bolivia, an environmental advocate, agronomist and a COP negotiator. Cindy is an author-researcher-activist in her fourth year as an NGO delegate/observer or badged virtual attendee. Additional information and the link to register are available here: <https://uujec.org/webinars>.

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**"Where Key Clean Energy Tax Credits Stand" - Webinar**  
**12/12/2025, 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

"The Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI) invites you to a briefing on the state of federal clean energy and energy efficiency tax credits. This briefing will review how the One Big

Beautiful Bill Act (P.L. 119-21) modified or altogether ended 12 key tax credits, including those for electric vehicles, renewables, biofuels, hydrogen, nuclear energy, and energy efficiency. The briefing will share ways companies and consumers are adapting to this new landscape, as well as the short- and long-term implications for the energy industry, developers, and manufacturers. Panelists will also explore the outlook for using federal tax policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, lower energy bills for households and businesses, and increase resilience to climate impacts while advancing U.S. competitiveness on the global stage." Additional information and the links to access the livestream and registration are available here:

<https://www.eesi.org/briefings/view/121225tax>.

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**Join Clean Water Action for a Port Tour!  
12/13/2025, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
Elizabeth, NJ - In-person**

This tour is sponsored by Clean Water Action. "Experience NJ's Goods Movement Industry in motion & and it's everyday impacts by attending a bus tour that will be going through last-mile warehouses & one of the busiest ports in the country - Port of Newark. Learn how to get more involved beyond the tour with advocating for zero emissions from port to warehouse to delivery to protect community members and workers impacted the most by the Goods Movement industry! Will include a Spanish Translator, refreshments during the tour and lunch afterwards!" Additional information and registration are available here:

<https://act.cleanwater.org/page/182183/subscribe/1>.

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**DRBC Advisory Committee on Climate  
Change - via Zoom  
12/16/2025, 11:30 a.m.**

For the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) Advisory Committee on Climate Change (ACCC) meeting, additional information, including links to the agenda when available and Zoom registration, are available here:

<https://www.nj.gov/drbc/meetings/advisory/>.

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**NJ Student Learning Standards Public  
Hearings - Registration to Testify Open  
12/16/2025 - 1/8/2026 (noon)**

NJ State law calls for the revision to the NJ Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) every five years by subject area on a revolving basis. **EJTF member Mike Skelly** has been very involved in ensuring that environmental justice, climate change and sustainability are included in the ongoing revisions of the NJSLS that address NJ's first-in-the-U.S. requirement for climate change to be taught across all grade levels and subjects. The NJ Department of Education (DOE) has issued a Public Notice regarding the NJSLS to be revised: "... draft revisions to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards [were presented] to the State Board...at a meeting... on Wednesday, November 5, 2025. These draft revisions [were] in two subject areas: Career Readiness, Life Literacies and Key Skills, and Science. In addition,... draft revisions [will be presented]... to the State Board of Education... at a meeting... on Wednesday, December 3, 2025. These draft revisions will be in four subject areas: Computer Science and Design Thinking, World Languages, Visual and Performing Arts, and the New Jersey Preschool Teaching and Learning Standards." The State Board of Education will hold three regional public hearings in 2026 to receive comments (schedule available here: <https://nj.gov/education/code/proposed/past/2025/NewJerseyStudentLearningStandardsPublicNotice.pdf>).

**Registration to testify at one of the regional public hearings will be open from 12/16/2025 - 1/8/2026 (noon).** Additional information is available here:

<https://www.nj.gov/education/sboe/meetings/testimony/index.shtml>.

**Note: the draft revisions presented at the 11/5/2025 meeting are available to download here:**

<https://www.nj.gov/education/sboe/meetings/agenda/2025/November.shtml>, **under #5f2 CLKS (Career Readiness, Life Literacies and Key Skills) and #5f3 Science. For the draft revisions presented at the 12/3/2025 meeting, search for the meeting agenda link here:** <https://tinyurl.com/yzs9hjkk>.

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## **NJBPU Third Triennium of Energy Efficiency and Peak Demand Reduction Programs - Straw Proposal Comments Due 12/17/2025**

From the public notice: "The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities [NJBPU] invites stakeholders and members of the public to provide written comments on the straw proposal for the upcoming third three (3)-year period [Triennium 3] of New Jersey's energy efficiency ("EE") and peak demand reduction ("PDR") programs.... The Triennium 3 programs will be administered by the State's investor-owned electric and gas utilities and New Jersey's Clean Energy Program from July 1, 2027 to June 30, 2030. The straw proposal is available at the following location:  
<https://nj.gov/bpu/pdf/publicnotice/Triennium%203%20Straw%20Proposal.pdf>. The Board is accepting written and/or electronic comments regarding the Straw Proposal. All public comments should be filed under Docket No. QO25050300.... **The deadline for comments on this matter is 5 p.m. on December 17, 2025.**" The public notice is available here:  
<https://www.nj.gov/bpu/pdf/publicnotice/T3%20straw%20notice.pdf>.

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### **VIDEOS+ OF PAST EVENTS**

#### **Eco-Logic Radio Show: "Food, Agribusiness & Family Farms" - Recording of Radio Show**

The Eco-Logic radio/internet program on WBAI aired this recent show related to EJTF's goals (cohosted by **EJTF member Sally Gellert**), **"Food, Agribusiness & Family Farms"** - 'Agribusiness 'is all about keeping the consumers in the dark' about our food. Eco-Logic is here to tell you what you often won't hear anywhere else. Agribusiness doesn't create any food - they sell to farmers and they sell food products. Agribusiness is not the same as big farms, it just profits from them." The recording is available here:  
<https://www.wbai.org/archive/program/episode/?id=60809>.

Note: The Eco-Logic radio show airs Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. on WBAI 99.5 FM, and can also be accessed on <https://wbai.org>.

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#### **Sierra Club NJ Monthly Building Electrification - Video of Webinar & Slides**

This webinar session of the touted Sierra Club NJ's monthly Building Electrification webinars covered "Balcony Solar - Buy a solar panel or two; hang them facing ~south, and plug into the nearest outlet (how do we make this available in NJ?)" The video is available here:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=20ygu2Zr\\_Vs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=20ygu2Zr_Vs). Slides of the Balcony Solar portion are available here: <https://tinyurl.com/yeyjju29>. Also available are slides showing incentives still available and a heat pump case study, here:  
<https://tinyurl.com/23kjh8y7>.

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#### **"Powering Up: Improving Energy Grid Reliability and Resilience to Lower Energy Bills" -Video of Webinar**

This Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI) webinar covered "policy solutions to meet the reliability, resilience, and affordability challenges facing the U.S. energy grid.... Aging infrastructure, extreme weather, and unprecedented increases in electricity demand could soon overwhelm generation and transmission capacity and outpace states and utility planners.... This briefing [outlined] policy options and technological innovations to address these challenges. Panelists [expanded] on several aspects of grid modernization, including the buildout of new transmission lines, bringing online new power generation and energy storage capacity, and improving energy efficiency." The video is available here:  
<https://www.eesi.org/briefings/view/100925grid>.

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#### **New Jersey's Rising Seas and Changing Coastal Storms: An Overview of the 2025 NJ STAP Report - Video of Webinar**

This webinar is an overview of New Jersey's Rising Seas and Changing Coastal Storms - a report of the 2025 Science and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) convened by Rutgers University at the request of the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The authors identify, evaluate, and summarize the most current science on sea-level rise and changing coastal storms. The report includes detailed sea-level rise projections,

assessments regarding changing coastal storms, and summaries of sea-level rise and changing coastal storm impacts on New Jersey ecosystems. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W4WAts3NcaI&t=3388s>. Additional information and a link to the report are available on [p. 17](#).

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### **Option Green: "What You Should Know About Plastic" - Video of Webinar**

"This workshop provide[d] a foundational understanding of key concepts on plastics: how plastics are made, the significance of resin identification codes (RICs) and practical recycling guidelines. Presented by Princeton University Assistant Professor of Chemistry Erin Stache, the workshop also highlight[ed] issues around 'greenwashing' and 'wish cycling.'... By fostering a deeper understanding of plastics and sustainability, this initiative aim[ed] to empower individuals to make informed decisions and contribute to more effective waste management in our community." This event was part of the Option Green lecture series co-sponsored by the Friends of East Brunswick Environmental Commission and funded by the East Brunswick Friends of the Library. The video is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ZQQGc3kNdE&list=PL3zFaZAZDa5ik2qePdiFaZ1usPE6px0N7>.

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### **"Transitioning States and Countries to 100% Clean, Renewable Energy and Storage for Everything" - Video of Webinar**

This webinar sponsored by Elders Climate Action was presented by Dr. Mark Z. Jacobson, Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the Director of the Atmosphere/Energy Program at Stanford University. His career focuses on better understanding air pollution and global warming problems and developing clean, renewable energy solutions, and he has published 190 journal articles and seven books. "Global warming, air pollution, and energy insecurity are three of the most significant problems facing the world today. Mark discuss[ed] the development of technical and economic roadmaps to solve these problems in the U.S. and worldwide. The solution: electrify buildings, transportation, and industries with 100% clean, renewable energy and storage. Aside from addressing global warming, these plans have

the potential to annually eliminate over seven million air pollution deaths worldwide, reduce international conflict over energy, stabilize energy prices, reduce catastrophic risk, create jobs, and minimize land use." The video is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YOXwMb3kPBk&t=5s>.

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### **Princeton University Andlinger Center for Energy and the Environment 2025 Annual Meeting - "Strategies for Circularity: Prospects and Challenges" - Videos of Sessions**

"In a circular economy, systems and products are intentionally designed to minimize waste and keep resources in use for as long as possible - closing the loop on the traditional "take-make-dispose" linear economic model. The 14th Annual Meeting explore[d] opportunities and challenges for implementing circular approaches, with the goal of identifying key priorities for research, policy, and industry in the journey toward a more sustainable and resource-efficient future." The keynote speaker was Andre Argenton, Dow's chief sustainability officer and vice president of Environment, Health and Safety (EH&S). Links to videos of the following presentations are available here: <https://acee.princeton.edu/2025-annual-meeting/videos>.

- "Morning Keynote: The Circularity Journey"
  - "New Frontiers in Circularity" Panel
  - "Scaling Circularity" Panel
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### **"Tree Preservation: Compounding Interest" - Video of Webinar**

This webinar sponsored by the American Forests' Tree Equity Coaching Network covered "how policy and planning is central to realizing the benefits of trees on a human timeline." The Tree Equity Coaching Network "is a community of practice for urban foresters, community advocates, city leaders and allied professionals to connect, learn, inspire and cultivate city commitments to advance Tree Equity." The video is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ez3FBccR2g>. Links to previous webinars are available here: <https://www.americanforests.org/project/coaching-network>.

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## **Under 30 and Over It! Young Climate Organizers Discuss Myths, Initiatives and Successes - Video of Webinar**

This webinar, part of the NJ Atlas of Disaster Briefing and Speaker Series sponsored by Rebuild by Design, presented a "powerhouse panel of New Jersey's rising leaders in climate action" who spoke about "their bold organizing strategies and how you can influence positive change for the planet." It featured Oriana Holmes-Price of [EJTF partner] NJ Environmental Justice Alliance, Jasmine Metellus of the NJ League of Conservation Voters, and Ben Dziobek of Climate Revolution Acton Network NJ. The video is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8iuodWSf8LU>.

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## **"Future of Gas 101" Webinar Series - Videos of Webinars**

Each month, Climate XChange "explore[s] a climate policy topic in depth, bringing in experts and pushing forward the conversation." In 10/2025, Climate XChange invited a panel of experts for a three-part webinar series on the future of gas policy and the opportunities it presents for state climate actors. "Once touted as a 'bridge fuel' by the fossil fuel industry and its proponents, the reality is that natural gas infrastructure locks the U.S. into future emissions when cleaner alternatives exist. The future of natural gas is one of the foremost concerns for climate and clean energy actors, and states play a crucial role in shaping and regulating which energy sources they utilize. Future of Gas (FOG) policies and proceedings seek to plan and implement the regulatory framework needed to halt the expansion of gas infrastructure, decarbonize our buildings, invest in efficiency, and more - all while protecting ratepayers and securing long-term energy affordability." The webinars are:

- **"The State Policy Basics"**
- **"Case Studies and Lessons Learned from State Advocates"** and
- **"A Panel Discussion with Experts"**.

The videos are available here: <https://climate-xchange.org/2025/10/webinar-recap-future-of-gas-101-series/>.

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## **"The Truth about Fracking's Harms to Human Health" - Video of Webinar**

Although this webinar focuses on health of those who live in PA's shale region communities, it may be of interest as fracked natural gas from PA has been the focus of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) exports from a planned port in Gibbstown, NJ. "The Delaware River Frack Ban and Climate Action Coalition [took] a deep dive into how the development of fracking has negatively impacted the health of those who live in Pennsylvania's shale region communities. High volume hydraulic fracturing ("fracking") has released air and water pollution, harming peoples' health, and its industrial footprint has indelibly degraded communities and their environment. Thousands of health and environmental studies and reports have documented the growing adverse effects as fracking has expanded over the years. Dr. Kathleen Nolan examine[d] why and how this is occurring." The video is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LpUx54VTPz4>.

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## **Pinelands Webinar Series - "Sustainable Agriculture" - Video of Webinar**

This webinar continued the Pinelands Preservation Alliance (PPA) monthly webinar series "exploring the vital work of the Pinelands Preservation Alliance (PPA) and how you can help protect this unique ecosystem. These free public webinars are based on our 35th anniversary State of the Pinelands Report [available here: <https://tinyurl.com/55v3n8m2>]." This webinar explored PPA's sustainable agriculture experiences. "New Jersey is known as the Garden state, but has been losing farmland to developments of homes and warehouses. Pinelands Alliance has been working to preserve New Jersey's farming legacy, and make it greener. The Alliance created the Rancocas Creek Farm which uses regenerative farming practices to improve the environment while increasing access to fresh local vegetables." The video is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=neMyAkAqvcc>.

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## **Rutgers Climate Symposium 2025 - "The Blue Planet"**

### **- Video of Plenaries and Panel Session**

This symposium focused on "Fostering collaboration among researchers and students from academic and research institutions in the Mid-Atlantic region who are interested in climate change, renewable energy, energy efficiency, or other approaches to reducing greenhouse gas emissions across disciplines representing climate science, human dimensions, technology, the arts, communications, and humanities." Plenaries included: "Climate and the Deep Blue Sea: Improving Prediction"; "History As a Tool for Addressing Climate Change"; "Powering and Cooling Data Centers Using Ocean Renewable Energy"; and "International Court Climate Change Opinions, Ocean Treaties: What's Science Got to Do with It?" The Panel Session included the Plenary speakers. The 3-hour 20-minute video is available here:

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

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### **NEWS RELATED TO EJTF ISSUES [covering 10/26/2025 – 11/25/2025]**

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#### **ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**

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### **AG Platkin and DEP Commissioner LaTourette Announce Two Settlements and Five Environmental Enforcement Lawsuits**

From the press release: "New Jersey Attorney General Matthew J. Platkin and Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Commissioner Shawn M. LaTourette announced five new environmental enforcement actions in communities considered overburdened under New Jersey's Environmental Justice Law and the settlement of two previous environmental justice lawsuits. The latest lawsuits are against three gas stations in South Jersey, one gas station in North Jersey, and one gas station in Central Jersey, who failed to abide by their environmental obligations set forth in prior administrative orders. The two settlements resolve complaints DEP filed against Sigma Realty, Inc. in 2022 and Martin Service

Center Corporation (MSCC) in 2023, owners of gas stations in Ewing and Union City, respectively."

<https://www.njoag.gov/ag-platkin-and-dep-commissioner-latourette-announce-two-settlements-and-five-environmental-enforcement-lawsuits>

### **EJ Communities' Genesis and Health Impacts, Worldwide**

These two articles may be of interest. They are about 1) the history of past pollution, wind direction, and differences in neighborhood socioeconomic status; and 2) an analysis based on a first-of-its-kind mapping exercise that showed that a quarter of the world's population lives within three miles of operational fossil fuel projects, potentially threatening the health of more than 2 billion people as well as critical ecosystems.

"Why This One Area of Cities Is Usually the Poorest" is available here:

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/why-this-one-area-of-cities-is-usually-the-poorest/ar-AA104QI4>.

"Fossil Fuel Projects Around the World Threaten the Health of 2BN People" is available here:

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2025/nov/12/fossil-fuel-projects-health-research>.

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### **ELECTRIC VEHICLES & VEHICLE EMISSION REDUCTION**

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### **NJEDA Board Approves New Program to Support EV Infrastructure**

From the press release: "A new clean energy program aimed to increase electric vehicle charging stations across the state was approved by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA) Board last week. The \$50 million Take Charge Program will provide funding for charging infrastructure projects for private commercial fleets.... [It] will help cover the costs, including hardware and related installation costs... Private fleets interested in adopting electric vehicles require consistently available and reliable charging infrastructure but often face high costs

for installation and site upgrades necessary for charger operation."

<https://www.njeda.gov/njeda-board-approves-new-program-to-support-ev-infrastructure>

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## N.J. School District Adds 10 Electric Buses to Replace Aging Diesel Vehicles

As part of its plan to phase out all diesel buses, Burlington County Special Services School District recently added 10 electric buses and five charging stations to its Westampton campus. The buses were purchased with \$1.6 million in federal funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) 2023 Clean School Bus Rebate Program.

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/articles/n-j-school-district-adds-220046670.html>

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## FOSSIL FUEL INFRASTRUCTURE

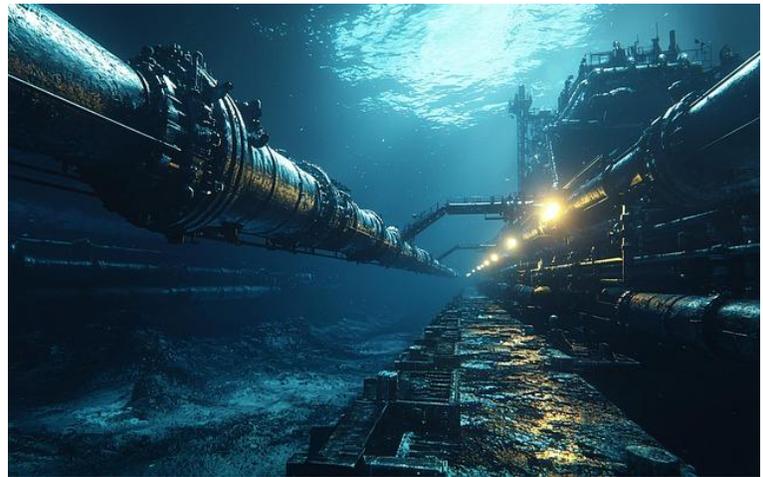
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### Murphy Signs off on NESE Gas Pipeline

NJ and NY have now both signed off on permits required for the Transco - Northeast Supply Enhancement (NESE) pipeline consisting of 3.5 miles of new connecting pipeline through Old Bridge, NJ, and 23 miles of new pipeline under the Raritan Bay/New York Harbor. The NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) held a public hearing on the water permits in September, at which people overwhelmingly voiced opposition to the permits, including the fact that the DEP had denied the same permits twice before. **UUFANJ/EJTF had submitted written comments** to DEP emphasizing that if DEP approves the same application for the same project at the same location that they had disapproved before, they will be doing an arbitrary and capricious act, which is unlawful. According to *NJ Spotlight News*, the DEP Commissioner has since stated that the scope of the project had been narrowed to address the previous concerns, and he also stated that it didn't impact NJ's clean energy goals because the natural gas was exclusively going to NY. The proposed project also includes construction of a new gas-powered compressor station in Franklin Township near Trap Rock Quarry. The DEP held a virtual public meeting about the project's air permits related to the compressor station in Franklin Township.

**UUFANJ/EJTF has also submitted comments on the air permits**, endorsing EJTF partner Food & Water Watch's comments and adding to them, emphasizing potential impacts to the people and living beings in the area and asking DEP to "WITHDRAW its intent to approve the draft preconstruction air pollution control permit for this facility and/ or to DENY IN ITS ENTIRETY the pending application for a pre construction air pollution control permit for this facility." Also see the article below.

<https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2025/11/murphy-signs-off-on-gas-pipeline>



### Groups Challenge New Jersey's Approval of NESE Pipeline in Court

From the Sierra Club press release: "A coalition of nonprofits filed suits today [11/18/2025] against the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for unjustifiably approving the water quality certification for the Northeast Supply Enhancement (NESE) pipeline, after rejecting the project in 2019 and 2020 for violating state water quality standards.... The Eastern Environmental Law Center filed a petition for review on behalf of NY/NJ Baykeeper, Princeton Manor Homeowners Association, Central Jersey Safe Energy Coalition, Food & Water Watch, New Jersey League of Conservation Voters Education Fund, and Sierra Club. NRDC (Natural Resources Defense Council) filed its own suit." Also see the article above.

<https://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/blog/2025/11/groups-challenge-new-jersey-s-approval-nese-pipeline-court>

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## **Delaware Riverkeeper Sues DRBC Over Gibbstown LNG Port Permit Extension**

As noted in a press release and described in the November EJTF newsletter, "the Delaware Riverkeeper Network (DRN) filed a legal challenge in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey of the decision by Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) to extend, for a second time, its approval for the construction of the proposed Gibbstown LNG Export Terminal project on the Delaware River in Gloucester County, New Jersey. The complaint [available here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UZDyum0b-zWgoRkjTZXhK26IuBjQt-Wr/view>] is based on the DRBC's Rules of Practice and Procedure, which only provide for a single extension of a Section 3.8 approval on the conditions that the project or site has not materially changed, and that the project proponent is diligently pursuing its project." This article provides additional background information about the lawsuit.

<https://delawarecurrents.org/2025/11/04/gibbstown-lng-port-2>

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## **FDU Poll Finds Voters Back New Natural Gas Plants**

As reported by Fairleigh Dickinson University (FDU) in a poll released 10/29/2025: "By a 3 to 1 margin, New Jersey voters support the construction of new natural gas power plants, at least as a bridge until other types of power can be brought online. According to the latest results from the FDU Poll, in partnership with the Commerce and Industry Association of New Jersey, both Republicans and Democrats support the construction of natural gas plants, but the disconnect between partisan cues and long-held views of energy policy leads many Democrats to be ambivalent about the construction of new natural gas plants.... A strong majority of voters in the state support the construction of new natural gas plants, with 64 percent saying that they support it, and only 22 percent saying that the state should wait for other options. However, that support is polarized along party lines. Eighty-nine percent of Republicans favor new natural gas plants, at least until other energy sources can be brought online, but support is rather lower (46 percent) among Democrats. Still, even among

Democrats, supporters outnumber those who oppose building new plants, 46 to 33."

<https://www.fdu.edu/news/fdu-poll-finds-voters-back-new-natural-gas-plants>

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## **RENEWABLE RESOURCES**

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### **Gov. Murphy Conditionally Vetoes 'Smart Solar Permitting Platform' Bill**

This bill (A5264) expedites the review and approval of projects to install most types of residential solar energy systems. It would require the Commissioner of Community Affairs to establish and administer the "State Smart Solar Permitting Platform." This would be an online automated platform to fast-track permits for rooftop solar and home batteries. The bill passed both houses of the legislature, and Gov. Murphy conditionally vetoed it, adding requirements to ensure compliance with the State Uniform Construction Code (UCC) and that permit applications and their accompanying plan documents are submitted by the appropriate licensed professionals and approved only after they have demonstrated full compliance with the UCC. The bill is available here:

[https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/A5500/5264\\_R\\_1.PDF](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/A5500/5264_R_1.PDF) and the governor's conditional veto

statement is available here:

[https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/A5500/5264\\_V\\_1.PDF](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/A5500/5264_V_1.PDF).

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### **NJBPU Opens Highly Anticipated Dual-Use Solar Program to Establish New Revenue Stream for Farmers**

From the press release: "The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) today [11/21/2025] voted to open the Dual-Use Solar Energy Pilot Program (Dual-Use Pilot) application period to pre-qualified participants. The Dual-Use Pilot seeks to incorporate solar installations on designated farmland, also known as agrivoltaics – advancing a proven technology that will provide a new revenue stream for farmers across the Garden State and produce affordable in-state energy generation." The Dual-Use Pilot agricultural solar application period is to open on 1/14/2026 and close on 2/25/2026.

<https://www.nj.gov/bpu/newsroom/2025/approved/20251121.html>

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## LAND MANAGEMENT/ AGRICULTURE/FOOD

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### **NJEDA Board Approves Over \$20M in Grants to 50 Organizations to Strengthen Food Security in NJ's Top Food Desert Communities**

From the press release: "The New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA) Board recently approved more than \$20.6 million in grant awards to 50 organizations under the Food Equity and Economic Development in New Jersey (FEED NJ) Pilot Program. The awards are the first set of approvals under the \$30 million FEED NJ program and will support food security projects in New Jersey's 14 most acute Food Desert Communities (FDCs), catalyzing innovative, sustainable, and scalable food access initiatives in underserved areas.... Each of the 50 awardees under FEED NJ will receive awards of up to \$500,000 and will primarily focus their projects on serving residents of one or more of the highest-need FDCs."

<https://www.njeda.gov/njeda-board-approves-over-20m-in-grants-to-50-organizations-to-strengthen-food-security-in-njs-top-food-desert-communities>



### **New Jersey Department of Agriculture Secretary Ed Wengryn Awards \$4 Million to Food Banks to Support Purchase of New Jersey Grown Products**

From the press release: "As the federal government continues to delay the full and timely funding of SNAP benefits for New Jersey families, New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA)

Secretary Ed Wengryn today announced grant awards to six regional food banks to support the purchase of locally grown food products as part of the State's ongoing Hunger Initiative and Food Assistance Program. The funding will allow food banks across New Jersey to expand access to fresh, nutritious, and locally produced foods while directly supporting the state's farmers and agricultural economy." The awardees and amounts awarded are in the press release, available here: <https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/news/press/2025/approved/press251106.shtml>.

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### **1,089,190 = Estimated Number of New Jersey Residents Who Are 'Food Insecure'**

The latest "Map the Meal Gap" report from Feeding America, "the largest charity working to end hunger in the United States," shows more than a million NJ residents who are food insecure (based on 2023 data), which includes 271,650 children (NJ data is available here:

<https://map.feedingamerica.org/county/2023/overall/new-jersey>). The Feeding America website Home Page (available here:

<https://www.feedingamerica.org>) includes a feature (available here: <https://cfbnj.org/find-foods-services/>) in which typing in a zip code generates a list and map of nearby food resources such as soup kitchens, food pantries, senior centers, or SNAP enrollment sites.

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### **How Collaboration Is Saving 835 Wooded, Pristine Acres Near Black Run Preserve From Future Development**

The headwaters of the Black Run Creek in Evesham Township, which are among the most pristine reaches of the Pinelands National Reserve and which are the key to keeping the Black Run Preserve ecologically intact, are under threat from developers who have plans to bulldoze around 800 acres of privately owned land in the Black Run headwaters and build up to 270 new homes. The potential development has led to a nationwide response from the Climate Revolution Action Network, which is a NJ organization run almost entirely by Gen Z advocates. Now, plans to develop some of those acres into housing may be halted by a deal involving Burlington County, Evesham Township and the New Jersey

Conservation Foundation to forever protect it as open space. The Pinelands Commission has approved a \$3 million grant to the NJ Conservation Foundation to help preserve the land and Burlington County Commissioners have voted to authorize a cost-share partnership with Evesham Township in collaboration with the Foundation to save property as open space. If added to the Black Run Preserve as planned, this would result in a pristine 2,135 acres with trails for hiking. See [https://www.70and73.com/evesham\\_marlton/how-collaboration-saved-774-wooded-pristine-acres-near-black-run-preserve-from-future-development/article\\_928df31e-4333-49ca-944f-4424d363a712.html](https://www.70and73.com/evesham_marlton/how-collaboration-saved-774-wooded-pristine-acres-near-black-run-preserve-from-future-development/article_928df31e-4333-49ca-944f-4424d363a712.html). The Pinelands Preservation Alliance website includes a detailed description of this issue (available here: <https://pinelandsalliance.org/a-message-to-our-members-and-followers-a-breakthrough-year-for-the-black-run-headwaters-thanks-to-you/>) and notes that "A purchase agreement has not yet been finalized, and Evesham Township must complete its adoption of protective zoning to ensure the land remains shielded from development. Continued public engagement will be key in the coming months."

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## CLIMATE CHANGE

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### Hundreds Rally at New Jersey State House Demanding Passage of Climate Superfund Act

From the Food & Water Watch news release: "Hundreds of New Jersey residents, community leaders, and environmental advocates - joined by several key state legislators and world-renowned environmentalist Bill McKibben - packed the State House Annex today [11/17/2025] for the Climate Superfund Day of Action, urging the Legislature to pass the New Jersey Climate Superfund Act (S3545/A4696) before Governor Murphy's term ends. The rally...was organized by a broad coalition of environmental, labor, faith, and community organizations [**including UUFANJ** - see [p. 1](#)],... The Climate Superfund Act would require the largest oil and gas corporations to pay their fair share of the costs of climate damages.... The bill has cleared key committees in both the Senate and Assembly and now awaits final

committee review and floor votes in both chambers."

<https://www.foodandwaterwatch.org/2025/11/17/hundreds-rally-at-new-jersey-state-house-demanding-passage-of-climate-superfund-act>

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### Governor Murphy Announces Release of Energy Master Plan

From the press release: "Governor Phil Murphy today [11/24/2025] announced the release of the 2024 Energy Master Plan (EMP), a roadmap to guide future energy policy in New Jersey. The report looks back on progress made and recommends clear action steps over the next decade to provide New Jersey with a clean and affordable energy future that accomplishes the State's demand and supply goals. The development of the EMP spanned roughly 22 months, from early 2024 through October 2025. This edition of the EMP builds on the 2019 EMP, incorporating the latest advancements in technology, policy, and programming to create an affordable and sustainable path and leverage the benefits of the clean energy economy.... The core output of the 2024 EMP is a flexible, adaptive framework of 'no-regrets' strategies and policies that can be pursued regardless of the changing energy landscape." Links to the report and the executive summary ("2024 Findings") are available here: <https://nj.gov/emp/>.

<https://www.nj.gov/governor/news/news/562025/approved/20251124a.shtml>. Note: **UUFANJ/EJTF had made comments** on the draft plan, available here: <https://www.uufaction.org/policy-briefs-and-positions/>.

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### Governor Murphy Announces Release of Building Decarbonization Roadmap

From the press release: "Governor Phil Murphy today [11/6/2025] announced the release of a strategic roadmap for building decarbonization [available here: [https://d31hzlhk6di2h5.cloudfront.net/20251106/ea/9e/75/e7/e6d870b305c901deab268ed5/NJ\\_StrategicRoadmap\\_BuildingDecarbonization\\_November\\_6\\_2025.pdf](https://d31hzlhk6di2h5.cloudfront.net/20251106/ea/9e/75/e7/e6d870b305c901deab268ed5/NJ_StrategicRoadmap_BuildingDecarbonization_November_6_2025.pdf)], including recommendations for policy, legislative, and regulatory advancements, along with workforce development and funding strategies to create cleaner, greener buildings that benefit New Jersey families and workers.... Governor Murphy

signed Executive Order 316 in 2023, which directed the Governor's Office of Climate Action and the Green Economy (OCAGE) to develop and release a strategic roadmap to building decarbonization to meet New Jersey's ambitious goal of electrifying 400,000 residential and 20,000 commercial units by 2030.... The burning of fossil fuels in buildings accounts for approximately 25% of the State's emissions."

<https://www.nj.gov/governor/news/news/562025/approved/20251106a.shtml>

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## 'NJ's Rising Seas and Changing Coastal Storms Report' - Rutgers NJ Climate Change Resource Center - Fall 2025 Update

This report, "New Jersey's Rising Seas and Changing Coastal Storms" is a 2025 update of previous reports of the Science and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) convened by Rutgers University at the request of the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The report "synthesize[s] for practitioners the most recent climate science needed to inform efforts to increase the resilience of New Jersey's people, places, and assets (including infrastructure, communities and natural resources) to regional sea-level rise (SLR), changing coastal storms, and the resulting flood risk." It includes detailed sea-level rise projections, assessments regarding changing coastal storms, and summaries of sea-level rise and changing coastal storm impacts on New Jersey ecosystems. Links to the report, to a "Summary and FAQs" document, to a "Digital

Appendix" and to previous reports and videos are available here:

<https://njclimateresourcecenter.rutgers.edu/resources/nj-sea-level-rise-reports>. Also see the detailed article with a 9-minute video available here:

<https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2025/11/sea-level-rise-accelerates-in-new-jersey-raising-coastal-flooding-risk-study-says/>, and the link to a related webinar on [p. 9](#).

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## The Future Is Grim for Flood-Prone New Jersey

This 2-1/4 minute *EnviroPolitics* video describes the results of the "NJ's Rising Seas and Changing Coastal Storms Report" (see the article above) and the "Toxic Tides - Mapping Disproportionate Risks at Flood-Prone Hazardous Sites" peer-reviewed report released by Climate Central (links to that report and interactive mapping are available here: <https://www.climatecentral.org/report/toxic-tides>).

The Climate Central study found that NJ is second only to LA in the number of hazardous facilities at risk of flooding during a 100-year event in 2050 if pledged commitments to reduce heat-trapping pollution are met.

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

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## 2025 Update of New Jersey's Extreme Heat Resilience Action Plan

From the news release: "The Interagency Council on Climate Resilience released an update to the New Jersey Extreme Heat Resilience Action Plan, originally issued in July 2024. Organized across 20 focus areas, the plan details timelines, lead agencies, and next steps for each action. Since its initial release, four additional agencies - Children and Families, Corrections, Education, and Labor and Workforce Development - have joined the Council, contributing new perspectives and actions to the plan. The plan outlines 143 implementable actions that agencies are undertaking to strengthen New Jersey's resilience to the growing impacts of extreme heat." The plan is available here: [https://dep.nj.gov/wp-content/uploads/climatechange/extreme\\_heat\\_rap\\_2025\\_screen\\_version.pdf](https://dep.nj.gov/wp-content/uploads/climatechange/extreme_heat_rap_2025_screen_version.pdf).

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## **DRINKING WATER (other than lead)**

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### **NJ Residents to Receive \$4.9M Settlement for PFAS Contamination in Drinking Water**

In a first-of-its kind class action lawsuit settlement, Middlesex Water Co. and the 3M Company will pay \$4.9 million, to be shared by 60,000 residential water customers. What is unique about this settlement is that it is not a personal injury case but rather will compensate individuals for costs incurred for buying bottled water, installing filtration, or seeing doctors after receiving a notice from Middlesex Water Co. in 10/2021 that their drinking water exceeded NJ's maximum contaminant limit for the "forever chemical" PFOA. Compensation will range from \$50 to \$2,500. It is envisioned that this settlement may become a template for other communities.

<https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2025/11/nj-residents-to-receive-4-9m-settlement-for-pfas-contamination-in-drinking-water/>

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## **ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

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### **Monroe Township to Launch an Extensive Energy Savings Project to Offset Municipal Facility Electricity Use**

From the Monroe Township website: "Monroe Township officials are launching a green energy upgrade to modernize municipal facilities and greatly reduce energy costs, while enhancing public spaces. Through this Energy Savings Improvement Program (ESIP), in partnership with Schneider Electric, work is set to begin in the first quarter of next year. The ESIP program is projected to generate more than \$21.7 million in savings and revenue over 20 years. The savings generated pays for the Township's upgrades and provides funding for additional energy-efficient projects at no cost to the taxpayers. It is expected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from municipal operations by 55% and offset up to 89%

of the Township's current municipal electricity usage through on-site solar generation."  
<https://www.monroetwp.com/index.php/news/1986-monroe-township-to-launch-an-extensive-energy-savings-project-to-offset-municipal-facility-electricity-use>

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## **POLLUTION**

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### **NJDEP Honors Monroe for Recycling Leadership**

The NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Recycling Awards Program honored the Township of Monroe as recipient of the 2025 award in the Government category. The Township was recognized for achieving a 65 percent recycling rate "thanks in part to its successful curbside recycling program and new Center for Hard to Recycle Material [CHaRM]. The Center was constructed in 2024 and accepts plastic film, books, batteries, eyeglasses, cell phones, light bulbs and more. Monroe also provides drop-off bins for old clothing and textiles, holds quarterly paper shredding events and recycles polystyrene using a densifier." In addition, the Monroe Township website includes a "Recycle Coach" (available here:

<https://www.monroetwp.com/index.php/recycle-coach>), which provides a helpful "What Goes Where" tool that can be queried about specific items and if/where they can be recycled.  
<https://www.monroetwp.com/index.php/news/1990-njdep-honors-monroe-for-recycling-leadership>

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### **Opinion: Gov.-Elect Mikie Sherrill Needs to Focus On the Air We Breathe**

In this piece, Jill Aquino, a practicing nurse and a member of Clinicians for Climate Action New Jersey, as well as ANHE, (Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments), describes her experience with the declining health of NJ students over the years. She gives statistics about the air quality in NJ and related health impacts, and emphasizes the need for nurses to play a role in mitigating climate change.

<https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2025/11/op-ed-gov-elect-mikie-sherrill-needs-to-focus-on-the-air-we-breathe/>

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## OTHER

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### **FDU Poll Finds NJ Voters Say Data Centers Should Pay More**

As reported by Fairleigh Dickinson University (FDU) in a FDU poll released 10/28/2025: "As energy prices take center stage in the New Jersey gubernatorial election, Garden State voters are in favor of just about any idea that could bring down their bills.... Making data centers pay more for electricity is among the most popular options, with support from 68 percent of voters, including 77 percent of Democrats, and 56 percent of Republicans. Just as popular is building more natural gas plants, with 67 percent support, though views on this option are more polarized: support is 90 percent among Republicans, but only 48 percent among Democrats.... A large majority of Democrats in New Jersey – 88 percent – say that they support the construction of more renewable energy plants, including offshore wind, but overall support for more renewables is tempered by strong opposition from Republicans. Only 14 percent of Republicans – far less than any of the other options – say that they support more renewable energy development, meaning that the overall level of support among voters in the state is just 54 percent." Several additional options were also included in the poll.

<https://www.fdu.edu/news/fdu-poll-finds-nj-voters-say-data-centers-should-pay-more/>

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### **As Data Center Projects Surge, Can NJ Keep Up?**

This article, which includes an 8-1/2-minute news video, describes the issues related to the massive

power needs of data centers in NJ, and some proposed solutions. By one estimate, 82 data centers have been built or approved in NJ, and the industry is secretive about what power needs might be, because that information can be used to ascertain their processing capabilities.

<https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2025/10/as-data-center-projects-surge-can-nj-keep-up/>

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### **Bill Could Pave Way for New Jersey's First New Nuclear Plant in Decades**

A bill (S4876) introduced by Senate Environment and Energy Committee Chair Bob Smith would create a NJ-backed incentive program to develop at least 1,100 megawatts of electric power from at least one advanced nuclear reactor. The bill, the "New Jersey Energy Security and Affordability Act," establishes "advanced nuclear reactor, distributed energy storage, and demand optimization programs in BPU [NJ Board of Public Utilities]." According to analysis by *POLITICO*, this bill "could put utility customers on the hook to pay for at least part of the construction of enough new nuclear energy to power more than a million homes.... [and] is meant to help fill demand for energy from new data centers and fill the hole left by the failure of the state's offshore wind program." The bill is available here:

[https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/S5000/4876\\_I1.PDF](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/S5000/4876_I1.PDF).

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### **Commissioner LaTourette Invites Feedback on New NJDEP DocMiner Online Tool Streamlining Access to Public Documents**

The NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has launched a new "DocMiner" online tool, which complements NJDEP's "Dataminer" online application, and is asking for feedback on it. The tool is available here:

<https://dep.nj.gov/docminer>. The NJDEP is asking for feedback here: <https://dep.nj.gov/docminer/provide-feedback>. "DocMiner organizes DEP's available electronic documents and automates the records request process through an online, self-service tool that features search capabilities to quickly locate environmental public records by regulated entity (both present and past names), specific DEP identification numbers, or by address. Users will be able to view publicly available documents such

as site remediation records and air, water and land use permit records."

[https://dep.nj.gov/newsrel/25\\_0048](https://dep.nj.gov/newsrel/25_0048)

### **For NJDEP’s Next Commissioner, Threats and Opportunities Abound**

"In the lead-up to New Jersey’s gubernatorial election, NJ Spotlight News invited former top aides and state commissioners to pen some bipartisan advice for their incoming successors.

[This article provides] guidance from two former state Department of Environmental Protection [DEP] commissioners, one from a Democratic administration, the other from a Republican." The DEP commissioners who provided input are Brad Campbell (appointed by Gov. McGreevey) and Chris Daggett (appointed by Gov. Kean).

<https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2025/11/for-njdeps-next-commissioner-threats-and-opportunities-abound/>

### **EJTF’s GOALS for 2024/2025**

- 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 New Jersey 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).**
- 4. Advocating for better health and reducing climate change for all by protecting and expanding New Jersey’s public and urban forests.**
- 5. Advocating for a better understanding of the interconnected web of life by influencing education for people of all ages, including public school curriculum of K-12 students.**

### **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. 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 NJ until there are rules in place to achieve 100% clean energy goals.

UU FaithAction NJ - Environmental Justice Task Force -

Visit <https://uufaithaction.org/environment/> for links and resources, and to join the EJTF