



Town of Kearny

Community Education and Outreach

Resources

Please also see toolkits for [Green Challenges](#), [Green Fairs](#), [School Programs and Partnerships](#), [Community Asset Mapping](#), and [Anti-Idling Education & Enforcement Program](#) for additional activities and resources that support community education and outreach activities.

Education and Training Materials on Sustainability

Empowerment Institute

www.empowermentinstitute.net/lcd/

"The Low Carbon Diet: How to Lose 5000 Pounds in 30 Days" is a fun, accessible, easy-to-use guide that will show users, step-by-step, how to dramatically reduce an individual's CO₂ output in just a month's time. Grounded in over two decades of environmental behavior change research, this illustrated workbook offers a list of eco-friendly actions and walks users through every step of the process, from calculating a personal current CO₂ "footprint" to tracking the user's progress. Communities can also host "Global Warming Café" workshops as part a larger "Cool Community Campaign Action Plan."

Green buildings and renovations

Environments for Living

http://www.eflhome.com/index.jsp?action=fl_goldlist

This comprehensive green checklist developed by a large national contractor services company focuses on energy efficiency, comfort, health, and environmental stewardship. A virtual home tour allows homeowners or businesses to learn about energy efficiency, durability, indoor environmental air quality, and water efficiency.

U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)

<http://www.usgbc.org/>

USGBC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit community of leaders working to make green buildings available to everyone within a generation. Its NJ chapter can be found at <http://www.usgbcnj.org/>. USGBC-NJ offers a speakers bureau that can provide talks on sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, indoor environmental quality, and overall Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification.

Energy efficiency and conservation

Energy Star Home Program

http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=home_improvement.hm_improvement_index

Making homes more energy efficient with ENERGY STAR can help to reduce high energy bills and improve comfort. Energy Star provides steps to improve existing homes; Energy Star Home Energy Yardstick helps calculate individual energy use against others in the region and offers guidance on purchasing or installing new energy star appliances and heating and cooling systems.

American Solar Energy Society, National Solar Tour

http://www.ases.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=169&Itemid=36

The National Solar Tour is the largest grassroots solar event in history due to the efforts of local communities who organize events throughout the country. This annual event offers participants the opportunity to tour homes and buildings to see how neighbors are using solar energy, energy efficiency, and other sustainable technologies to reduce their monthly utility bills and help tackle climate change. Last year, close to 140,000 attendees visited some 5,000 buildings in 3,000 participating communities. This event is held on the first Saturday in October in conjunction with National Energy Awareness Month. The project's website offers Tips, Best Practices, and media resources for organizing a solar tour.

NJ Board of Public Utilities -- NJ Clean Energy Program's Teaching Energy Awareness with Children Help (TEACH)

<http://www.njcleanenergy.com/commercial-industrial/programs/teach>

TEACH is an integrated solution from New Jersey's Clean Energy Program that helps school administrators evaluate their buildings and provides hands-on curricula that faculty members can use to teach their students about energy efficiency.

Mobility and transportation program materials

NJ Safe Routes to School

There is also a Safe Routes to School newsletter which can be accessed at:

<http://policy.rutgers.edu/vic/newsletters/saferoutes.php>.

The Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center at the Bloustein School at Rutgers University has a NJ Bike/Ped website which can be accessed at: <http://www.njbikeped.org/>

Organizations and Institutions providing educational materials, workshops, or training programs

Association of NJ Environmental Commissions (ANJEC)

<http://www.anjec.org/>

ANJEC is a non-profit organization that helps New Jersey environmental commissions, individuals, and local and state agencies preserve natural resources and promote sustainable communities. They offer training and educational programs and also offer a wide range of resources such as a Going Green handout <http://www.anjec.org/pdfs/GoingGreen.pdf>. ANJEC also has a brochure that details *Displays, Activities and Resources for your Community's Events* which describes three displays available on loan for use at your local event. Displays on *Stormwater*, *Go Green*, and *Green This House* all consist of a three panel tabletop display with laminated graphics and text. Each comes with one or more handouts available for photocopying.

The Cloud Institute for Sustainability Education

<http://www.sustainabilityed.org/>

The Cloud Institute equips school systems K-12 and their communities with the core content, competencies, and habits of mind that characterize education for a sustainable future by inspiring teachers and engaging students through meaningful content and student-centered instruction. NJ LEARNS is a newly developed program from The Cloud Institute that provides educators and others interested in sustainability education with a "train-the-trainer" program to help them educate about the need for Education for Sustainability.

Evergreen

<http://www.evergreen.ca/en/lg/lg-resources.html>

Evergreen is non-profit organization that explores the relationship between nature, culture, and community in urban spaces. The website provides toolkits, planning and design guidance, policy, case studies, research, and curriculum for landscaping school grounds, public lands, and home green spaces.

Institute for Sustainable Enterprise (ISE), Fairleigh Dickinson University

<http://view.fdu.edu/default.aspx?id=2354>

ISE focuses on bringing people together to learn how to make their organizations and the world more environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable. ISE hosts a Sustainable Business Incubator program that is unique in focusing on sustainable businesses and nonprofits – companies and organizations developing green technologies, or modeling sustainable business practices, or advancing new business practices, such as carbon trading. Publications, Webcasts, Presentations and Research can be found at the web link above.

The North American Alliance for Green Education (NAAGE)

<http://www.naage.org/schoolhouse/>

NAAGE is a non-profit consortium founded by students. The website hosts a virtual schoolhouse with web quests on various sustainability topics.

NJ Department of Environmental Protection

<http://www.state.nj.us/dep/seeds/links.htm>

The State Environmental Education Directory (SEEDS), of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, offers a vast amount of information related to environmental education. It provides links to organizations, resources, and other materials in the state of New Jersey, (and around the country). Information about field trips, in-class presentations, as well as lessons for teachers to implement in the classroom are available through the directory. In addition, NJDEP has developed its own environmental education programs designed for both formal and informal educators, which include Project Learning Tree, Project WET, Project WILD and Aquatic Wild among others.

NJ Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Planning and Sustainable Communities was formed to facilitate the Department's move toward a proactive planning approach based on principles of sustainability and environmental capacity-based planning. Their program offers resources, guides, and speakers on sustainable communities. <http://www.nj.gov/dep/opsc/>

Meadowlands Environment Center

<http://www.rst2.edu/meadowlands/>

The Meadowlands Environment Center was formed to increase awareness and enjoyment of New Jersey's vital ecosystem. The New Jersey Meadowlands Commission and Ramapo College of NJ entered into a partnership in 2003 to develop a comprehensive environmental education program for schools and the general public.