



# Technical Assistance and Funding Resources Guide

A Monthly Update from U.S. EPA, Region 2

January 2024

This guide is designed to assist community organizations, local governments, universities, and other partners in navigating technical assistance and funding opportunities across Region 2. This guide includes opportunities from a diversity of sources. Mentions of an opportunity or links to non-EPA sites do not imply official EPA endorsement.

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# Environmental Justice

Learn about the EPA's [Office of Environmental Justice](#) and read the [Annual Environmental Justice Reports](#) to learn how the Agency's programs and resources serve vulnerable communities across the country. For up-to-date information about Environmental Justice funding opportunities, events, and webinars, subscribe to EPA's Environmental Justice listserv by sending a blank email to: [join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov](mailto:join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov). Follow us on Twitter: [@EPAEnvJustice](#)

Para recibir información actualizada sobre oportunidades de financiamiento de Justicia Ambiental, eventos y seminarios web, suscríbese al listserve de Justicia Ambiental de la EPA enviando un mensaje en blanco de correo electrónico a: [join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov](mailto:join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov). Síguenos en Twitter: [@EPAEnvJustice](#).

## Opportunities

<b>Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)</b>  <b>FY 2023 Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grants</b>	Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grants support the implementation of comprehensive neighborhood revitalization plans that are expected to achieve the following three core goals: 1. Housing: Replace distressed public and assisted housing with high-quality mixed-income housing that is well-managed and responsive to the needs of the surrounding neighborhood; 2. People: Improve outcomes of households living in the target housing related to employment and income, health, and children's education; and 3. Neighborhood: Create the conditions necessary for public and private reinvestment in distressed neighborhoods to offer the kinds of amenities and assets, including safety, good schools, and commercial activity, that are important to families' choices about their community.	Deadline March 4, 2024	<a href="#">Apply Here</a>
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<b>EPA</b>  <b>Community Change Grant Program</b>	EPA's new <a href="#">Environmental and Climate Justice</a> Community Change Grants program (Community Change Grants) will invest approximately \$2 billion dollars in <a href="#">Inflation Reduction Act</a> funds in environmental and climate justice activities to benefit disadvantaged communities through projects that reduce pollution, increase community climate resilience, and build community capacity to respond to environmental and climate justice challenges.	The application period will begin in <b>early Autumn 2023</b>	<a href="#">More information here</a>
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## Tools & Resources

<b>EPA</b>  <b>EJ Toolkit for Lead Paint Enforcement</b>	In August 2023, EPA released the <a href="#">Environmental Justice Toolkit for Lead Paint Enforcement Programs</a> . The Toolkit provides strategies, examples, and other information for federal, state, Tribal and local government enforcement practitioners to use during all stages of environmental enforcement and compliance monitoring activities designed to eliminate harmful exposures to lead paint in housing. This resource is a compilation of best practices and supports commitments made in <a href="#">EPA's Lead Strategy</a> , which seeks to reduce lead exposures locally with a focus on underserved communities and promote environmental justice through a whole of government approach.	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>EJScreen 2.2</b>  <b>The Community Environmental</b>	In June 2023, EPA again updated <a href="#">EJScreen</a> , the Agency's publicly available environmental justice (EJ) screening and mapping tool. EJScreen 2.2 makes important improvements to better meet the needs of users, including a	<a href="#">More information here</a>

<b>Justice Mapping Tool</b>	redesigned and enhanced report, a new environmental indicator with corresponding indexes, and refreshed demographic and environmental data.	
	<p>EJScreen 2.2 provides updated reports which compile various datasets into one document to help users better understand the multiple factors that impact their community. It also includes a new environmental indicator on Toxic Releases to Air, as well as associated EJ and supplemental indexes. This new indicator quantifies the relative potential human health impacts from exposure to <b>Toxics Release Inventory (TRI)</b> chemicals into the air. More information on the new indicator can be found on <a href="#">the EPA's EJScreen webpage</a>.</p> <p><b>Trainings:</b> EPA is holding <a href="#">multiple trainings and office hours</a> for users on EJScreen 2.2.</p>	
<b>Technical Assistance to Brownfields Communities Program</b>	<p>The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) Brownfields Amendments authorize EPA to provide funding to organizations to conduct research and to provide training and technical assistance to communities to help address their brownfields challenges. Information presented <a href="#">on this site</a> lists past and current technical assistance and research projects EPA funds and resources that are available to all communities. Please review the <a href="#">Technical Assistance, Training, and Research Application Resources</a> for information on open solicitations.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p> <p><a href="#">Información en español</a></p>

## Rural Communities

### Opportunities

<p><b>USDA</b></p> <p><b>Rural Energy for America Program Renewable Energy Systems &amp; Energy Efficiency Improvement Guaranteed Loans &amp; Grants</b></p>	<p>USDA – Rural Energy for America Program Renewable Energy Systems &amp; Energy Efficiency Improvement Guaranteed Loans &amp; Grants</p> <p>The program provides guaranteed loan financing and grant funding to agricultural producers and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems or to make energy efficiency improvements. Agricultural producers may also apply for new energy efficient equipment and new system loans for agricultural production and processing. Funds may be used for the purchase and installation of renewable energy systems, including anaerobic digesters.</p> <p><a href="#">See the USDA Rural Energy for America Grants Page here for more details.</a></p>	<p><i>Open for Fiscal Years 2024</i></p> <p><i>Application Windows:</i></p> <p>March 31, 2024</p> <p>June 30, 2024</p> <p>September 30, 2024</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
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<b>USDA</b>  <b>ReConnect Loan and Grant Program</b>	<p>The ReConnect Loan and Grant Program furnishes loans and grants to provide funds for the costs of construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment needed to provide broadband service in eligible rural areas. The application window is now OPEN.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<b>New Jersey Audubon Watershed Restoration &amp; Community Empowerment Program</b>	<p>New Jersey Audubon is pleased to issue this request for proposals to nonprofit partners and Tribal organizations doing conservation work in the Delaware River Watershed. The Watershed Restoration and Community Empowerment Program is designed to support organizations needing less than \$75,000 to work on capacity building and planning projects that address habitat, water quality, stormwater or public access to water and the outdoors throughout the Delaware River watershed.</p>	<p><b>Join an Introduction Webinar</b></p> <p><b>December 11 at 3pm</b></p> <p><b>January 10 at 10am</b></p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>

## Tools & Resources

<b>USDA</b>  <b>Guide to Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Funding for Rural Development</b>	<p>The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) passed in August 2022 represents the largest single investment in rural electrification since the passage of the Rural Electrification Act in 1936.</p> <p>Sections 22001 through 22005 of IRA provide new loan and grant products and unprecedented incentives to expand clean energy, transform rural power production, create jobs, and spur economic growth.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<b>HUD</b>  <b>Rural Gateway</b>	<p>The <a href="#">Rural Gateway</a> provides technical assistance, training, peer learning, and resource sharing to support rural housing and economic development.</p> <p>For more information, contact HUD's Office of Rural Housing and Economic Development at 1-877-787-2526 or <a href="mailto:rhed@hud.gov">rhed@hud.gov</a>.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<b>EPA's Environmental Finance Center Network</b>  <b>Small Wastewater Treatment Assistance</b>	<p>EPA's Environmental Finance Center Network offers free help on training and technical assistance to small wastewater and decentralized wastewater treatment works serving approximately 10,000 or fewer people.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<b>USDA Rural Development</b>  <b>Recreation Economy Resource Guide</b>	<p>USDA's Forest Service (FS), Rural Development (RD), and the National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA) have developed <a href="#">this resource guide for rural communities</a> to identify resources that develop the recreation economy.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>

## Food and Agriculture

### Opportunities

<p><b>USDA</b></p> <p><b>New Jersey Conservation Innovation Grants</b></p>	<p>Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) is a competitive program that supports the development of new tools, approaches, practices, and technologies to further natural resource conservation on private lands.</p> <p>New Jersey announces funding opportunities for the state component of CIG on <a href="#">Grants.gov</a> every other year. The CIG State Component offers eligible entities the opportunity to apply for grants for eligible projects within the state. Interested applicants may <a href="#">review projects funded in prior years to see what has been successful in the past.</a></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<p><b>Rochester Institute of Technology</b></p> <p><b>Food Waste Reduction and Diversion Reimbursement Program</b></p>	<p>The Food Waste Reduction and Diversion Reimbursement Program is an innovative partnership between New York State and Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) focused on incentivizing the reduction of food waste in the state. The program provides reimbursement to New York State businesses or not-for-profits that generate, haul or recycle large amounts of food waste to offset the cost of select technologies and equipment that promise to reduce or divert that food waste from landfill or incineration.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<p><b>NY State Department of Environmental Conservation</b></p> <p><b>Municipal Funding for Food Scraps Recycling Initiatives</b></p>	<p>The goal of this funding program is to assist municipalities in starting or expanding municipal food scraps recycling programs. Approximately \$2 million is available. To ensure equitable access and development of food scraps recycling opportunities for all New Yorkers, this year's opportunity will prioritize the first half of available funds for eligible projects serving Environmental Justice and Disadvantaged communities.</p> <p>The following types of projects are included in this opportunity: Creating or expanding programs to increase residential food scraps recycling AND creating or expanding food scraps recycling programs and facilities.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>

## Tools & Resources

<p><b>EPA</b></p> <p><b>Food Waste Research</b></p>	<p>This new web page offers EPA research on food waste prevention and reduction, with a focus on processing and management.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
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## Air & Water

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**Urban and  
Community Forestry**

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos today announced that applications are now being accepted for a total of \$12.9 million for urban and community forestry projects through the Inflation Reduction Act funding opportunity. Earlier this month, Governor Hochul announced the [funding was made available by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry Program](#) to increase equitable access to healthy trees and green spaces in urban and community forests to support building a clean energy economy, advance environmental justice, and create economic opportunity

Application deadline  
**Jan 31, 2024**

[More information here](#)

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**EPA**

**Reducing Indoor Air Risks**

[Funding Opportunity: Reducing Indoor Air Risks](#)

The EPA is seeking applications from eligible entities to conduct demonstration, technical assistance, training, education, and/or outreach projects that seek reduce indoor air risks and yield measurable environmental and public health outcomes by advancing national policy or systems-level change.

Applications deadline  
February 5, 2024

[More information here](#)

Awards are expected to be between \$75,000 and \$200,000, annually for a three-year project period. All applications should clearly:

- Articulate a plan to produce results that have implications and/or benefits on a national level. This NOFO is not intended to fund small-scale local projects.
- Address one or more of the following EPA Indoor Air Program priority areas:
  - Radon.
  - Indoor Environmental Asthma Triggers.
  - Comprehensive Indoor Air Risk Reduction.

Eligible entities include states, local governments, territories, Indian tribes, and possessions of the U.S., including the District of Columbia, international organizations, public and private universities and colleges, hospitals, laboratories, and other public or private non-profit institutions.

<p><b>EPA</b></p> <p><b>Reducing Indoor Air Risks</b></p>	<p><b>ANNOUNCEMENT TYPE:</b> Request for Applications (RFA)</p> <p><b>FUNDING OPPORTUNITY NUMBER:</b> EPA-OAR-ORIA-24-01</p> <p><b>ASSISTANCE LISTING NUMBER:</b> 66.034</p> <p><b>IMPORTANT DATES</b></p> <p>December 20, 2023, NOFO (Notice of Funding Opportunity) Opens</p> <p>January 26, 2024, Final Date to Submit Questions</p> <p>February 5, 2024, NOFO Closes – Application Deadline</p> <p>March 15, 2024, Anticipated Notification of Selection</p> <p>June 15, 2024, Anticipated Awards</p>	<p>Application packages must be submitted electronically to EPA through Grants.gov (www.grants.gov) no later than <b>February 5, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time (ET)</b> in order to be considered for funding.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
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<p><b>EPA</b></p> <p><b>Grant Funding to Address Indoor Air Pollution at Schools</b></p>	<p><b>Notice of Funding Opportunity</b></p> <p><i>Opened:</i> January 11, 2024</p> <p><i>Closes:</i> March 19, 2024</p> <p>Funding Opportunity Number: EPA-R-OAR-APS-24-02.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Date:</b> January 25, 2024</li> <li>• <b>Time:</b> 1:00 – 2:30 PM Eastern Time</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<p>Review the Notice of Funding Opportunity and Q&amp;A documents.</p>			
<p>EPA will host the first of two information sessions for potential applicants on January 25. During the webinar, EPA will provide an overview of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and the application process.</p>			

## Tools & Resources

<p><b>EPA</b></p> <p><b>Watershed Academy - National Nonpoint Pollution Control Program Learning Module</b></p>	<p>EPA's <a href="#">Watershed Academy</a> is providing a training module designed to provide a high-level overview of the Clean Water Act Section (CWA) 319 Nonpoint Source (NPS) program for State and Territory NPS Programs.</p> <p>The Section 319 program is an essential source of support for state, territorial and tribal efforts to control NPS pollution, the prevailing cause of the nation's water quality problems. The course contains four sections and will take about two hours to complete. This module is recommended for the Watershed Academy <a href="#">Certificate Program</a>.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<p><b>EPA</b></p> <p><b>Water Technical Assistance Page</b></p>	<p>EPA's <a href="#">Water Technical Assistance Page</a> now includes a one-stop-shop <a href="#">EPA water technical assistance request form</a> where communities can request no-cost direct water technical assistance to evaluate their drinking water, wastewater, stormwater infrastructure, and water quality improvement needs. The page also now includes specific examples of what types of assistance are available and who is eligible.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>

<p>EPA</p> <p><b>PFAS Analytic Tools</b></p>	<p>EPA has released a new interactive webpage, called the “<b>PFAS Analytic Tools</b>,” which provides information about per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) across the country. This information will help the public, researchers, and other stakeholders better understand potential PFAS sources in their communities. The PFAS Analytic Tools bring together multiple sources of information in one spot with mapping, charting, and filtering functions, allowing the public to see where testing has been done and what level of detections were measured.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<p>EPA</p> <p><b>Advance Program</b></p>	<p>The <b>U.S. EPA's Advance Program</b> supports states, tribes and local governments that want to take proactive steps to keep their air clean by promoting local actions to reduce ozone and/or fine particle pollution. The program offers expertise and technical assistance in air quality, mobile sources, heat island and green infrastructure, woodsmoke and cost-effective energy efficiency, renewable energy, and climate policies and programs to interested state, local, and tribal governments. The Advance program integrates our work with climate planning, air toxics, multi-pollutant planning and environmental justice.</p> <p>Please contact the EPA R2 contact, <a href="mailto:manj.muhammad-bilal@epa.gov">manj.muhammad-bilal@epa.gov</a>, or the EPA Headquarters Advance Program team (Rich Damberg, <a href="mailto:damberg.rich@epa.gov">damberg.rich@epa.gov</a>; Mia South, <a href="mailto:south.mia@epa.gov">south.mia@epa.gov</a>; or <a href="mailto:ADVANCE@epa.gov">ADVANCE@epa.gov</a>) if you have questions about becoming a partner or would like to subscribe to the Advance monthly newsletter.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<p><b>Assistance from EPA's Municipal Ombudsman</b></p>	<p>The <b>Office of the Municipal Ombudsman</b> provides a unique service specifically for utilities/municipalities in identifying technical assistance opportunities, brainstorming federal funding options (BIL and more!), clean water act flexibilities, integrated planning assistance, and more. Please reach out to <a href="mailto:municipalombudsman@epa.gov">municipalombudsman@epa.gov</a> or 202-564-1709 to discuss your projects, permits, or other clean water concerns today.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>

## Climate Resilience

### Opportunities

<p><b>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)</b></p>	<p>This competitive grant program can help coastal and Great Lakes communities become more resilient to future impacts of climate change. NOAA <b>technical assistance is available</b> for organizations applying for and receiving a grant. Many technical assistance options are available, including data, tools, training, and access to NOAA expertise.</p>	<p>The deadline for Letters of Intent is over. Grant applications are due <b>Feb 13, 2024</b>.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
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### Tools & Resources

<p>EPA</p> <p><b>Climate Change and Human Health</b></p>	<p>EPA's <b>Climate Change and Human Health</b> Web content is now live. This content reflects a broader effort to expand EPA's <b>Climate Change</b> website to include dimensions of social vulnerability. It explains that everyone faces possible health impacts from climate change, and that certain groups are at more risk than others due to both climate and non-</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
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climate factors. The pages highlight life stages and populations, and actions people can take to reduce climate-related health effects.

Check out EPA's [Indoor Air Quality and Climate Change webpage](#) to see how climate change may impact the indoor environment and human health and gain access to IAQ and climate related resources.

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**EPA**

**Disaster Resilient Design Concepts**

The designs showcased in this document can help communities reduce the impact of disasters, recover more quickly, strengthen local economies, and create safer, more equitable places to live by reducing hazards especially for those most vulnerable. The document is organized by hazard type: wildfire, hurricanes and coastal flooding, inland and riverine flooding, extreme heat, drought, landslide and mudslide, and tornado and earthquake.

[More information here](#)

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## Community and Economic Development

### Opportunities

**Environmental Protection Network**

**Communities First Fund's Rapid Response Fund** will provide \$1,000,000 in funding on a **rolling basis** to support organizations' or coalitions' needs to position themselves or others to respond to infrastructure crises, movement moments, and time-sensitive federal funding notices or rulemakings that require rapid mobilization. Go to #9 on [our website](#) for additional application information.

[More information here](#)

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**NYSDEC**

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos today announced that applications are now being accepted for a total of \$12.9 million for urban and community forestry projects through the Inflation Reduction Act funding opportunity. Earlier this month, Governor Hochul announced the [funding was made available by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry Program](#) to increase equitable access to healthy trees and green spaces in urban and community forests to support building a clean energy economy, advance environmental justice, and create economic opportunity.

[More information here](#)

<p><b>Department of Environmental Protection</b></p> <p><b>Green Acres</b></p>	<p><a href="#">NJDEP 2024 Green Acres and Urban Parks Funding</a> available to local governments and nonprofits to develop or update parks and preserve open space. The 2024 funding round includes an expanded initiative to fund construction of completely inclusive playgrounds, specifically developed to encourage municipalities to apply for funding. Green Acres will continue to provide non-matching grants to incentivize projects in Adversely Stressed Overburdened Communities in Urban Aid municipalities. <b>Apply by Feb 7<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p>Application deadline</p> <p><b>February 7th</b></p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<p><b>USDA Forest Service</b></p> <p><b>Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Grant Program</b></p>	<p>This program offers a unique opportunity for communities to acquire and conserve forests that provide public access and recreational opportunities, protect vital water supplies and wildlife habitat, serve as demonstration sites for private forest landowners, and provide economic benefits from timber and non-timber products.</p>	<p>Application deadline</p> <p><b>Jan 12, 2024</b></p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<p><b>Sustainable Jersey</b></p> <p><b>Free Energy Technical Assistance for School Districts</b></p>	<p>Eligible school districts can now participate in the Sustainable Jersey-PSE&amp;G Energy Efficiency Partnership Program to receive technical assistance for energy efficiency in school facilities.</p> <p>The program provides no-cost assistance and assigns a Sustainable Jersey staff member to guide and support a school district's efforts to improve building performance through energy efficiency analysis, planning, and preparing applications. These efforts can help the school district save money on utility bills, while reducing greenhouse gas emissions from their operations.</p> <p>School districts can learn more on the <a href="#">Sustainable Jersey for Schools Partnership Program page</a> and apply through the online <a href="#">form</a>.</p>	<p>The Program will accept participants on a rolling basis beginning <b>Fall 2023</b></p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<p><b>Environmental Protection Network</b></p>	<p><b>Direct Pay:</b> The Congressional Progressive Caucus Center (CPC Center) has developed a number of Direct Pay resources. They are also providing technical assistance to eligible entities. Go to #10 on <a href="#">our website</a> for more information.</p>		<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>

<p><b>Economic Development Administration (EDA)</b></p> <p><b>Local Technical Assistance Program</b></p>	<p>This program helps fill the knowledge and information gaps that may prevent leaders in the public and nonprofit sectors in distressed areas from making optimal decisions on local economic development issues.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
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## Tools & Resources

<p><b>EPA</b></p> <p><b>Community Engagement and Technical Assistance Program Webpage</b></p>	<p>EPA launched a new webpage in support of the Community Engagement and Technical Assistance Program. This program is designed to assist communities with addressing their concerns about environmental and health issues about waste management by providing access to support, resources, and information through neutral third parties. These services empower communities to develop informed opinions when participating in environmental decision-making.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
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<p><b>EPA</b></p> <p><b>Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC)</b></p>	<p>The national Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) program provides independent assistance through an EPA contract to help communities better understand the science, regulations and policies of environmental issues and EPA actions. Under the TASC contract, a contractor provides scientists, engineers and other professionals to review and explain information to communities. The services are determined on a project-specific basis and provided at no cost to communities. This assistance supports community efforts to get more involved and work productively with EPA to address environmental issues. <a href="#">TASC Brochure</a>.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
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<p><b>Department of Transportation (DOT)</b></p> <p><b>Discretionary Grants Dashboard</b></p>	<p>The <a href="#">Dashboard</a> provides communities with an overview of discretionary grant opportunities that can help meet their transportation infrastructure needs. The Dashboard is updated weekly. <a href="#">The DOT Navigator</a> is a resource to help communities understand the best ways to apply for grants, and to plan for and deliver transformative infrastructure projects and services.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
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<p><b>HUD</b></p> <p><b>Community Project Funding (CPF) Page</b></p>	<p>Economic Development Initiative (EDI) CPF grants provide investment in a wide variety of projects such as housing, homelessness prevention, workforce training, public facilities, parks, resilience planning, and other critical infrastructure and services. The CPF page will be your one-stop shop for key information, resources, and training related to CPF grant implementation.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
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<p><b>American Planning Association</b></p> <p><b>Equity in Zoning Policy Guide</b></p>	<p>The <a href="#">Equity in Zoning Policy Guide</a> by the American Planning Association (APA) provides a framework for assessing and improving equity in housing policy.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
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<p><b>Environmental Protection Network</b></p>	<p>The Environmental Protection Network (EPN) has more than 550 EPA alumni across the country volunteering their time to protect the integrity of EPA, human health, and the environment. EPN harnesses the expertise of former EPA staff to provide the unique perspective of former regulators with decades of historical knowledge and subject matter expertise on</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
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<b>Pro Bono Technical Assistance Program</b>	issues including air and water pollution, toxic substances, hazardous waste, and more.	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) Economic Development Profiles Tool</b>	The Economic Development Cluster of the Federal Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Interagency Working Group launched this tool to provide insight into how universities and colleges can work with regional economic development ecosystems to successfully serve as a means to engage community leaders, leverage the involvement of the private sector, and establish a strategic blueprint for regional collaboration.	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>EPA and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)</b>	With unprecedented funding to support our national infrastructure, EPA will improve people's health and safety, create good-paying jobs, and increase climate resilience throughout the country. Visit <a href="#">EPA's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law</a> page to learn more.	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>HUD</b>	This <a href="#">library of resources</a> , relevant to Distressed Cities and Persistent Poverty Technical Assistance (DCTA) recipients and smaller distressed communities, features a wide range of resources, reports, webinars and funding opportunities that might be of interest to small governments, tribal organizations and non-profits. Check back regularly for new resources and information!	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>Resources for Distressed Cities and Persistent Poverty Technical Assistance (DCTA) and Smaller Distressed Cities</b>		
<b>New Jersey Institute of Technology Technical Assistance to Brownfields</b>	The New Jersey Institute of Technology is U.S. EPA Region 2's Technical Assistance to Brownfield Communities (TAB) provider. The TAB program is intended to serve as an independent resource to communities and nonprofits attempting to cleanup and reclaim brownfields. Free NJIT TAB services are provided to state, regional, county, tribal and local government entities, and nonprofits in EPA Region 2 who are interested in learning about, identifying, assessing, cleaning up and/or redeveloping brownfields.	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>EPA Tools and Partnerships for Community Revitalization</b>	EPA's Office of Research and Development has launched a project advancing community revitalization. The program is centered on a suite of science-based tools that EPA has developed that integrate information and data important to community revitalization in ways that facilitate decision-making and strategic planning to advance public health and sustainability.	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>EPA Smart Growth Technical Assistance Opportunities</b>	EPA's focus on Smart Growth covers a range of development and conservation strategies that help protect our health and natural environment and make our communities more attractive, economically stronger, and more socially diverse.  EPA offers several technical assistance opportunities to help communities learn about and implement smart growth approaches.	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>EPA Capacity Building</b>	EPA's New Booklet - Capacity Building Through Effective Meaningful Engagement: A Tool for Local and State Governments	<a href="#">More Information here</a>

# Webinars & Virtual Events

All times in EST

<p><b>Seatuck</b></p> <p><b>Conserving Long Island Wildlife</b></p>	<p><a href="#">Community Science LI Educational Webinar Series is back</a>: highlights various community science opportunities around Long Island, and the importance of those projects in supporting local wildlife conservation efforts. Webinars coincide with the survey season for each monitoring program and has a corresponding in-person session (one not required for other)</p>	<p><b>Feb 7th @ 6-8pm: River Herring Update</b></p>	<p><a href="#">More Information here</a></p>
<p><b>The Watershed Institute</b></p>	<p>The Watershed Conference is an annual educational and networking event covering topics related to watershed health in New Jersey. The Conference will feature hybrid sessions (concurrent in-person and virtual). Our theme this year is regional planning, a collaborative strategy to address the impacts of climate change and to restore clean and healthy habitats. The conference is traditionally attended by a variety of stakeholders including state, municipal, and county officials and staff, nonprofit organizations, environmental professionals, and the general public.</p> <p>Visit the Watershed Conference webpage to learn more about confirmed organizations and speakers, including our keynote speaker, Dr. Dan Van Abs (Professor of Professional Practice for Water, Society &amp; Environment at Rutgers University, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, Department of Human Ecology). The Watershed Institute is a certified course provider for Continuing Legal Education Credits (CLEs) and Professional Engineer credits (PEs). We will be offering NJ CEUs for applicable sessions at The Watershed Conference. If you have any questions about this event, please reach out to the conference organizer, Pri Oliveira, at poliveira@thewatershed.org.</p>	<p>In Person at The College of New Jersey and Virtual on Zoom</p> <p>Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024 – <a href="#">The Watershed Institute’s 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Watershed Conference</a></p>	<p><a href="#">More Information here</a></p>
<p><b>New Jersey Future</b></p> <p><b>Working for Smart Growth: More Livable Places and Open Spaces</b></p>	<p><a href="#">NJ Future Community Design for All Ages Workshop Series and technical assistance opportunity</a></p> <p><b>Three workshops</b> are being offered to assist Sustainable Jersey Green Teams in completing the <a href="#">Community Design for All Ages Action</a>. The workshops will detail actions municipalities can take to make the built environment of their towns more age-friendly and earn points in the Sustainable Jersey program. Each workshop will describe how to work through specific components of the action. Although the workshop series is focused on the Community Design for All Ages Action, anyone is</p>	<p>Workshop 1: Completing an Age-Friendly Land Use Assessment &amp; Data Gathering</p> <p><b>Friday, January 26 at 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.</b></p>	<p><a href="#">More Information here</a></p>

welcome to attend the workshops to learn more about improving livability in their community. Register for individual workshops will be required. All workshops will be delivered virtually on Zoom. Each 45-minute workshop presentation will be followed by a 15-minute question-and-answer period.

New Jersey Future is also offering an opportunity to apply for free technical assistance to complete one of the three components covered in the workshops. The application for technical assistance can be found [here](#) and the deadline is February 9, 2024.

Workshop 2:  
Developing an Age-Friendly Policy & Community Engagement Plan  
**Thursday, February 1 at 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.**  
Workshop 3:  
Implementation Strategies for Creating Great Places to Age  
**Thursday, February 8 at 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

## Grant Resources

### Resources for Finding Funding Opportunities

<b>EPA General</b>	General information about EPA's grants can be found <a href="#">here</a> . Subscribe to the <a href="#">EPA Grants Update Listserv</a> .  Search EPA's <a href="#">Clearinghouse for Environmental Finance</a> .
<b>Grants.gov</b>	This is a single access point for over 900 grant programs offered by the 26 Federal grant-making agencies. The <a href="#">search for grant opportunities</a> feature, located at <a href="#">Grants.gov</a> , allows you to electronically find and apply for these competitive grant opportunities. EPA posts synopses of competitive grant opportunities on <a href="#">Grants.gov</a> .
<b>Assistance Listings (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance)</b>	<a href="#">Assistance Listings</a> on <a href="#">beta.SAM.gov</a> (formerly CFDA.gov) provides access to a database of all federal programs available to state and local governments; federally recognized Indian tribal governments; U.S. territories; domestic public, quasi-public, and private profit and nonprofit organizations and institutions; specialized groups; and individuals. After you <a href="#">find the program you want</a> , contact the office that administers the program and find out how to apply.
<b>Resources for Small Businesses</b>	EPA's gateway to environmental information and contacts for small businesses can be found <a href="#">here</a> .
<b>EPA Grants Webinar Series Recordings</b>	EPA Grants webinar series recordings are available on the <a href="#">EPA Grants website</a> . Topics include: Competition Process, Developing a Budget, and Complying with EPA Assistance Agreements.
<b>EPN will hold SAM.gov</b>	<b>EPN will hold SAM.gov registration office hours on November 22nd, December 5th and December 20th. Go to #4 on <a href="#">our website</a> to register</b>

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registration office  
hours

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**Guide to Finding Resources for Environmental Justice Efforts**      The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice offers a guide with general guidance and tips on searching for funding opportunities, as well as information on tools, trainings, and other relevant resources that are available to help address community needs. This guide can be accessed [here](#).

## Resources for Writing Grants

**EPA Grants Management Online Trainings**      This online training course is designed to introduce EPA grant applicants and recipients to key aspects of the entire grant life cycle, from preparation of an application through grant closeout. The course is divided into separate modules that can be completed individually. Upon completion, you will be prompted to generate a downloadable [certificate of completion](#). You can access the online course on EPA's [Grants Management Training for Applicants and Recipients](#) website.

**HUD Grant Writing Tips**      General tips on writing a winning grant submission from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development can be found [here](#).

**USDA Grant Writing Resources**      General information on federal funding and grant writing resources from the USDA can be found here in their [Guide to Funding Resources](#).

**Grants.gov Blog Series**      Learn tips and advice for writing federal grant applications through the [Grant Writing Basics Blog Series](#) including: How to Start Working on Future Funding Opportunities, Demystifying Funding Opportunity Announcements, Tips to Avoid Last Minute Problems, and Making Sure You Are Eligible before Writing.

**EPA Grants Webinar Series Recordings**      EPA Grants webinar series recordings are available on the [EPA Grants website](#). Topics include: Competition Process, Developing a Budget, and Complying with EPA Assistance Agreements.

**And more**      Links to other grant writing resources [here](#).

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