



What is Environmental Justice?

Environmental Justice (EJ) means making sure everyone, regardless of income, gets treated fairly when environmental laws and policies, are developed, implemented & enforced. Environmental justice empowers communities to influence decisions impacting their environment, ensures fair access to natural resources, and safeguards environmental health for future generations.

Environmental Justice Law

Environmental Justice (EJ) began in the 1980s to address how pollution unfairly affects low-income and communities of color communities, and in 2004, New Jersey launched its own EJ program. In 2020, the state passed a major law requiring the NJDEP to consider total pollution impacts on overburdened communities and allowing permits to be denied if a project worsens their health or environment.

EJ Factors

1. Racial discrimination
2. Economic disparities
3. Inadequate enforcement of environmental laws
4. Political marginalization of certain communities

Actions & Initiatives

1. Education and Awareness
2. Participate in Decision-Making
3. Document and Report Environmental Issues
4. Advocate for local EJ Planning & Policies
5. Demand Accountability
6. Share Stories and Experiences
7. Collaborate with Allies
8. Engage in EJ Research

