



Technical Assistance and Funding Resources Guide

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

April 2023

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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Important Deadlines

April 21- Energy Improvements at Public School Facilities Grants

April 28- Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (for metro areas)

April 28- FEMA Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loans

May 2- Three New USDA Food Systems and Access Programs

May 9- Wildfire Smoke Preparedness in Community Buildings Grant Program

May 12- Water Quality Management Planning Grants (NY)

May 31- EJ Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program

June 6- Pollution Prevention: EJ in Communities

June 15- USDA Cooperative Agreements for Compost and Food Waste Reduction

June 20- Pollution Prevention: EJ through Safer and More Sustainable Products

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. 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. Síguenos en Twitter: [@EPAEnvJustice](#).

EPA Announces 17 New Technical Assistance Centers to Help Communities Access Investments to Advance Environmental Justice

On April 13, EPA announced the selection of 17 Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers (EJ TCTACs) that will receive \$177 million to help underserved and overburdened communities across the country access funds, including historic investments to advance environmental justice.

Each of the technical assistance centers will receive at least \$10 million to remove barriers and improve accessibility for communities with environmental justice concerns. With this critical investment, these centers will provide training and other assistance to build capacity for navigating federal grant application systems, writing strong grant proposals, and effectively managing grant funding. In addition, these centers will provide guidance on community engagement, meeting facilitation, and translation and interpretation services for limited English-speaking participants, thus removing barriers and improving accessibility for communities with environmental justice concerns. Each of the technical assistance centers will also create and manage communication channels to ensure all communities have direct access to resources and information.

The two TCTACs servicing Region 2 are:

- West Harlem Environmental Action Inc. (WE ACT)
- Inter-American University of Puerto Rico-Metropolitan Campus

[More information and a full list of all EJ TCTACs.](#)

[Full Press Release.](#)

[EJ TCTAC Fact Sheet.](#)

The Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program

Approximately \$550 million is available to select approximately 11 eligible entities to become Grantmakers. Grantmakers will design competitive application and submission processes, award environmental justice subgrants, implement a tracking and reporting system, provide resources and support to communities, all in collaboration with EPA's Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights. The EJ TCGM program was created to reduce barriers to the application process and increase the efficiency of the awards process for environmental justice grants.

Eligible entities for serving as an EJ Thriving Communities Grantmaker include:

- a community-based nonprofit organization; or
- a partnership of community-based nonprofit organizations
- a partnership between— a federally recognized Tribal government and a community-based nonprofit organization
- a partnership between— an institution of higher education and a community-based nonprofit organization.

More information can be found [here](#).

Applications are due **Wednesday, May 31, 2023**.

EJ Grant Programs for Pollution Prevention

EPA announced the availability of \$16 million for two new grant opportunities to support states and Tribes in providing technical assistance to businesses seeking to develop and adopt pollution prevention (P2) practices that advance environmental justice in underserved communities. Individual grant awards may range from \$100,000 to \$800,000 for the funding period, or up to \$1.2 million for multi-state or multi-Tribal projects.

- The Pollution Prevention Grant: Environmental Justice in Communities is a new P2 grant opportunity to support technical assistance for businesses to specifically target and improve human health and the environment in disadvantaged communities. Additional information is available at [grants.gov](#) under Funding Opportunity Announcement EPA-I-OCSP-OPPT-FY2023-001. Applications are due **Tuesday, June 6, 2023**.
- The Pollution Prevention Grant: Environmental Justice Through Safer and More Sustainable Products will support P2 technical assistance to businesses to increase the supply, demand and or use of safer and more sustainable products, such as those that are certified by EPA's **Safer Choice** program, or those that conform to EPA's **Recommendations for Specifications, Standards and Ecolabels for Federal Purchasing**. Additional information is available at [grants.gov](#) under Funding Opportunity Announcement EPA-I-OCSP-OPPT-FY2023-002. Applications are due **Tuesday, June 20, 2023**.

These two-year grants are a critical component of the Biden-Harris Administration's **Justice40 Initiative** which aims to deliver 40% of the overall benefits of climate, clean energy and other

investments to disadvantaged communities. Selected grantees will not be required to provide matching funds for these grants.

For help with grant-related questions, e-mail p2hub@epa.gov. To receive a notification when the grants are available, sign up to receive EPA's [P2 listserv](#).

[Learn more about P2 grants.](#)

EJScreen 2.1 Environmental Justice Mapping and Screening Tool

EPA has developed an environmental justice mapping and screening tool called **EJScreen** to better meet its responsibilities to protect public health and the environment. It is based on nationally consistent data and an approach that combines environmental and demographic indicators in maps and reports. The EJScreen Tool includes:

- **12 Environmental Indicators**
- **7 Socioeconomic Indicators**
- **12 EJ Indexes**
- **New Climate, Health, and Critical Service Gaps Layers**

EPA launched EJScreen 2.1, an updated version of EJScreen, in October 2022. This updated version makes important improvements to better meet the needs of users and provides expanded insight into EJ concerns in overburdened communities.

EJScreen Trainings: EPA is holding virtual public training hosted on EJScreen 2.1. These trainings include information on updates, a demonstration of the available features, and tips on how to use the tool. View the recordings of the past trainings [here](#).

EJScreen Office Hours: These bimonthly Office Hours will be a chance for the public to talk with EPA EJScreen experts about many topics including how to use and apply the tool, technical issues, and any other questions. View the recordings of the past office hour sessions [here](#).

Technical Assistance to Brownfields Communities Program

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 [on this site](#) lists past and current technical assistance and research projects EPA funds and resources that are available to all communities. Please review the [Technical Assistance, Training, and Research Application Resources](#) for information on open solicitations.

Learn more about [EPA's Land and Brownfields Revitalization Programs](#).

Brownfields En Español: [Programas de revitalización de tierras y antiguas instalaciones industriales de la EPA](#)

Rural Communities

USDA Revolving Loan Programs to Support Rural Businesses and Community Development Projects

The Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant program provides funding for rural projects through local utility organizations. USDA provides zero-interest loans to local utilities which they, in turn, pass through to local businesses (ultimate recipients) for projects that will create and retain employment in rural areas. The ultimate recipients repay the lending utility directly. The utility is responsible for repayment to USDA.

USDA provides grants to local utility organizations which use the funding to establish **Revolving Loan Funds** (RLF). Loans are made from the revolving loan fund to projects that will create or retain rural jobs. When the revolving loan fund is terminated, the grant is repaid to USDA.

More information can be found [here](#).

Fourth Quarter due date: **Friday, June 30, 2023.**

EPA Rural, Small, and Tribal Technical Assistance (RST TA)

EPA's providers deliver targeted technical assistance and training to rural, small, and tribal municipalities and wastewater treatment systems to protect public health and safeguard the environment. The RST TA providers serve an important role in helping to 1) ensure that rural, small, and tribal communities that have difficulty in securing public funding receive the help they need to access resources to support infrastructure improvements and 2) support rural, small, and tribal wastewater treatment systems – centralized and decentralized – build their technical, managerial and financial capacity to operate their systems well and maintain compliance.

[Learn more and request assistance here.](#)

USDA ReConnect Loan and Grant Program

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.

More information can be found on the [ReConnect Forms and Resources page](#).

USDA Guide to Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Funding for Rural Development

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) passed in August, represents the largest single investment in rural electrification since the passage of the Rural Electrification Act in 1936. Click [here](#) for a guide from USDA on how to access this funding for rural development.

HUD Rural Gateway

The [Rural Gateway](#) provides technical assistance, training, peer learning, and resource sharing to support rural housing and economic development.

For more information, contact HUD's Office of Rural Housing and Economic Development at 1-877-787-2526 or rhed@hud.gov.

Small Wastewater Treatment Assistance from EPA's Environmental Finance Center Network

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. [Request Assistance here](#).

Re-envisioning Rural America: How to Invest in the Strengths and Potential of Rural Communities

Select one of their seven peer groups of rural census tracts to see which rural areas share strengths and the capacity for growth. Also, learn more about a place—including its size, type of government, and available support organizations—by clicking on a census tract. [Click here for access](#).

Recreation Economy at USDA Economic Development Resources for Rural Communities

USDA's Forest Service (FS), Rural Development (RD), and the National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA) have developed [this resource guide for rural communities](#) to identify resources that develop the recreation economy.

Food and Agriculture

Three New USDA Food Systems and Access Programs

Regional Food System Partnerships (RFSP) - Supports partnerships that connect public and private resources to plan and develop local or regional food systems. Focus on building and strengthening local or regional food economy viability and resilience - this includes pandemic response/recovery. More info [here](#).

Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP) - Develop, coordinate, and expand local and regional food business enterprises to help increase access to and availability of locally and regionally produced agricultural products. More info [here](#).

Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP) - Develop, coordinate, and expand direct producer to consumer markets to increase access to, and availability of, regionally produced agricultural products. More info [here](#).

Applications for these three opportunities are due **Tuesday, May 2, 2023**.

USDA Cooperative Agreements for Compost and Food Waste Reduction

USDA announced the availability of up to \$9.5 million nationwide for Compost and Food Waste Reduction (CFWR) pilot projects for fiscal year 2023. The cooperative agreements support projects that develop and test strategies for planning and implementing municipal compost plans and food waste reduction plans.

Cooperative agreements support projects led by local governments or other eligible entities that:

- Generate compost;
- Increase access to compost for agricultural producers;
- Reduce reliance on and limit the use of fertilizer;
- Improve soil quality;
- Encourage waste management and permaculture business development;
- Increase rainwater absorption;
- Reduce municipal food waste; and
- Divert food waste from landfills.

More information can be found [here](#).

Applications are due **Thursday, June 15, 2023**.

Food Waste Reduction and Diversion Reimbursement Program

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.

Applications for grant funding are now being accepted. Please note that **this is a rolling application**. [Click here for more information](#).

NYS DEC Municipal Funding for Food Scraps Recycling Initiatives

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.

The following types of projects are included in this opportunity:

- Creating or expanding programs to increase residential food scraps recycling
- Creating or expanding food scraps recycling programs and facilities

Applications will be **accepted on an ongoing basis until May 3, 2024**. All projects will be evaluated by DEC for eligibility in the order in which they are received (first-in, first-out).

[Click here for more information](#).

Best Management Practices for Non-Chemical Weed Control

This manual provides comprehensive descriptions of 21 commonly used non-chemical weed control techniques and of biological control agents for 18 weed species/species groups that will help you as a practitioner treat weeds more effectively. The manual can be found [here](#).

EPA Web Page on Food Waste Research

Our new web page offers EPA research on food waste prevention and reduction, with a focus on processing and management. Visit [here](#) to learn more.

Air & Water

Climate Pollution Reduction Grants

The Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) program will provide grants to states, local governments, tribes, and territories to develop and implement plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful air pollution. This two-staged grant program provides funding of \$250 million for noncompetitive planning grants, and \$4.6 billion for competitive implementation grants.

The CPRG program is designed to provide flexible support to states, local governments, tribes, and territories regardless of where they are in their climate planning and implementation process. Planning funds can be used to update existing climate, energy, or sustainability plans, or to develop new plans. More information can be found [here](#).

The Notice of Intent deadline [for states](#) has already passed.

The lead organization [for a metro area](#) must submit the Notice of Intent by **April 28, 2023**.

Wildfire Smoke Preparedness in Community Buildings Grant Program

EPA is seeking applications from [eligible entities](#) to support enhancing wildfire smoke preparedness in community buildings. The Wildfire Smoke Preparedness in Community Buildings Grant Program will provide grants and cooperative agreements to states, federally recognized tribes, public preschools, local educational agencies, and non-profit organizations for the assessment, prevention, control or abatement of wildfire smoke hazards in community buildings.

The total estimated funding available for awards is \$10.67 million. EPA anticipates awarding approximately 13-18 grants, ranging from \$100,000 to \$2 million. Funded assistance agreements will have up to 3-year periods of performance. More information can be found [here](#). Apply [here](#).

Applications are due **Tuesday, May 9, 2023**.

Water Quality Management Planning Grants (NY)

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is accepting applications for the 2023 Clean Water Act Section 604(b) Water Quality Management Planning grants. Eligible applicants are regional public comprehensive planning organizations and interstate organizations. Applications must be completed and submitted through the New York State [Grants Gateway Grant Opportunity Portal](#).

View DEC's [Water Quality Planning Grants](#) webpage for more details, including the list of eligible applicants, and to view the Request for Applications.

Applications are due **Friday, May 12, 2023**.

EPA's Water Technical Assistance Page – Newly Updated

EPA's [Water Technical Assistance Page](#) now includes a one-stop-shop [EPA water technical assistance request form](#) 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.

EPA Watershed Academy - National Nonpoint Pollution Control Program Learning Module

EPA's [Watershed Academy](#) 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.

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 [Certificate Program](#). The Training can be accessed [here](#).

EPA Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) Program

EPA [Announced \\$6.5 Billion in New Funding Available for Water Infrastructure Projects](#) and released notices of funding availability for the agency's Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program and the State Infrastructure Financing Authority WIFIA (SWIFIA) program. Letters of interest will be accepted on a rolling basis until all funds are expended.

If you're interested in scheduling a one-on-one meeting with the WIFIA program to explore this funding opportunity, please reach out to wifia@epa.gov. Visit the [WIFIA website](#) to learn more about the WIFIA program's [eligibility requirements, and benefits, application process, and portfolio](#). Also, check out the [WIFIA Fund Facts Dashboard](#).

[2022 WIFIA letter of interest form, letter of interest checklist, and sample letter of interest](#)

[2022 SWIFIA application materials](#)

[WIFIA program handbook](#)

EPA Releases New PFAS Analytic Tools

EPA has released a new interactive webpage, called the “**PFAS Analytic Tools**,” 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.

Assistance from EPA’s Municipal Ombudsman

The **Office of the Municipal Ombudsman** 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 municipalombudsman@epa.gov or 202-564-1709 to discuss your projects, permits, or other clean water concerns today.

EPA Advance Program

The **U.S. EPA's Advance Program** 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. To subscribe to the Advance monthly newsletter, email advance@epa.gov.

Please contact the EPA Region 2 contact, manj.muhammad-bilal@epa.gov, or the EPA Headquarters Advance Program team (Rich Damberg, damberg.rich@epa.gov; Mia South, south.mia@epa.gov; or ADVANCE@epa.gov) if you have questions about becoming an Advance program partner.

EPA Climate Change and Human Health Website

EPA’s **Climate Change and Human Health** Web content is now live. This content reflects a broader effort to expand EPA’s **Climate Change** 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-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.

View All of EPA's Indoor Air Quality Webinars Anytime!

IAQ Master Class Professional Training Webinar Series

These technical, core-competency trainings are designed to build the capacity of school district staff across the country to start, improve or sustain an IAQ management program. Complete all 10 hours, and you will be recognized as a member of the IAQ Master Class.

IAQ Knowledge-to-Action Professional Training Webinar Series

These technical webinars demonstrate how the knowledge gained in the IAQ Master Class Professional Training Webinar Series can be translated into actions that improve or sustain an IAQ management program within your school or school district.

Healthy Indoor Environments in Schools and Virus Mitigation

This new series of webinars covers strategies for developing comprehensive IAQ management plans to proactively prevent the spread of viruses and bacteria in schools.

Learn from technical experts, industry leaders and model school districts during these webinars, which include 30-minute mentoring Q&A sessions. Gain recognition for your knowledge acquisition and commitment to action by receiving a certificate of completion for each training.

Community and Economic Development

Energy Improvements at Public School Facilities Grants

The Department of Energy is setting aside \$80 million in grants for energy improvements at public school facilities. This funding is the first tranche of funding in a \$500 million investment, to make clean energy improvements in K-12 public schools. Funds will empower school districts to make upgrades that will lower facilities' energy costs and improve student learning environments. Eligible Entities: Consortium of One Local Education Agency and one or more Schools, Non-Profits, For-Profits, and Community Partners.

More information can be found [here](#).

Applications are due **Friday, April 21, 2023**.

FEMA Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loan Fund Program

FEMA's **new revolving loan program** under **the Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk Mitigation (STORM) Act** became law on Jan. 1, 2021 and authorizes FEMA to provide capitalization grants to states, eligible federally recognized tribes, territories and the District of Columbia to establish revolving loan funds that provide hazard mitigation assistance for local governments to reduce risks from natural hazards and disasters.

More information can be found [here](#).

Applications are due **Friday, April 28, 2023**.

EPA's new Disaster Resilient Design Concepts

The designs showcased 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. [View the document here](#).

APA Equity in Zoning Policy Guide

The **Equity in Zoning Policy Guide** by the American Planning Association (APA) provides a framework for assessing and improving equity in housing policy.

EPA & The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

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 [EPA's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#) page to learn more.

- [Read the statement by Administrator Regan.](#)
- [Review the fact sheet.](#)

Environmental Protection Network (EPN) – Pro Bono Technical Assistance Program

The 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 issues including air and water pollution, toxic substances, hazardous waste, and more. Learn more about the unique assistance they offer [here](#).

New Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) Economic Development Profiles Tool

The Economic Development Cluster of the Federal Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Interagency Working Group launched the HBCU Economic Development Profiles Tool. This tool can 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.

View the [HBCU Economic Development Profiles Tool](#).

Building a Circular Economy for All

EPA released a progress report on Building a Circular Economy for All. Find it [here](#).

Climate Resilience Implementation Guide: Cool Roofs

HUD released a new Climate Resilience Implementations Guide: Cool Roofs. Find it [here](#).

FEMA Resource Roadmap

For your awareness and visibility, FEMA updated a [Resource Roadmap](#) to help identify potential sources of funding and other resources to help them with COVID-19 pandemic recovery. The five Roadmaps: food and nutrition, housing, healthcare, education, and economic recovery.

EPA Federal Regulation Finder Tool

EPA has launched a Federal Regulation Finder (“[RegFinder](#)”) that helps users discover potentially applicable regulations. Importantly, companies can search for regulations by chemical, keyword, or industrial sector using NAICS codes.

New HUD Resources for Distressed Cities and Persistent Poverty Technical Assistance (DCTA) and Smaller Distressed Cities

This [library of resources](#), 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, including COVID-19 recovery information. Check back regularly for new resources and information!

Technical Assistance to Brownfields - New Jersey Institute of Technology

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. Visit [their site here](#) for more information.

EPA Tools and Partnerships for Community Revitalization

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.

Follow the link to view the selection of [Tools and Partnerships for Community Revitalization](#) and website links featuring case studies, videos, and training webinars. The tools highlighted were selected through a collaborative effort among 60 specialists participating in the partnership.

EPA Smart Growth Technical Assistance Opportunities

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. More information about these technical assistance programs can be found [here](#).

Webinars & Virtual Events

EPA's Listening Sessions: The Inflation Reduction Act's Funding to Address Air Pollution at Schools

EPA wants your input on the design of a new grant and technical assistance program. Register for one of the webinars to hear a high-level overview of the Funding to Address Air Pollution at Schools and to offer your feedback on how EPA can best use this funding to address school air quality issues in low-income and disadvantaged communities. EPA will give the same presentation in both webinars, so please only register for the one that best suits your schedule.

Wednesday, April 19 (1:00-2:30PM EST) [Register here](#).

Wednesday, April 26 (1:00-2:30PM EST) [Register here](#).

The Story of Drinking Water

Wednesday, April 19 (6:00-7:15PM EST)

Join The Watershed Institute team and New Jersey American Water to learn all about drinking water. Due to surface runoff, chemical contaminants, and various natural parasites and diseases, the clearest looking stream isn't necessarily safe to drink from. Clean drinking water is an essential public service that helps keep us healthier. They will discuss the Safe Drinking Water Act, water treatment processes, and some of the regulations that help ensure our tap water is safe to drink.

Click [here](#) to register.

EPA Tools and Resources Webinar Series

EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) hosts a monthly public webinar series to share EPA resources and information that are useful, practical/applied and available to meet **state research needs**. **Upcoming webinars:**

Wednesday, April 26 (3:00-4:00PM EST): Air Sensor Guidebook

Wednesday, May 17 (3:00-4:00PM EST): National Nutrient Inventory

View all available recordings of previous webinars [here](#).

Northeast Regional Climate Center Webinar Series

The Northeast Regional Climate Center (NRCC) hosts a monthly webinar with NOAA affiliates to address timely weather and climate concerns. Recorded versions are available after the live webinar.

Thursday, April 27 (9:30-10:30AM EST): USDA Northeast Climate Hub

Click [here](#) to register.

Extreme Heat – New York State Webinar Series

Extreme heat is a leading cause of death among hazardous weather events in the US. Extreme heat affects the health and well-being of communities and individuals across New York State. The impacts of extreme heat are more severe due to climate change, with disproportionately greater impacts experienced by heat-vulnerable populations, urban areas, and **disadvantaged communities**.

This webinar series is part of NY State Department of Environmental Conservation and NYSERDA's ongoing development of an extreme heat action plan in response to the increased frequency and intensity of extreme heat events caused by climate change. The webinar series will include presentations by a panel of subject matter experts on topics relevant to State and local planning for extreme heat events.

Upcoming webinars:

Thursday, April 27 (2:00-4:00PM EST): Extreme Heat and the Built Environment [Register here](#).

Thursday, May 18 (2:00-4:00PM EST): Extreme Heat, Health, and Policy: Strategies Across NY's Many Landscapes [Register here](#).

Thursday, June 8 (2:00-4:00PM EST): Showcasing Local Solutions and Partnerships [Register here](#).

Thursday, June 22 (2:00-4:00PM EST): Preparing for Summer 2023: What Individuals and Local Governments Can Do During a Heat Wave [Register here](#).

For [additional information on New York State's extreme heat action plan](#).

Integrating Environmental Justice into Water Resource Management – EPA Watershed Academy Webcast

Wednesday, May 3 (3:00-5:00PM EST)

During this webcast you'll hear from states, universities, and NGO's that are working to integrate environmental justice into watershed and water quality management. Join us to learn more about using data for prioritization of environmental justice work, collective impact campaigns for watershed health, empowering community members to combat climate change impacts, and the connection between flooding issues and housing accessibility.

Presentations will focus on specific projects as well as bigger picture thinking on how various entities are proactively including environmental justice in their work.

Click [here](#) to register.

EPA COVID-19 Related Resources

EPA's main page for COVID-19 related resources can be accessed [here](#). These resources are available in several other languages including [Español](#).

EPA's Indoor Air and COVID-19 Webpage

Spread of COVID-19 occurs via airborne particles and droplets. Learn about best practices for prevention and other resources related to indoor air and COVID-19 on [EPA's Indoor Air and COVID-19 webpage](#).

EPA COVID-19 Resources for State, Local, and Tribal Governments

EPA's [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Resources for State, Local, and Tribal Agencies and Associations](#) contains important information on grants, enforcement and compliance programs, water infrastructure, and a host of other issues important to effective environmental program delivery.

The webpage will be updated regularly with new information. EPA is also continuing to update resources on its website and add to the [list of surface disinfectant products](#) that are effective against SARS-CoV-2.

EPA's [Frequent Questions about Grants and Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

Other Resources for COVID-19 Disaster Assistance

The situation is rapidly changing, and new announcements are being issued frequently.

For the latest CDC guidance for individuals, businesses and communities see [cdc.gov/COVID19](https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19)

For a current compilation of other federal resources visit www.usa.gov/coronavirus

Grant Resources

Resources for Finding Funding Opportunities

General information about EPA's grants can be found [here](#).

Subscribe to the [EPA Grants Update Listserv](#).

Grants.gov

This is a single access point for over 900 grant programs offered by the 26 Federal grant-making agencies. The [search for grant opportunities](#) feature, located at [Grants.gov](#), allows you to electronically find and apply for these competitive grant opportunities. EPA posts synopses of competitive grant opportunities on [Grants.gov](#).

Assistance Listings (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance)

[Assistance Listings](#) on [beta.SAM.gov](#) (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 [find the program you want](#), contact the office that administers the program and find out how to apply.

Resources for Small Businesses

EPA's gateway to environmental information and contacts for small businesses can be found [here](#).

Guide to Finding Federal Assistance and 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

The federal government provides a range of trainings and resources to assist individuals and organizations interested in applying for a federal grant. Below is a list of some of those resources.

EPA Grants Management Online Training

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. Each module includes knowledge checks to verify your understanding of key concepts. 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.

EPA Guide: Tips on Virtual Community Engagement for Grantees

Community engagement is a requirement for many grants. EPA recently released a guide of virtual tools and other approaches to continue to perform outreach during COVID-19. View the guide [here](#).

Other Resources

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

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
- Making Sure You Are Eligible before Writing

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

EPA Grants Webinar Series Recordings

EPA Grants webinar series recordings are available on the [EPA Grants website](#). Topics include:

- Competition Process
- Developing a Budget
- Complying with EPA Assistance Agreements