November 14th, 2020

The Students for Environmental Justice Conference
Student Toolkit

Content:

- Workshop guide
- Immediate Action Steps
- Daily Dos and Don’ts
- Local Representatives to Contact
- Further Reading
## Workshop Guide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 1 10am-10:45am</th>
<th>Session 2 11am-11:45am</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| ● Environmental Justice after the Election  
● The Flint Water Crisis  
● Inequality in Green Spaces  
● Women Fighting for Environmental Justice  
● Bees, Pesticides, and Food Security in Urban Spaces  
● NYC’s Climate Refugees  
● Engaging Communities in Advocacy  
● Environmental Justice Case Studies from NYC | ● Assessing Nature in NYC  
● Chocolate Production and Child Labor  
● Sustainable Access to Food sources  
● Inside and outside Mobilization Tactics  
● Urban Agriculture as Social Change in NYC  
● Covid 19 and Environmental Racism in Cancer alley  
● Environmental injustice and Latinx Communities |

Environmental Justice in Marginalized communities:
- Environmental injustice and Latinx Communities
- Covid 19 and Environmental Racism in Cancer alley
- Women Fighting for Environmental Justice
- Inequality in Green Spaces

Environmental Justice in Politics and Society:
- Environmental Justice after the Election
- Bees, Pesticides, and Food Security in Urban Spaces
- NYC’s Climate Refugees
- Engaging Communities in Advocacy
- Environmental Justice Case Studies from NYC
- Urban Agriculture as Social Change in NYC

Environmental Justice in Food/water:
- The Flint Water Crisis
- Chocolate Production and Child Labor
- Sustainable Access to Food sources
- Bees, Pesticides, and Food Security in Urban Spaces
Immediate Action Steps YOU Can Take

- Send this [letter](#) to a member of your school community.
- Support the following organizations fighting for environmental justice and backing socially-equal conservation policies, with both your [dollar](#) and your [time](#) (non-exhaustive list).
  - Based in NYC
    - [NY Renews](#)
    - [Extinction Rebellion NYC](#)
    - [New York City Environmental Justice Alliance](#)
    - [WE ACT](#)
  - [NAACP Environmental and Climate Justice Program](#)
  - [Green For All](#)
  - [Earth Justice](#)
  - [Indigenous Environmental Network](#)
  - [350.org](#)
  - [Black Millennials for Flint](#)
  - [The Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment](#)
  - [UPROSE](#)
  - [Sunrise Movement](#)
  - [Nuestra Tierra Conservation Project](#)
  - [Sane Energy Project](#)
- Join the [Power Shift Network](#), an organization which [mobilizes](#) the collective power of [young people](#) to mitigate climate change and create thriving communities for all.
- Find your representative [here](#), and [read](#) about their climate and environmental justice policies.
- Download [Shop Ethical!](#) Or visit the website [Good On You](#) to ensure the items you buy are sourced ethically and sustainable.
- Read the US Department of Health & Human Services [Environmental Justice Strategy](#).
- Read about [Environmental Justice in Your Community](#) from the US Environmental Protection Agency, and assess Environmental Justice progress and policy [regionally](#).
- Watch these five [films](#) recommended by San Francisco Green Film Festival, which shed a light on [environmental racism](#) in the US.
Daily Environmental Dos and Don’ts

Do:

➔ Spend time in nature / outside!
➔ Try to eat less red meat, specifically beef. Cows produce a lot of methane, which is a harmful greenhouse gas. Also, to raise cows, farmers must clear large plots of land.
➔ Walk or bike. Not only is walking / biking better for the environment, it’s also good exercise! If you cannot get somewhere by foot, use public transportation (when COVID safe) instead of cars.
➔ Reduce, reuse, and recycle.
  ◆ REDUCE: When you are getting food, try to not scoop yourself too much, or think about how much you will realistically eat. Also, reduce your plastic use. If possible, buy reusable coffee mugs and metal straws. I know some people do not like the feel of metal straws, so these reusable bamboo straws are also an option. If you cannot find reusable straws, single-use paper straws are more sustainable than plastic straws. Use tote bags when going to the grocery store.
  ◆ REUSE: I really like to reuse jam jars, bottles, and ice cream cartons as containers for knick-knacks. You can also make art using all the “trash” you have.
  ◆ Recycle: be sure to check if something really is recyclable before you recycle it. For plastic bottles, you have to take the rim and cap off before it is recyclable. Most paper is recyclable, but not shiny / coated paper. If you are not sure, look it up. When a non-recyclable item is placed in the recycling bin, the entire bin is put in landfill.
➔ Compost! Tip: put your compost in the freezer. It might start to smell otherwise. Find local drop-off composting sites using this map. Note: composting in New York City has been suspended because of monetary issues and COVID. However, this could change. You can also start your own compost in your backyard!
➔ Avoid palm oil products. Not many people are aware of this issue, but it’s important. When people harvest palm oil, they burn down large portions of jungle or forest, destroying the habitat of many species. Additionally, burning down forest releases carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.
  ◆ Palm oil has many other sneaky names, such as sodium laureth sulphate, sodium lauryl sulphate, palmate, and stearic acid. Any ingredient that has the words palm and oil together (ex: palm kernel oil) is most probably palm oil.
➔ Whenever possible, support sustainable businesses owned by people of color.

Don’t

➔ Waste water. When you are washing your hands, wet your hands, turn the sink off, rub the soap onto your hands, then turn the faucet back on and rinse. When you brush your teeth, do not run the faucet for the entire time!
➔ Litter. If you drop trash on the street, pick it up! If you see someone else drop trash, still pick it up, unless it’s really disgusting! Find somewhere to recycle or throw out the trash, and then sanitize your hands.
➔ Think your actions don’t matter. You can make a difference!
Local Representatives to Contact

It’s always good to contact your representative to stay informed. We recommend subscribing to your district’s email list to stay updated on any new policies or programs.

The list below contains all NYC district representatives and how to contact them. To learn more about your representative, find other methods of contact, or subscribe to their email list, click on their name and follow the link.

Refer to this image to find your district

Or enter your address here

NYC Council Representatives and how to contact them:

1. Margaret S. Chin - chin@council.nyc.gov
2. Carlina Rivera - District2@council.nyc.gov
3. Corey Johnson - SpeakerJohnson@council.nyc.gov
4. Keith Powers - KPowers@council.nyc.gov
5. Ben Kallos - BKallos@BenKallos.com
6. Helen Rosenthal - Helen@HelenRosenthal.com
7. Mark Levine - District7@council.nyc.gov
8. Diana Ayala - DAyala@council.nyc.gov
9. Bill Perkins - D09perkins@council.nyc.gov
10. Ydanis Rodriguez - vrodriguez@council.nyc.gov
11. Andrew Cohen - District11@council.nyc.gov
12. **Vacant (Servicing Constituents)** - District12@council.nyc.gov
13. Mark Gjonaj - MGjonaj@council.nyc.gov
14. Fernando Cabrera - fcabrera@council.nyc.gov
15. Ritchie J. Torres - Rtorres@council.nyc.gov
16. Vanessa L. Gibson - District16Bronx@council.nyc.gov
17. Rafael Salamanca Jr. - salamanca@council.nyc.gov
18. Ruben Diaz, Sr. - RDiaz@council.nyc.gov
19. Paul Vallone - district19@council.nyc.gov
20. Peter Koo - pkoo@council.nyc.gov
21. Francisco Moya - FMoya@council.nyc.gov
22. Costa Constantinides - costa@council.nyc.gov
23. Barry Grodenchik - BGrodenchik@council.nyc.gov
24. **Vacant (Servicing Constituents)** - District24@council.nyc.gov
25. Daniel Dromm - dromm@council.nyc.gov
26. Jimmy Van Bramer - JVanBramer@council.nyc.gov
27. I. Daneek Miller - Idmiller@council.nyc.gov
28. Adrienne E. Adams - Adams@council.nyc.gov
29. Karen Koslowitz - Koslowitz@council.nyc.gov
30. Robert F. Holden - District30@council.nyc.gov
31. Donovan J. Richards - drichards@council.nyc.gov
32. Eric A. Ulrich - eulrich@council.nyc.gov
33. Stephen T. Levin - slevin@council.nyc.gov
34. Antonio Reynoso - areynoso@council.nyc.gov
35. Laurie A. Cumbo - LCumbo@council.nyc.gov
36. Robert E. Cornegy, Jr. - district36@council.nyc.gov
37. **Vacant (Servicing Constituents)** - District37@council.nyc.gov
38. Carlos Menchaca - info38@council.nyc.gov
39. Brad Lander - lander@council.nyc.gov
40. Mathieu Eugene - meugene@council.nyc.gov
41. Alicka Ampry-Samuel - District41@council.nyc.gov
42. Inez Barron - viverdree@council.nyc.gov
43. Justin Brannan - AskJB@council.nyc.gov
44. Kalman Yeger - AskKalman@council.nyc.gov
45. Farah N. Louis - District45@council.nyc.gov
46. Alan N. Maisel - AMaisel@council.nyc.gov
47. Mark Treyger - MTreyger@council.nyc.gov
48. Chaim M. Deutsch - cdeutsch@council.nyc.gov
49. Deborah Rose - DROSE@Council.nyc.gov
50. Steven Matteo - SMatteo@council.nyc.gov
51. Joseph C. Borelli - borelli@council.nyc.gov
Further Reading to Stay Informed

Environmental Justice defined by the EPA:
https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/learn-about-environmental-justice

The role of Environmental Justice in the most recent election:

Environmental Justice and Identity:

History and Background of Environmental Justice:
https://reader.elsevier.com/reader/sd/pii/B9780128147191000318?token=ECC5EE523E1BBFE5CDF06F3E937CA15ABC99C351C19C2B4427D28AF69CA32F53F569BB549F8E4727456357852475EA45

The Environmental Justice Wake-up Call:

Environmental Justice and Racial Justice:

Definitions surrounding Environmental Justice by Greenpeace:
Environmental Justice

Environmental Justice and government action:
https://www.energy.gov/lm/services/environmental-justice/what-environmental-justice

Water Security around the world:
https://blog.ecosia.org/water-security-is-climate-justice/

Diversity within Environmentalism:
https://blog.ecosia.org/diversity-maya-penn/