

2008 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE GRANT WINNERS

New York City and Long Island:

Added Value – Brooklyn - \$25,000 – for construction of a rain water capture system for a community garden to reduce the garden’s ecological footprint, along with community education to promote rainwater capture and use.

Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation – Brooklyn - \$25,000 – for partnership with Pratt Center for Community Development to reduce energy consumption by providing: (1) free energy audits and energy conservation education to low-income residents; and (2) job training and apprenticeship opportunities in energy retrofits.

Bronx River Alliance, Inc. – Bronx - \$43,483 – for development and support of environmental science curricula and water quality monitoring along the Lower Bronx River.

Brooklyn Art Incubator, Inc. – Brooklyn - \$24,800 – for community residents to develop ways to improve local air quality, followed by construction of a community garden and other green infrastructure at the Magnolia Tree Earth Center.

Chinese Progressive Association – Manhattan - \$24,995 – for a study of multiple air pollution sources and impacts in the community, followed by education of community residents about preventing asthma and other respiratory problems.

The Cornucopia Society Inc. – Queens - \$18,066 - to restore street trees in Jamaica through planting, training of tree pruners, and education of community residents on the benefits of street trees.

Going Coastal, Inc. – Brooklyn - \$22,400 – for a survey of subsistence anglers’ knowledge and attitudes about fish health advisories, research into health advisories and fish contamination, and education of anglers.

Hell's Kitchen Air Quality Partnership – Manhattan - \$45,574 – for a study of multiple sources that contribute to the high asthma rate in the community, particularly traffic congestion and substandard housing, combined with community education and advocacy.

Long Beach Latino Civic Association - Nassau County - \$24,050 – for a study of environmental hazards in the North Park area of the City of Long Beach with community education of the study’s findings.

The Lower Eastside Girls Club – Manhattan - \$19,850 – for a program with local residents to exchange hazardous household chemicals for healthier and environmentally-benign cleaning products and pest control methods.

The Morningside Heights/West Harlem Sanitation Coalition, Inc. – Manhattan - \$25,000 – for expansion of an existing residential recycling program to include testing of new rodent-proof recyclable storage, and comprehensive education of public housing residents on management of household waste and integrated pest management.

The Newtown Creek Alliance – Brooklyn and Queens - \$46,041 - for health-based interviews of community residents, with results presented in a unique internet GIS interactive map.

North Shore Waterfront Conservancy of Staten Island, Inc. – Staten Island - \$25,000 - for production of a documentary about abandoned industrial sites along the North Shore of Staten Island, along with development of classroom programs about the local environment; follow up on a successful research project conducted with a 2006 Environmental Justice Community Impact Research Grant.

OUTRAGE - Brooklyn - \$47,000 – for a community-based study of environmental and public health hazards from local solid waste facilities and attendant truck traffic, with community education and development of mitigation proposals based on the results.

Phoenix Community Garden – Brooklyn - \$22,000 – to expand operations of a 19,000-square-foot community garden and outdoor environmental education center.

The Point Community Development Corporation – Bronx - \$50,000 – for construction of a green roof with environmental education and meeting facilities.

Prospect Park Alliance – Brooklyn - \$25,000 – for a summer ecological research camp for inner-city Brooklyn youth at the Rheinstrom Hill Audubon Center and Wildlife Sanctuary in Hillsdale, Columbia County.

Queens Community House – Queens - \$25,000 – for a comprehensive environmental inventory and creation of a sustainable development agenda for the community.

Rockaway Waterfront Alliance – Queens - \$24,500 – for a youth after-school program to study renewable energy alternatives for the community and develop waterfront trails.

Rocking the Boat – Bronx - \$25,000 – for water quality monitoring, oyster bed reintroduction, riparian habitat restoration and outdoor environmental education at the mouth of the Bronx River.

Rush Philanthropic Arts Foundation – Brooklyn - \$25,000 – for renovation of an abandoned building into a green community arts and cultural center with environmental education programs.

Sustainable South Bronx – Bronx - \$25,000 – for construction of a green roof/courtyard at Smith High School and development of related environmental education curricula.

United Community Centers, Inc. – Brooklyn - \$24,415 – for development of sustainable systems and community education programs for two urban farms and a farmers' market.

United Neighborhood Houses of New York – New York City - \$49,050 – for a collaboration with The After School Corporation and DEC to engage low-income schoolchildren in conservation projects throughout New York City.

UPROSE, Inc. – Brooklyn - \$46,013 – for a study of local air pollution and related health effects and other environmental burdens, followed by environmental education tours of Sunset Park.

West Harlem Environmental Action, Inc. (WE ACT for Environmental Justice) – Manhattan - \$20,400 – for an international conference to examine the impacts of global climate change on low-income communities and communities of color and determine ways to improve public policy to protect those communities.

Wildlife Conservation Society – Brooklyn - \$25,000 – for a partnership with the New York City Aquarium to provide training and job opportunities for inner-city teens as aquarium docents and interns and to engage the participants in hands-on stream conservation projects.

Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice – Bronx - \$23,884 – for development of education, recreation and community outreach programs to promote use of the new Concrete Plant Park on the Bronx River, along with installation of water contamination warning systems.

Hudson Valley:

Citizens for Equal Environmental Protection (CEEP) – Peekskill - \$21,000 – for a partnership with Hudson River sloop Clearwater to conduct a thorough study of industrial pollution sources in the vicinity of Peekskill.

Groundwork Yonkers – Yonkers - \$45,772 - for development of an interpretive trail system and related educational programs along the Croton Aqueduct.

Save Them Now (New Progressive Baptist Church) – Kingston - \$41,380 – for a program to train and certify former inmates to conduct inexpensive indoor air quality audits for low-income homeowners and renters.

Spring Valley Concerned Citizens Coalition – Spring Valley, Rockland County - \$23,622 – for air quality monitoring of bus and train depots with community education.

Capital District and North Country:

Akwesasne Task Force on the Environment, Inc. - Mohawk Community of Akwesasne in Franklin County, Ontario and Quebec - \$50,000 – for a comprehensive study of environmental harms throughout the Mohawk Community of Akwesasne on both sides of the U.S.-Canada border.

Capital District Community Gardens – Troy - \$25,000 – for construction of an urban farm on vacant inner-city land and development of entrepreneurial job training and environmental education programs for local youth.

Schenectady Inner City Ministry – Schenectady - \$50,000 – for development of a household hazardous waste collection system for low-income residents in downtown Schenectady.

Central New York:

The Dunbar Center - Dunbar Association, Inc. – Syracuse - \$24,996 – for construction of green infrastructure on the building and grounds of the Dunbar Center to reduce stormwater flows into Onondaga Creek and the Midland Avenue Regional Treatment Facility, along with education programs and youth job training to promote green infrastructure at other locations in the community.

Jubilee Homes of Syracuse, Inc. – Syracuse - \$50,000 – for construction of an urban farm in downtown Syracuse with after-school and summer employment for local youth.

Sunnycrest Park Association – Syracuse - \$25,000 – for development of outdoor education curricula at three local elementary schools in low-income neighborhoods.

Volunteers Improving Neighborhood Environments (VINES) – Binghamton - \$39,592 – for development of community gardens and education programs at two locations in downtown Binghamton.

Western New York:

Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences – Buffalo - \$25,000 – for extensive urban tree planting combined with community education, school curriculum development and youth training in tree stewardship.

Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper – Buffalo - \$50,000 – for an extensive series of projects involving water quality and shoreline monitoring, community education, and youth training; continuation of a successful project funded by a 2006 Environmental Justice Community Impact Research Grant.

Clean Air Coalition of Western New York - Tonawanda and Kenmore - \$40,000 – for work to reduce residential and workplace exposure to benzene through community and occupational education, policy initiatives, and a “good neighbor” campaign with local industries; continuation of an air quality research project conducted in partnership with the DEC Division of Air Resources and funded by a 2007 Environmental Justice Community Impact Research Grant.

The Environmental Justice Action Group of Western New York – Buffalo - \$48,800 – for a neighborhood development project to help East Buffalo block clubs investigate and remediate environmental hazards in residential lots and develop neighborhood beautification plans; phase two of a successful project funded by a 2006 Environmental Justice Community Impact Grant.

Grassroots Gardens of Buffalo – Buffalo - \$14,500 – for a series of workshops for residents and organizations in Buffalo’s West Side on community gardens and urban agriculture.

Massachusetts Avenue Project – Buffalo - \$50,000 – for expansion of an existing urban farm to add an aquaculture demonstration, educational stations, and training of local youth as community educators.

None Like You Family Educational and Community Outreach Program – Buffalo - \$50,000 – for a multi-phase project to build community gardens, research phyto-remediation of lead in soil, inventory environmental harms and assets, and provide hands-on environmental education for youth and community residents using abandoned residential lots in East Buffalo; a continuation of a successful project funded by a 2006 Environmental Justice Community Impact Research Grant.

People's Park Steering Committee – Buffalo - \$43,145 – for research on community needs for People’s Park and its gardens, followed by community education on urban pollution, community gardening and food production.

Valley Community Association – Buffalo - \$47,050 – for development of environmental education, water quality monitoring and a community recycling program at Valley Community Association’s facility on the Buffalo River.

Medina Memorial Health Care System - Community Partners - Village of Medina, Orleans County - \$24,880 – for program to assist low income homeowners and renters reduce lead hazards in their homes by providing education, lead screenings, materials and supplies.

South West Area Neighborhood Assn, Inc. (SWAN) – Rochester - \$47,000 – for continuation of a successful household environmental health education center funded by the Environmental Justice Community Impact Research Grant Program in 2006.

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