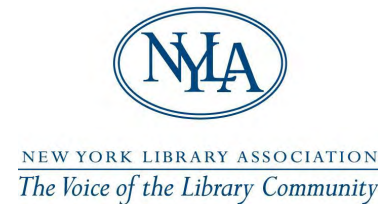




Trustee Handbook Book Club

Libraries for the Future: Sustainability as the Newest Core Value

June 18, 2024



Welcome!

In the chat box please share:

1. Your Name
2. Your Library
3. How long you have served on the board

[example: Nate Smith, My Public Library, 3 months]

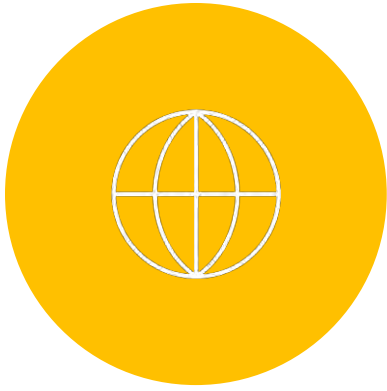
Promotional Partners



NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
The Voice of the Library Community



Today



INTRODUCTION TO
OUR TOPIC



MODERATED Q&A



QUESTIONS FROM THE
AUDIENCE

HANDBOOK FOR LIBRARY TRUSTEES OF NEW YORK STATE

2023
Edition

by Jerry Nichols & Rebekkah Smith Aldrich

With the assistance of the
Public Library Systems Directors Organization of New York
Library Trustees Association of New York State
New York State Library
New York Library Association

© 2023

*Portions of this publication may be reproduced for noncommercial purposes provided
attribution of source is included.*



Image Source: National Centers for Environmental Information, NOAA

The climate crisis will
profoundly affect the health
of every child alive today.

THE LANCET

“**Climate change** is the single greatest threat to global health, a “**code red** for humanity,” and is this generation’s **grandest challenge**.”





**EVERY
JOB
IS A
CLIMATE
JOB**

**PROJECT
DRAWDOWN.**

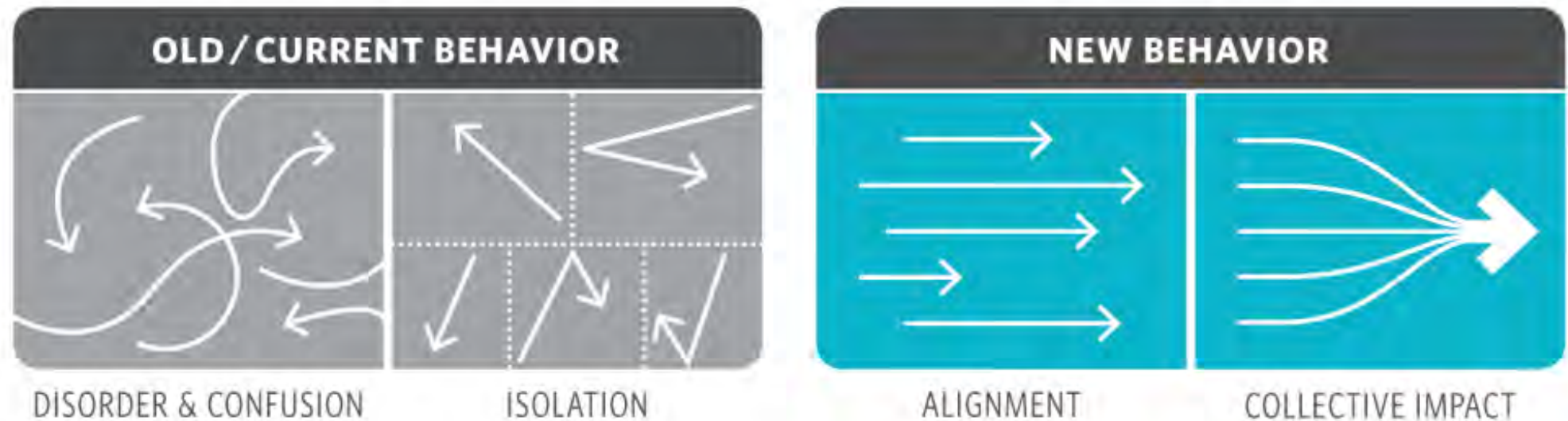
Sustainability = Core Value





CENTER FOR THE FUTURE OF LIBRARIES

ALA American Library Association



Graphic: AllHandsRaised.org



Triple Bottom Line Definition:

- Environmentally Sound
- Socially Equitable
- Economically Feasible

Intersections

with the governance role of a trustee



Trustee Handbook Book Club

Planning

Mission & Vision

Continuity of Operations

Collective Impact

Policies

Purchasing/Procurement

Disaster Preparedness &
Emergency Action Plan

PR, Media &
Crisis Communication

Funding

Mitigation & Adaptation

Insurance

Personnel

Facilities

Carbon Footprint

Resilience

Redundancies

Examples

What does it look like?



Trustee Handbook Book Club

Planning & Policies

Set the Foundation



Trustee Handbook Book Club

Strategic Plan

July 2024 – June 2028



ENGAGE • GROW • DISCOVER
**Lindenhurst
Memorial Library**
CERTIFIED AS A SUSTAINABLE LIBRARY



**Build a sense of community beyond the walls
of the physical Library**



- Maximize our resources through community collaborations
- Expand library usage through targeted outreach to community organizations and events
- Ensure that community members have access to information and the internet
- Support economic growth and local workforce development
- Participate in local outreach events to reach residents who may not be library users to increase materials in the Library of Things lending collection that will allow patrons to explore their community such as nature kits



BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND OPERATIONS

Goals	Strategies	Sustainable Concord Plan
1 GHG REDUCTION The Library has an implementation plan for its buildings to be carbon neutral in 2030.	1.1 Planning for net zero Develop a net-zero plan for existing buildings 1.2 Sustainable building principles Develop sustainable building principles for upgrades of all buildings 1.3 Sustainable operations guide Collaborate with the Town to create a sustainable operations and maintenance guide	BUILT ENVIRONMENT 
2 NATURAL RESOURCES The Library's landscape and grounds demonstrate resilience for the community.	2.1 Inventory practices Inventory current resilient landscaping practices of the Library 2.2 Sustainable landscape design Implement sustainable landscape design infrastructure and practices that support water conservation 2.3 Biodiversity Increase native biodiversity on Library grounds	NATURAL RESOURCES 
3 MATERIALS MANAGEMENT The Library's materials and resource system uses zero-waste principles.	3.1 Opportunities for zero waste Develop a zero-waste plan for operations 3.2 Evaluate waste stream Assess the current waste stream to better understand opportunities for waste reduction 3.3 Partnership with CPW Partner with Concord Public Works to demonstrate sustainable materials management	BUILT ENVIRONMENT 
4 MOBILITY The Library supports sustainable transportation options.	4.1 Commuting Understand transportation options for staff and commuting GHG emissions to and from the Library 4.2 Inter-building transportation Explore low-emissions transportation for inter-building Library collaboration 4.3 Low-emissions travel partnerships Create and promote partnerships with other Town institutions for low-emissions travel, including safe biking and pedestrian options	MOBILITY 

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

Goals	Strategies	Sustainable Concord Plan
1 LIVING LABORATORY The Library provides hands-on sustainability and climate action learning opportunities for patrons.	1.1 Building as a resource Share information about sustainable building aspects and practices in the community, using the living laboratory principles as a framework 1.2 Sustainability dashboard Create an interactive dashboard with available sustainability performance data and updates from the Town of Concord 1.3 Children learning Offer investigative opportunities for children in the Library and its gardens and grounds to learn about sustainability and scientific discovery	SOCIAL RESILIENCE  Social Resilience Prepare businesses, residents, and agriculture for the impacts of climate change through education and climate preparedness planning.
2 EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES The Library is a community hub for sustainability information and climate action resources.	2.1 Share sustainability and climate change information Curate and share diverse and accessible information about climate change and sustainability action 2.2 Share sustainability data about Concord, including CFPL Share sustainability data about CFPL with the community and collaborate with the Town to share available Town data on sustainability efforts, initiatives, and progress 2.3 Library of Things and Seed Lending Library Promote the Library of Things and Seed Lending Library as sustainable resources for community members	SOCIAL RESILIENCE  Social Resilience Prepare businesses, residents, and agriculture for the impacts of climate change through education and climate preparedness planning.
3 PROGRAMMING The Library offers all patrons climate change and sustainability programming with diverse platforms for engagement.	3.1 Events Host events for youth and adults on climate change, sustainability, and resilience 3.2 Local partnerships Partner with sustainability groups on climate change awareness programming and be an event space for Town partners 3.3 Dedicated space Develop a dedicated space and resources for community members to contribute information and tools on sustainable living, local climate action, and climate justice	EDUCATION  Education Work with educators, parents, students, the School Department, and the State to bring climate education curricula into schools and student activities.
4 LEADERSHIP The Library demonstrates sustainability and climate action leadership with consistent improvement.	4.1 Annual assessment Create an annual assessment to share the Library's sustainable progress with the community 4.2 Share with Town partners Share best practices and learned lessons with town partners, supporting the Town's GHG reduction goals in the Sustainable Concord Plan 4.3 Support sustainable libraries Contribute to the American Library Association sustainability practices by modeling "environmentally sound, economically feasible and socially equitable" operations and programming	GOVERNANCE  Governance Integrate sustainability goals, metrics, and evaluation criteria into Town planning, including staff and department evaluations and budgeting.



Kalamazoo
Public Library

Public Policy: Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability

The Kalamazoo Public Library believes that in order to fulfill our purpose in serving the community, we must be engaged in the ongoing effort to limit the environmental impact of our operations and strive to be a leader in modeling ecologically sustainable practices. As we work to build a place for community engagement, we are committed to providing resources for our patrons to learn about sustainability through our collections and programming.

As we seek to reduce our impact on the environment, we are committed to continually evaluating our processes, and taking actions to:

- Reduce the amount of energy we consume
- Reduce the number of natural resources we consume
- Reduce the number of pollutants we contribute
- Increase the amount of recycling in our waste stream
- Make purchasing decisions that place a high value on sustainably produced products
- Promote the use of sustainable transportation



LANCASTER PUBLIC LIBRARY SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

The Lancaster Public Library (LPL) has adopted the "triple bottom line" definition of sustainability: using practices that are environmentally sound, economically feasible, and socially equitable.

Environmentally Sound

The LPL is committed to reducing our environmental footprint and promoting environmental stewardship within our organization. By limiting our impact on the environment, our goal is to maximize future generations' ability to live, work, and play in our shared natural environment, with equal access to clean air, clean water, and natural resources.

We will strive to minimize pollution and waste, conserve energy and water, protect habitat, support renewable energy resources, buy environmentally friendly products, and encourage environmentally preferable transportation.

Economically Feasible

The LPL is committed to making good use of the public and local dollars invested in our organization. Our goal is to leverage funds to the maximum benefit of the community served by our library, while honoring our commitment to environmental stewardship and equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Socially Equitable

The LPL will promote equity, diversity, and inclusion as a core value. The library is



Sustainability Policy

Sachem Public Library is committed to being a good neighbor in an environmentally conscious, socially beneficial and economically responsible way. As we strive to reduce our environmental footprint and promote environmental stewardship at all levels of the organization we will continually evaluate our processes and measure our results.

Our goals:

- Observe all applicable environmental regulations.
- Reduce our energy and water consumption by using the most energy efficient items and practices that support renewable energy sources whenever practical.
- Minimize pollutants by choosing the most environmentally friendly products that are able to perform a comparable job at a competitive price.
- Increase our recycling efforts and minimize our waste.
- Provide resources for our patrons to learn about sustainability through our collections and programming.
- Encourage environmentally preferable transportation.
- Donate equipment no longer useful to the library to not-for-profit organizations whenever practical.
- Encourage our contractors, suppliers and anyone acting on the library's behalf to also meet our standards of environmental performance.

Employee understanding and involvement are essential to the implementation of our sustainability policy.

Hanson Public Library Sustainability Policy

The Hanson Public Library recognizes the important role libraries play in larger community conversations about resiliency and a sustainable future. We support sustainable principles that ensure a resilient, sustainable community and Library for all residents. We are committed to minimizing our environmental impact, promoting environmental stewardship at all levels, and maximizing the ability of future generations to live, work, and play in our shared natural environment, with equal access to clean air, clean water, and natural resources. We will strive to minimize pollution and waste, conserve energy and water, protect habitat, support renewable energy resources, purchase environmentally friendly products, and encourage environmentally preferable transportation.

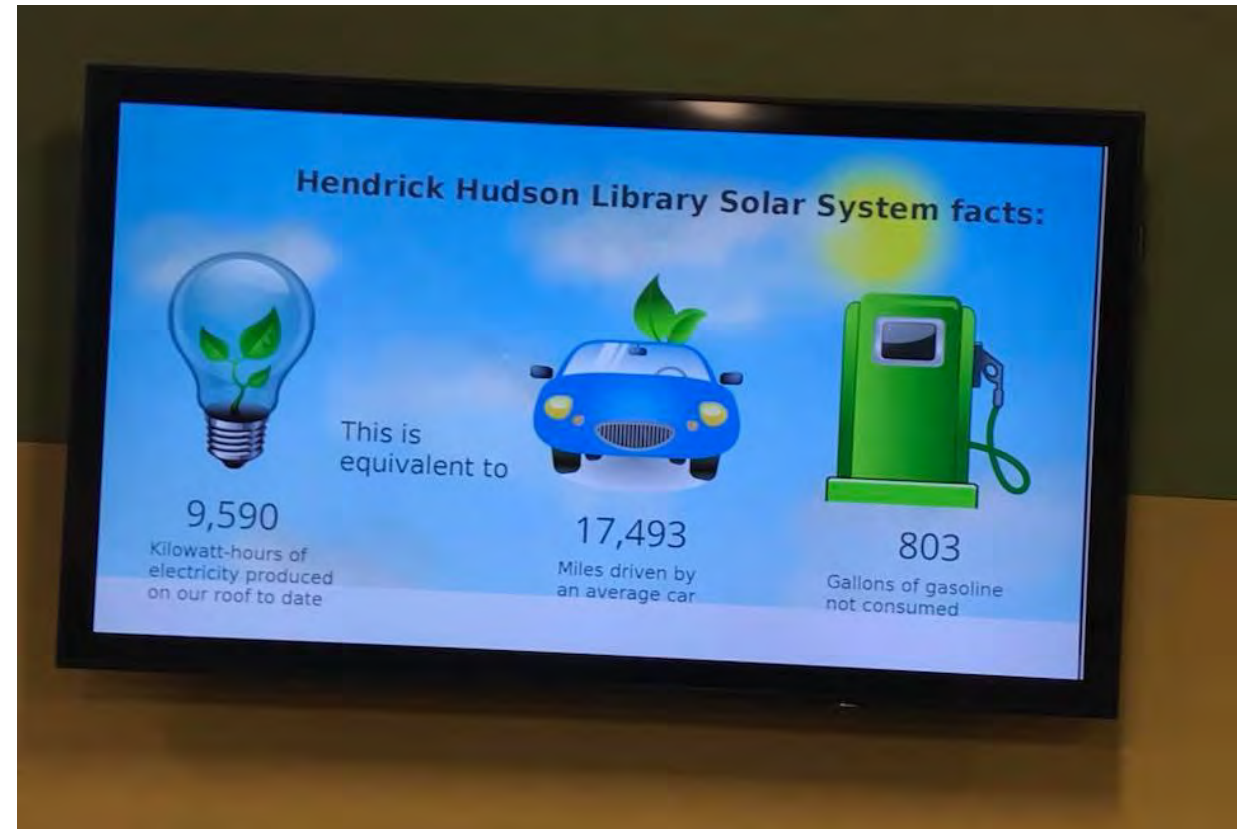
Employee understanding and involvement are essential to the implementation of this Policy. Employees will be encouraged to apply sustainable thinking with regard to collections, programs, services, technology, and partnerships and will be educated about the Library's commitment to support the American Library Association's Triple Bottom Line framework for sustainability: "To be truly sustainable, an organization or community must embody practices that are environmentally sound AND economically feasible AND socially equitable."

As we seek to reduce our impact on the environment, we will continually evaluate our processes and seek methods to measure our impact and communicate results.

Adopted by the Board of Library Trustees
February 27, 2024

Facility Plan Considerations

- Energy Conservation
- Transition to Renewable Energy
- Water Conservation
- Stormwater Management
- Indoor Air Quality
- Power Redundancy (e.g. solar + battery; whole building generator)
- Ecological Restoration
 - Use of native Plants
 - Removal of Invasive Species
 - Reforestation
 - Pollinator Gardens
- Electric Vehicle Charging Stations
- Bicycling Infrastructure: storage, repair



Hendrick Hudson Free Library

1st library in the country to be certified under the Sustainable Library Certification Program



**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**

San Diego County Library

1st library in California to join the Sustainable Library Certification Program



Zero-Net Energy Facility Opened March 28, 2023

San Diego County Library, Lakeside Branch



SAN DIEGO
County Library

Create Your Own Story

- Both **Bookmobiles** have been upgraded to electric vehicles (EVs).
- In 2023, all **33 branches** of the San Diego Public Library will have **Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations** installed.



**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**



- [Webinar Recording](#)
- [Slide Deck](#)
- [Climate Adaptation LibGuide](#)

Featuring...



**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**

Brought to you by...



CT State Library
Preserving the Past. Informing the Future.



Massachusetts Libraries
BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS



**NJ STATE
LIBRARY**
An Agency of Thomas Edison State University

**New York State
Library**



**Office of
Library & Information Services**
State of Rhode Island



VERMONT
DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARIES

#1: Identify Your Region's Vulnerabilities

- Drought/Heat Wave
- Flooding
- Hail
- Hurricane
- Tornado Outbreak
- Severe Weather
- Wildfire
- Winter Storm/Cold Wave



Image Source: National Centers for Environmental Information, NOAA

Disaster Preparedness

Preparedness Programs & First Responder Appreciation

Wacky Weather: Are You Prepared?



This program on preparedness taught children how to stay safe and prepare for power outages, hurricanes, & fires. They receive a pillowcase "go-bag" to customize, as well as a digital workbook from the Red Cross.



Crafts For A Cause

This take & make program gave patrons the opportunity to create thank you cards for our police officers, firefighters and first aid squad members. We then donated them along with goodie bags made by our teens in a monthly community service program.

Meet Your Community Helpers



Families were invited to meet local first responders and check out their vehicles, including a fire truck, police car and ambulance.





< [Citizen Preparedness Corps](#)

Citizen Preparedness Training Calendar





Department of Health

Putnam County Cooling Centers Call before you go to make sure the cooling center is open

Facility	Street Address	Contact Number
Brewster Public Library	79 Main St, Brewster, NY 10509	845-279-6421
Desmond Fish Public Library	472 Route 403, Garrison, NY 10524	845-424-3020
Julia L. Butterfield Library	10 Morris Avenue, Cold Spring, NY 10516	845-265-3040
Kent Public Library	17 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes, NY 10512	845-225-8585
Mahopac Public Library	668 Route 6, Mahopac, NY 10541	845-628-2009
Patterson Library	1167 Route 311, Patterson, NY 12563	845-878-6121
Putnam Valley Library	30 Oscawana Lake Road, Putnam Valley, NY 10579	845-528-3242
Reed Memorial Library	1733 Route 6, Carmel, NY 10512	845-225-2439



**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**

Repair Café

Saratoga Springs



★ Sunday, April 16, 2023

★ 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM

★ Skidmore College, Case Center

Sustainable
Saratoga

www.sustainablesaratoga.org

Educate.
Advocate.
Act.





<https://www.libraryoflocal.org/>

- Tool Lending
- Seed Library
- Special Collections
 - Food Security (Y1)
 - Climate Solutions (Y2)
- Programming
- Alignment with NYS Climate Smart Communities



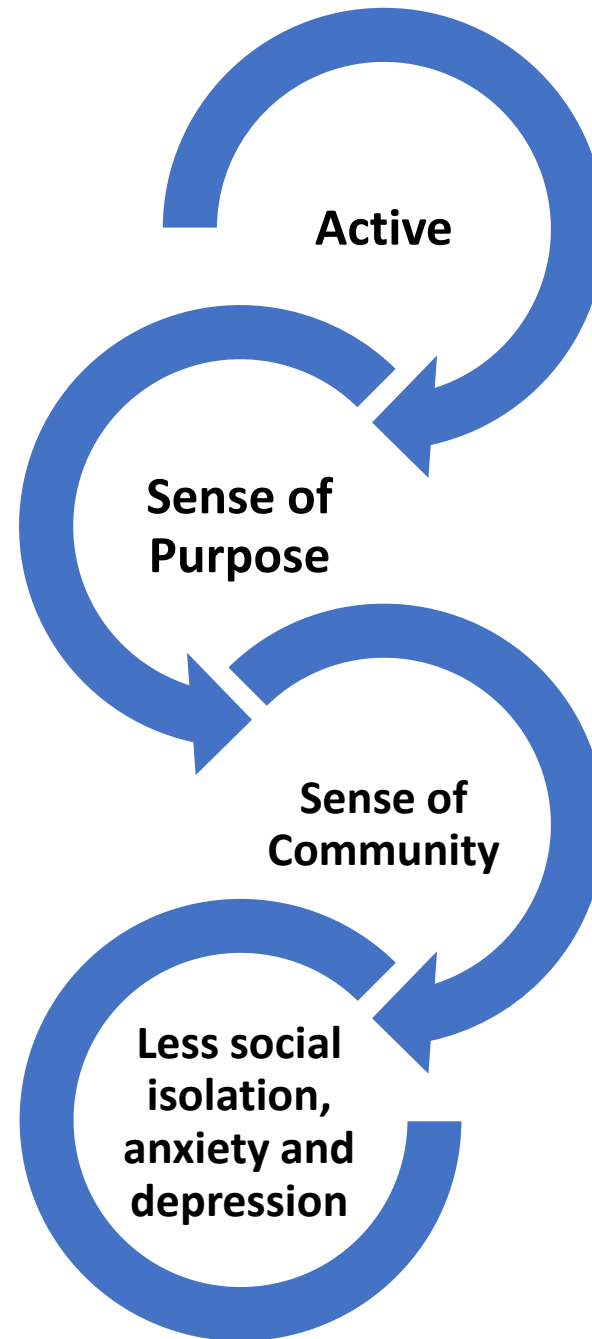
Social Cohesion & Civic Participation

Social Cohesion:

Respect, Empathy, and Understanding
Strength of Relationships
Sense of Solidarity
Social Capital through Social Networks

Civic Participation:

Voting
Volunteering
Participating in Group Activities
Community Gardening



Mindset shifts do not happen overnight.



Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative



Sustainable Libraries Initiative



Triple Bottom Line Definition:

- Environmentally Sound
- Socially Equitable
- Economically Feasible

Characteristics of Sustainable Libraries

- ✓ **Strong & Authentic Institutions**
- ✓ Catalyst for **Social Cohesion & Civic Participation** in Communities
- ✓ Working on **Climate Mitigation** (reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG))
- ✓ Active Participants in **Climate Adaptation** (strengthening community resilience)



**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**

SUSTAINABLE LIBRARIES INITIATIVE



Sustainable Library Certification Program



**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**

<https://sustainablelibrariesinitiative.org/>

SCAN ME

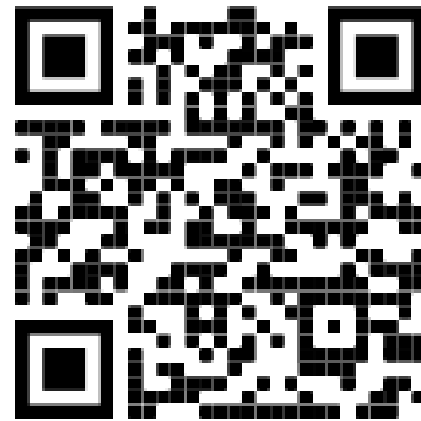


Sustainable Library Certification Program

Public & Academic Libraries

- Organizational Commitment
- Energy, Land, and Water Use
- Waste, Recycling & Purchasing
- Partnerships
- Community Involvement
- Social Equity
- Community Resiliency
- Financial Sustainability
- Collections

SCAN ME



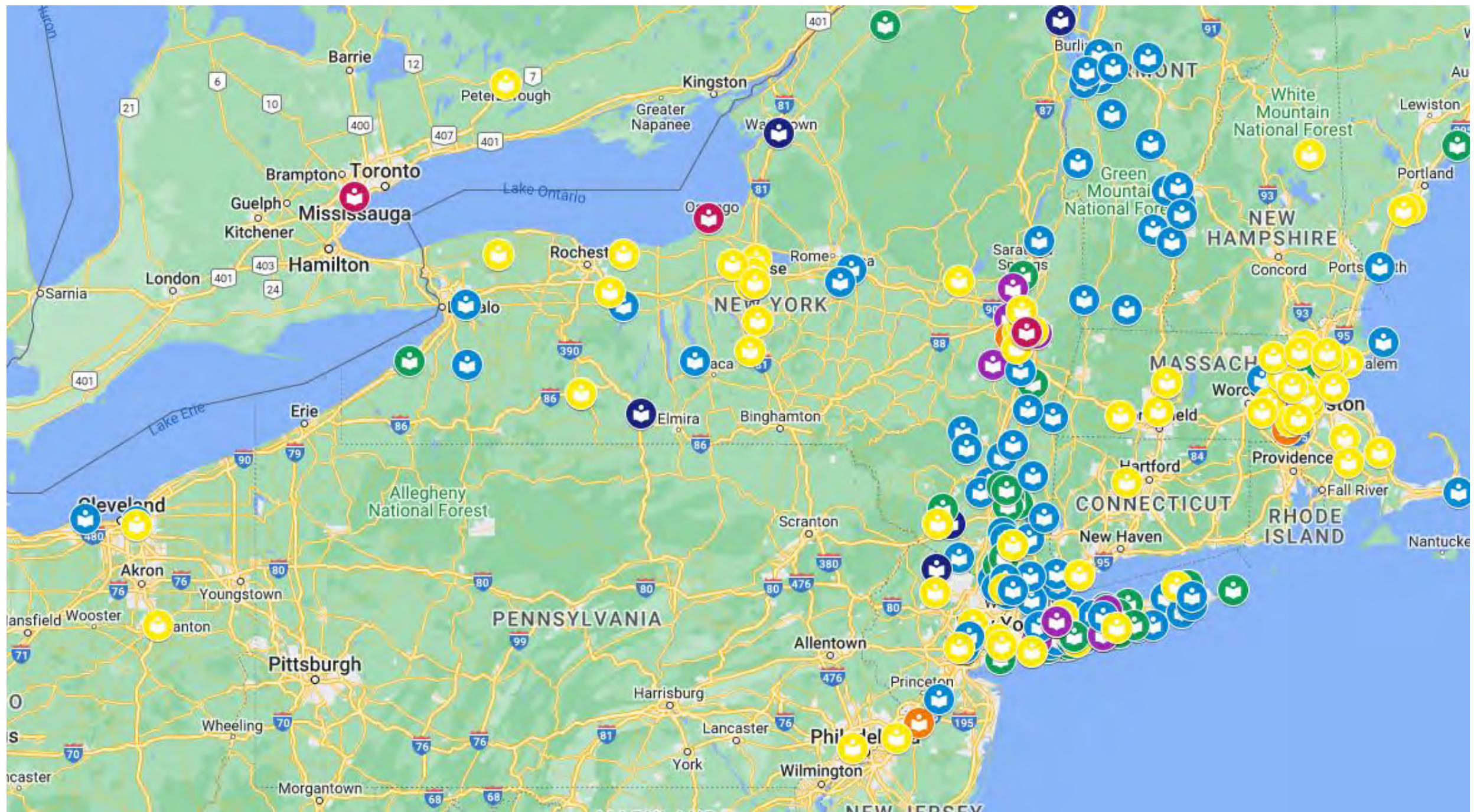
**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**

<https://sustainablelibrariesinitiative.org/>

All members of the New York Library Association are eligible for a free one-year membership to the Sustainable Libraries Initiative and 20% off the Sustainable Library Certification Program.



**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**



Moderated Q & A



Questions from the Audience



“The American public library works because of dedicated volunteers willing to serve on the board of trustees. **We thank you** for your service and your dedication to ensuring all New Yorkers powered, engaged and energized by their library. **The world is a better place for your efforts.”**

Thank You

<https://midhudson.org/TrusteeBookClub/>