



Campus GREEN Committee Annual Report 2019-2020

Submitted by Maureen Dolan, Chair
August 2020

Campus Green Committee report (2019-2020) is organized as follows:

- **Introduction**
- **Background**
- **Purpose/Description**
- **Summary of Activities**
- **Membership (Spring 2020)**
- **Working Groups (Spring 2020)**

Attachments:

- Green Committee Meeting Agenda (12/3/19, 02/18/20, 03/12/20)
- Letter from M. Dolan to C. Butts (8/25/20) re. REV Campus Challenge
- **REV Campus Challenge ACHIEVER Badge**
- REVCC Welcome letter, mission and membership information
- Food Justice Garden (draft flyer)
- Transforming Our Tomorrow 2020 (UB competition sponsored by NYSERDA)
- NYS Organics Summit and Beyond Waste Student Summit (NYSAR3 flyer)

INTRODUCTION

In Fall 2019, President Butts authorized the re-establishment of the **Campus Green Committee** and directed Dr. Maureen Dolan (Mathematics/CIS) to organize the effort. During the fall semester, announcements and information about the committee were provided at Faculty and Senate meetings. Interested faculty were invited to join. Staff in key functional areas across all divisions were invited to participate. Interested students were referred to the committee by SGA, faculty and staff.

The Green Committee kick-off meeting was December 3, 2019. Following the standing-room-only attendance at kick-off meeting (in H-401), larger conference rooms were needed for subsequent meetings on February 18 and March 12, 2020. Detailed meeting agenda are attached to this report.

The committee's last face-to-face meeting on March 12th coincided with the statewide shutdown due to COVID-19. Progress on sustainability initiatives across the state have been impacted by the pandemic.

BACKGROUND

The rationale for a Green Committee on each SUNY campus was established in the [Report of the SUNY Energy Task Force](#) (June 2007), followed by enactment of **University Energy and Sustainability Policy** by the SUNY Board of Trustees (November 2007). This first system-wide policy to address climate change included ambitious targets for increased renewable energy and reduced greenhouse gases, and strengthened requirements for green buildings and operations. The **Policy** also called for a Sustainability Officer on each campus, and outlined transformational opportunities for green campus initiatives through research and training, curriculum, student engagement and public/private partnerships. (Dolan organized the first efforts for system-wide SUNY Sustainability (2007-2009), and also chaired Old Westbury's first Green Committee (2009-2010), convened in response to SUNY's new Energy and Sustainability Policy.)

More recently, the **Framework for a More Sustainable SUNY** was developed by the system-wide **SUNY Sustainability Coalition** at the behest of Chancellor Johnson (2018). This **Framework** aligns with New York State goals and mandates established for renewable energy and carbon footprint. The SUNY Framework is also responsive to local and global concerns regarding climate change, greenhouse gases, recycling and waste stream, food security, social justice and environmental justice.

It is noteworthy that sustainability targets and policies developed by the **SUNY Sustainability Coalition** are aligned with the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals** (UN SDGs). These 17 UN goals for sustainable development include targets and policies that address poverty, hunger, health, education, gender equality, diversity, clean air and water, sanitation, clean energy, climate change, innovation, sustainable cities, forests and ecosystems, biodiversity, justice, peace and global partnerships.

In addition to system-wide sustainability goals and mandates in SUNY, New York State continues to strengthen its policies and regulations in support of renewable energy, recycling and climate action. In November 2018, the NYS Legislature passed the ambitious **“Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act”** (CLCPA). This legislation codifies and accelerates NYS targets for wind and solar power, and establishes funding streams to support green communities and advance sustainability projects that address climate change as well as environmental justice.

The **CLCPA** builds upon Governor Cuomo’s **“Reforming the Energy Vision”**, which is often simply referred to as **“REV”**. This calls for New York State’s accelerated transition to renewable energy and reduced carbon emissions. Millions of dollars annually are available to support energy, environmental, and climate action projects in New York State, including projects related to **CLCPA** and **REV**. Such funds are administered by **NYSERDA** (the New York State Energy Research & Development Authority), with funding either appropriated legislatively or collected through the Systems Benefit Charge, assessed through all private utilities in the state.

Colleges and universities that have been approved for membership in **“REV Campus Challenge”** are eligible to apply for state funding of green campus projects, through a range of **NYSERDA** program opportunities. A successful application to join **“REV”** opens many doors and provides opportunities to fund capital projects and sustainability initiatives. Funds administered by **NYSERDA** support a broad array of energy and environmental projects, including solar and wind, clean energy in new or retrofit buildings, electric vehicles and charging stations, research, training, innovative curriculum, student initiatives and community engagement.

PURPOSE / DESCRIPTION:

The Campus Green Committee is established to:

- Engage the campus community (interested faculty, students and staff) in initiatives that advance Old Westbury as a Green Campus, consistent with the college's Strategic Plan, Mission and Values.
- Pursue best practices for campus sustainability in higher education.
- Support SUNY and New York State goals and policies related to clean energy and climate action planning.
- Coordinate with the UN Academic Impact program, and include the college's UNAI coordinator as a committee member.
- Engage with regional, statewide and national organizations on energy, environment and climate change – including with the New York Coalition for Sustainability in Higher Education. (Note: **NYCSHE** membership is drawn from public and private colleges in all regions of the state. The organization disseminates information on sustainability models and polices; facilitates workshops, webinars and student activities; and promotes best practices to advance green campuses.)
- Engage with the SUNY Sustainability Coalition, SUNY system representatives, NYSERDA and REV Campus Challenge Coordinator.
- Organize committee activities through working groups that include (but are not be limited to): energy and carbon footprint, transportation, recycling and waste reduction, food sourcing and food security, water conservation, environmental stewardship, sustainability literacy and climate action.
- Raise awareness among campus constituencies of sustainability and climate change, including goals and actions that call for individual, collective or institutional responsibility.
- Explore opportunities for innovative projects, campus-wide initiatives, potential partnerships and possible external funding to advance clean energy and green campus initiatives that are aligned with the college's Mission and Values, such as in support of environmental stewardship, sustainability and social justice.
- Provide opportunities, consistent with models in higher education, for student research, student engagement and service-learning (such as green activities that may involve the Honors College, First-Year/CALL, independent study, work-study, etc.)
- Provide periodic updates to the President, the Faculty Senate and other interested parties, and submit an annual report that includes committee membership and working groups, summary of committee activities, and description of any notable achievements, studies or recommendations.

SUMMARY of ACTIVITIES:

Meeting agenda attached to this report provide an overall summary of the issues and projects taken up by the committee in Spring 2020. Activities related to REV Campus Challenge continued into the summer. The chair also complied with a request from Arthur Angst (Working Group #7) to provide a statement describing the Campus Green Committee to the **Middle States Committee** and **Task Force Inventory**. A copy of this Green Committee annual report will also be provided to SPAAR Committee Co-Chairs

An initial focus of the committee was membership recruitment, identification of member's areas of interest, discussion of relevant SUNY and state policies, researching possible funding sources, and organizing the committee into appropriate working groups. This section of the annual report provides a brief description of activities undertaken by individuals or groups, including student members.

REV Campus Challenge (“Reforming the Energy Vision”):

- Maureen Dolan worked with the NYSERDA coordinator for REV, and consulted with SUNY Clean Energy Specialist and facilities staff (Tim McGarry and Scott Libert), to prepare an application on behalf of the college for the **REV Campus Challenge**.
- Per SUNY and NYS policies, in order to pursue state funding for clean energy or green campus initiatives related to new or retrofit buildings or to **CLCPA** (Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act), it is essential to apply for membership in the **REV Campus Challenge**.
- **SUNY Old Westbury was approved by NYSERDA as new REV member at ACHIEVER membership level.** Of the 18 campuses approved for membership in 2020, Old Westbury is one of only 4 campuses approved at the ACHIEVER membership level. (See attached **REV** materials and 8/25/20 letter from Dolan to Butts for additional details.)
- Evidence of our campus commitment to NYS energy and sustainability goals is supported by: the re-establishment of our Campus Green Committee; a history of energy efficiency and open-space conservation; commitment to achieving zero-net energy and installation of solar PV as part of recent Library renovation; participation in SUNY Sustainability Coalition and NYCSHE; and our innovative academic initiatives such as FYE/CALL, Honors College, United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI), and inter-disciplinary sustainability curriculum.
- As an **ACHIEVER** in **REV Campus Challenge**, we affirm our commitment to clean renewable energy and climate action. And recognizing that environmental justice and social justice are intrinsically linked, our campus acts on the knowledge that the climate crisis (regionally and globally) disproportionately impacts poor people and communities of color.
- **Future Plans:** Seek possible support through **REV** for clean energy, climate action and green campus initiatives that serve to advance the college's mission and vision, in service to sustainability, environmental stewardship and social justice. Several committee members, including Lorenz Neuwirth and Mike Kavic, expressed interest in developing proposals for external funding. Projects potentially supported through **NYSERDA REV** include research, training, student initiatives, solar PV, energy storage, and electric vehicle charging stations.

Recycling and Waste Minimization

- Information on best practices in recycling and waste minimization was disseminated and discussed by the committee. The chair shared reports provided by NYCSHE, including on student recycling competitions sponsored by **Recyclemania** and **NYSAR3** (New York State Association for Reduction, Reuse and Recycling).
- Many committee members expressed interest in greater recycling on campus, and cited the benefits of participating in recognized recycling programs. Facilities staff commented on constraints related to custodial staffing, decreased markets for recycled materials, and fees associated with joining **NYSAR3**.
- Committee member Nikki Rodgers (Chemistry lab technician enrolled in graduate sustainability program at Johns Hopkins) took the lead in researching campus recycling models and possible funding streams. She reported that several private companies (including PepsiCo and Terracycle) sponsor recycling programs with cash rebates for their products sold at schools and colleges.
- Committee discussed information from NYCSHE and shared by the chair, on DEC Workshops, **2020 NYS Organics Summit** and **Beyond Waste Student Summit** hosted by **NYSAR3**.
- Committee member Zarrin Mahmud (SGA) attended the **Beyond Waste Student Summit** (virtually) on February 22. (see attachment for **NYSAR3** information)

Community Garden:

- Committee members worked with First-Year/CALL and the Honors College to plan and create an edible campus garden. **Phase One** of campus garden installation involved preparing a plot of land for an edible garden, to provide fresh and nutritionally dense food for Old Westbury community.
- Jessica Curran and Anthony Deluca initiated the **Food Justice Garden** project, with the guidance and leadership of master gardener Dylan Licopoli. (See attached draft flyer for additional details)
- Unfortunately, the planned Phase One installation of Food Justice Garden, originally scheduled for March 24, 2020, was postponed because of statewide shutdown due to COVID-19. Food Justice Garden activities are planned to resume in 2020-2021.
- Erin Toolis volunteered to take a lead role on project to address food security and food recovery. Such an activity may involve collaborative effort among community garden group, dining services, and group proposed to work on organic waste reduction.
- Other Green Committee members (Alireza Ebrahimi and Imtiaz Rayman) continued work on an established organic garden on campus, the **Sunchoke Project**. This nutritionally dense food, grown by indigenous peoples, is considered native to the region. The Sunchoke Project has been featured in local publications on Long Island.

Student Research Projects

- The chair provided information on **Transforming Our Tomorrow 2020**, a student competition hosted by University at Buffalo and sponsored by **NYSERDA**. Students across the state were invited to submit proposals to UB Sustainability, to “present their passion in creating a sustainable world through clean energy”. Special prize money was to be awarded for student project that considered the social impact of clean energy, e.g., implications for low-income communities, developing countries, gender equality and social equity. (see attached UB flyer)
- Three Green Committee student members (Ashley Alvarado, Ammar Koshk, Navpreet Banger) submitted a proposal to **Transforming Our Tomorrow 2020**. Their research project discussed climate change impacts in Egypt, and examined the implications of solar energy for low-income communities in developing nations. Maureen Dolan served as solar energy technical advisor for their project. Unfortunately, the student competition to be held at UB in late April was cancelled because of statewide shutdown due to COVID-19.
- Another student committee member (Imtiaz Rayman) developed a web platform for **OW Green**, with Alireza Ebrahimi serving as project advisor. This web project is ongoing and is informed by campus sustainability models in higher education.
- **Future Plans:** refine the design for **OW Green** and upload content to disseminate Green Committee information. Provide links to relevant sources, including NYCSHE, NYSERDA, SUNY Sustainability Coalition, UNAI, NYSDEC, NYSAR3 and other sources for sustainability, climate action and best practices in higher education.
- **Future Plans:** initiate/facilitate student projects through Campus Green Committee, for example, research related to campus mapping, tree canopy and carbon sequestration, sustainability audit, biodiversity, sole-source aquifer, open-space preservation. Enhance student engagement through referrals to Green Committee from FYE/CALL, CSTEP, the Honors College, et al. Explore potential for student service learning through green/sustainability internships.

United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI)

- The coordinator for United National Academic Impact (**UNAI**) program established at the college, Diana Papademas, was invited to join the Campus Green Committee. Collaboration between Old Westbury’s UNAI program and Green Committee serves to build synergies between initiatives with inter-connected goals.
- At the request of UNAI Coordinator, information on UN75 Dialogue Series (April 30th virtual): “COVID-19 Impact on Climate Change and Our Communities” was disseminated through the Green Committee.
- The Green Committee will continue to coordinate with UNAI at Old Westbury, serving to advance the **UN Sustainable Development Goals** (UN SDGs), which are also supported by the work of the SUNY Sustainability Coalition.

Preparation for Earth Day 50th Anniversary

- Committee members (Laura Anker, Jessica Curran, Maureen Dolan, Ali Ebrahimi, Chris Hartmann, Juan Pablo Galvis, Diana Papademas, Nikki Rogers, Usama Shaikh, Erin Toolis) participated in planning sessions for **Earth Day 50th Anniversary Teach-In**.
- The planned weeklong series of events, to include guest speakers, workshops and panels on environmental and/or climate change themes, was organized by Chris Hartmann, Tom Delgiudice and Amanda Friskin. The Campus Green Committee was asked to host a panel discussion for Earth Day, to raise awareness about sustainability and the work of the committee.
- Green Committee members also received information and discussed participation in regional and national events for Earth Day 50th Anniversary. One such event, promoted through NYSCHE, was a state-wide and national **Power Dialog** comprised of student videos about climate change.
- Unfortunately, events planned for the college's **Earth Day 50th Anniversary Teach-In**, as well as many planned regional and national events, were cancelled because of mandated shutdown due to COVID-19.

Campus Green Committee

Membership – Spring 2020

(Updated March 12, 2020)

FACULTY

Maureen Dolan (Math/CIS); Green Committee, Chair

Laura Anker, Director, First Year Experience

Jessica Curran, First Year Experience (English)

Alireza Ebrahimi, School of Business

Juan Pablo Galvis, History & Philosophy (Chair)

Chris Hartmann, Public Health

Mike Kavic, Chemistry/Physics

Manya Mascareno, Biological Sciences, Chair

Robert Mevissen, History & Philosophy

Lorenz Neuwirth, Psychology; SUNY Neuroscience Research Institute

Diana Papademas, Sociology; UN Academic Impact, OW Coordinator

Erin Toolis, Psychology

Kim Youngjoo, Chemistry/Physics

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STAFF/ADMINISTRATION

Wayne Edwards, Vice President Institutional Advancement;
Executive Director, OW College Foundation

Anthony DeLuca, Director, Honors College

Amanda Frisken, Acting Dean, Arts & Sciences

Barbara Hillery, Acting Associate Provost

Scott Libert, Asst. Director, Facilities O&M

Ray Maggiore, Asst. Vice President, Capital Planning

Claudia Marin-Andrade, Dean of Students

Tim McGarry, Facilities Director

Thomas Murphy, Research & Sponsored Programs

Gregory Riveiro, Asst. Director, Facilities

Nikki Rodgers, Chemistry Lab Technician

Usama Shaikh, Vice President, Academic Affairs

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STUDENTS

Ashley Alvarado, Executive VP, Student Government Association

Navpreet Banger, Biology major (SAS)

Ismail Gorul, Finance major (SOB)

Ammar Koshk, Student Govt. Assoc., Honors College, Business Club

Zarrin Mahmud, Student Government Association

Navpreet K. Mann, Student Govt. Association

Niko Nantsis, Honors College; District-1 NY-TACF, Co-director

Andrew Payne, Accounting major (SOB)

Imtiaz Rayman, Sunchoke Project, Campus Garden

Jahvon Spencer-Newell, Student Government Association

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Campus Green Committee

Tentative Working Groups (Spring 2020)

For Discussion at March 12th Meeting of Green Committee:

The following groups are consistent with models in SUNY and higher education nationwide, for the organization of campus sustainability and green campus initiatives and operations. When the college's Green Committee was initially established (2009-2010), similar categories were used for undertaking a campus Sustainability Audit in which students worked alongside faculty and staff. **Green Committee** members may opt to participate in working group(s) of greatest personal interest or profession relevance. It is anticipated that each group will select group leader(s) or coordinator(s).

For each Working Group:

- a) Confirm membership and identify possible group leader(s)
 - b) Identify current or planned **Activities 2020**.
-

- 1) **Energy:** energy use, emissions, renewable sources, carbon footprint
- 2) **Recycling:** recycling, paper/plastic/metal/glass waste stream, green materials
- 3) **Transportation:** campus vehicles, campus shuttle, mass transit, charging stations
- 4) **Food:** food sourcing, food recovery/donation, community garden, dining services
- 5) **Water:** water usage, conservation, glacial aquifer, pollutants
- 6) **Land:** environmental stewardship, trees, open space, wildlife habitat
- 7) **Climate change:** awareness, engagement, climate justice, community outreach
- 8) **Sustainability literacy:** models, environmental education, interconnected learning
- 9) **Sustainability website:** develop/manage **Green** campus website; other social media
- 10) **Funding:** initiating grants/partnerships in support of **Green** campus activities

For additional information please contact:

Dr. Maureen Dolan (Mathematics/CIS)
Parliamentarian, Faculty Senate

SUNY Old Westbury Green Committee, Chair
New York Coalition for Sustainability in Higher Education
NYCSHE Regional Representative for Long Island Region
74601.1372@compuserve.com or dolann@oldwestbury.edu



Campus GREEN Committee Kickoff Meeting

MEETING AGENDA
Tuesday, December 3, 2019
Campus Center H427

I. Welcome and Introductions

II. SUNY Sustainability Policy (Background)

- The Framework for a More Sustainable SUNY (2018)
- Energy and Sustainability: Transformational Opportunities (2007)

III. NYS Energy Goals/Climate Action

- Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (2018)
- REV Campus Challenge/NYSERDA Programs

IV. Building on Success: Advancing as a Green Campus

- Old Westbury Green Committee (2009-2010)
 - Sustainability Audit and Student Research
- STEM project: opportunity to align green building with academic innovation
- Focus on Mission: Environmental Stewardship, Sustainability, Social Justice

V. Next Steps

- Build Green Committee Membership
- Suggestions for 2020 Activities & Priorities
- Possible Initiative(s) for External Funding

Enclosures in Green Packet:

RIGHT Pocket: Kickoff Meeting Agenda

- Proposal to Re-establish Campus Green Committee (Purpose, Membership)
- Update for Faculty Senate on Campus Green Committee (10/18/19)
- Energy and Sustainability in SUNY and NYS (some sources of information)
- SUNY Sustainability Conference Bulletin (Saratoga Spring, November 2007)
- Old Westbury Green Committee: Proposal, Membership, Activities (2009-2010)
- Sustainability Audit/Student Application and Report to the Full Faculty (2010)

LEFT pocket:

- The Framework for a More Sustainable SUNY (2018)
- Implementing the Energy Vision: Sustainable CUNY (2019)
- United Nations Academic Impact Certificate (2017)
- AASHE Awards for Colleges and Universities (2019)
- NYS Public Hearing on Environmental Conservation in Higher Ed (11/13/19)



Campus GREEN Committee Meeting

MEETING AGENDA
Tuesday, February 18, 2020
NAB 2034 (2:40-3:40pm)

I. Welcome New Members (5 minutes)

- Request for Meeting Recorder volunteer (Note-taker rotate each meeting)

II. Updates on SUNY and NYS mandates/programs, possible support (25 minutes)

- **REV Campus Challenge** (NYSERDA): “Reforming the Energy Vision”
<https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/REV-Campus-Challenge/Membership-Information>
- **RecycleMania** (National competition colleges and universities) <https://recyclemania.org>
- **NYSAR³** (NYS Association for Reduction, Reuse & Recycling)
 - NYS Organics Summit 2020 (April 7-8, Albany)
<https://nysar3.org/page/nys-organic-summit-100.html>
 - “Beyond Waste” Student Summit” (Saturday, Feb. 22, 2020)
- Other time-sensitive events
 - **Transforming our Tomorrow 2020** (Student competition, UB Sustainability)
 - **Power Dialog**: April 7 webcast (student videos on climate solutions, deadline 3/15)

III. Organizing GREEN Committee into Working Groups (*see attached*) (20 minutes)

IV. Planning for Earth Day 50th Anniversary (5 minutes)

- SUNY Old Westbury Teach-In

V. Next Steps/Announcements (5 minutes)

Attachments to 2/18/20 Agenda:

1. Membership Spring 2020
2. Proposed Working Groups
3. REV information (email from MD to COB, 2/12/20)
4. NYSAR³ Winter 2020 Newsletter
5. Beyond Waste Student Summit (flyer)
6. Transforming our Tomorrow 2020 (flyer)

Contact for additional information:

Dr. Maureen Dolan (Mathematics/CIS)

SUNY College at Old Westbury

Parliamentarian, Faculty Senate

Campus Green Committee, Chair

New York Coalition for Sustainability in Higher Education

NYCSHE Regional Representative for Long Island Region

Email: 74601.1372@compuserve.com



Campus GREEN Committee Meeting

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, March 12, 2020 (2:40-3:40pm)

Library Conference Room: L-316

I. Welcome (5 minutes)

- Request for Meeting Recorder volunteer (Note-taker rotate each meeting)
- Review Meeting Notes of February 18th

II. Updates on REV and other green programs (15 minutes)

- **REV Campus Challenge/NYSERDA** (Maureen)
<https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/REV-Campus-Challenge/Membership-Information>
- **Possible Recycling initiatives** (Nikki)
 1. Terra Cycle (possible refund programs): <https://www.terracycle.com/en-US/brigades>
 2. PepsiCo Recycling Rally: <https://www.terracycle.com/en-US/brigades/recyclerally#rewards>
- **Other Updates** and time-sensitive events
 - “Transforming our Tomorrow 2020” UB Sustainability (Ammar, Ashley, Navpreet)
 - Power Dialog 2020: April 7 NYS Webcast (student videos on climate solutions)
 - AASHE Workshop: Sustainability Across the Curriculum (apply by March 15)
<https://www.aashe.org/calendar/sustainability-across-the-curriculum-leadership-workshop-2020/>
 - NYSAR³ Organics Summit 2020 (April 7-8, Albany)
<https://nysar3.org/page/nys-organic-summit-100.html>

III. Organizing GREEN Committee into Working Groups (see attached) (25 minutes)

- a. Confirm membership each Green Group
- b. Identify Working Group leader/co-leaders
- c. Identify current/planned Working Group Activities 2020

IV. Planning for Earth Day 50th Anniversary (10 minutes)

- d. SUNY Old Westbury Teach-In (Chris)
- e. Green Committee Panel Discussion (Maureen)
- f. Food Justice Garden (Jesse)

V. Next Steps/Announcements (5 minutes)

Attachments to 2/18/20 Agenda:

1. Meeting Notes of Feb.18, 2020
2. Membership Spring 2020
3. Organizing Working Groups
4. Power Dialog 2020 information
5. Sustainability across the Curriculum workshop

Contact for additional information:

Dr. Maureen Dolan (Mathematics/CIS)
SUNY College at Old Westbury
Parliamentarian, Faculty Senate

Campus Green Committee, Chair

New York Coalition for Sustainability in Higher Education

NYCSHE Regional Representative for Long Island Region

Email: 74601.1372@compuserve.com



Campus GREEN Committee

TO: Dr. Calvin O. Butts, III
Office of the President

CC: Dr. Duncan Quarless
Acting Provost and Senior Vice President

FROM: Dr. Maureen Dolan, Chair
Campus Green Committee

DATE: August 25, 2020

SUBJ: **REV Campus Challenge 2020**

I hope that you and your family are well. During this period of unprecedeted challenges, it is my pleasure to be able to deliver some very good news.

Following your authorization to submit an application to **NYSERDA** for the **REV Campus Challenge**, I worked with the **NYSERDA** Coordinator to complete the REV application process on March 13. When New York State shut down in mid-March because of Covid-19, the review process was somewhat delayed as **NYSERDA** staff transitioned to working remotely. This summer the list of campuses approved for new membership was announced at a REV Campus Challenge Workshop hosted by **NYSERDA**.

Old Westbury has been approved by NYSERDA for membership in the REV Campus Challenge. On the basis of evidence provided in our application, our membership was approved at the **ACHIEVER** level. Of the 18 campuses (public or private) accepted by **NYSERDA** as new members in REVCC this year, Old Westbury is one of only 4 campuses approved this year as a new member at ACHIEVER level.

Evidence of our campus commitment to NYS energy/sustainability goals is supported by: the re-establishment of our Campus Green Committee; a history of energy efficiency and open-space conservation; a commitment to achieving zero-net energy and installation of solar PV as part of Library renovation; participation in SUNY Sustainability Coalition and New York Coalition for Sustainability in Higher Education (NYCSHE); as well as innovative academic initiatives such as FYE/CALL, Honors College, United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) and inter-disciplinary sustainability curriculum.

As an **ACHIEVER in the REV Campus Challenge**, we affirm our commitment to clean renewable energy and to climate action planning. Also, recognizing that environmental justice and social justice are intrinsically linked, our campus acts on the knowledge that the climate crisis (regionally and globally) disproportionately impacts poor people and communities of color.

New York State created and funded the REV Campus Challenge five years ago, to support Governor Cuomo's "**Reforming the Energy Vision**" program. Statewide, campus membership in REVCC now consists of 61 Participants, 41 Achievers and 26 Leaders.

REV membership opens many doors and provides numerous opportunities to fund capital projects and green campus initiatives. Substantial funds administered by **NYSERDA** support a broad array of projects: including **solar and wind, clean energy in new or retrofit buildings, electric vehicles and charging stations, research, training, education, student initiatives, and community engagement**. Campus and regional projects may be eligible for funding through SBC or through appropriations in support of CLCP (Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, 2019)

As an **ACHIEVER in the REV Campus Challenge**, Old Westbury will have the opportunity to publicize on NYSERDA's website our notable green initiatives that are completed, in-progress, or currently planned. Membership in REVCC provides a platform for advancement in renewable energy and other climate initiatives, such as those in support of zero-net energy, reduced carbon footprint, and the Governor's blueprint ("REV") for a green economy.

I have included **NYSERDA** materials related to our acceptance into REV Campus Challenge, including a **Welcome Letter** and selected slides from recent NYSERDA REVCC workshop. Most prominent is the official **REV Campus Challenge Achiever "BADGE"** - provided by NYSERDA in pdf, JPEG and PNG formats. Old Westbury now has approval to use and display this **REV Achiever BADGE** on our college website, in promotional materials, and in various other reports and publications.

In addition to the attachments related to REV Campus Challenge (#1-2 listed below), I am also submitting **Campus Green Committee** annual report and relevant attachments (#3-4 listed below). I will provide the Office of the President (via USPS) with a hard copy of all **Green** materials enclosed with this letter.

Since your authorization to re-establish our **Campus Green Committee** enabled our successful application to **NYSERDA** for **REV** membership as an **ACHIEVER** campus, I thank you for advancing the college towards a greener future, and appreciate the opportunity to spearhead this important effort. And as I recall your comments at faculty meetings last year about my longstanding energy focus, I am reminded that my very first conversation with you upon your arrival in September 1999 was to advocate for renewable energy. *Tempus fugit!*

Congratulations on your two decades at the helm, and best wishes as you transition to a rewarding new phase of life.

Enclosures with this letter:

1. **REV Achiever Badges** (pdf and JPEG)
2. NYSERDA REV Welcome letter, mission/vision and membership information
3. **Campus Green Committee** 2019-2020 Annual Report (Introduction, Background, Purpose/Description, Summary of Activities, Membership and Working Groups)
4. Meeting agenda and misc. attachments to Green Committee report (listed in report)



REV Campus Challenge

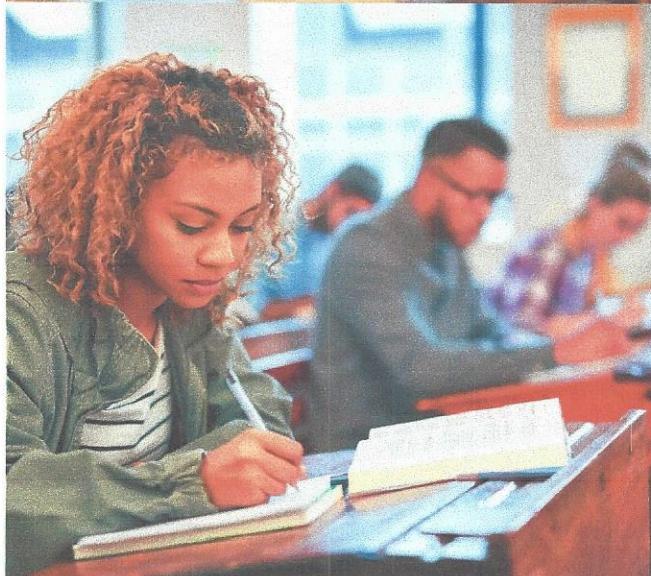
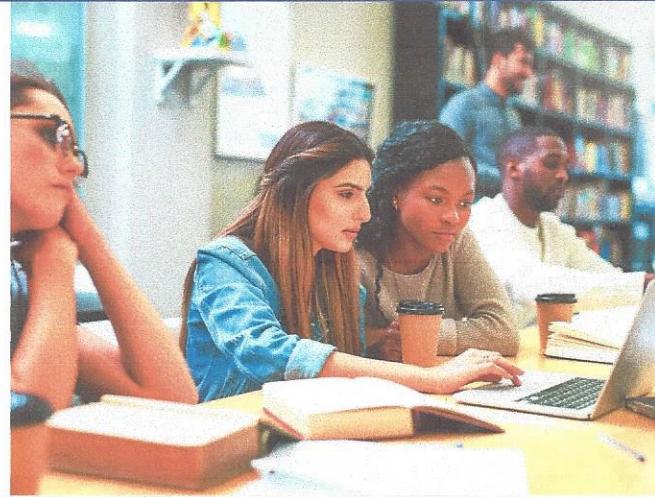
Welcome



REV Campus
Challenge

Clean energy success starts here.

Congratulations on joining the REV Campus Challenge! You are now a part of a diverse and robust statewide network of colleges and universities committed to growing their clean energy efforts. Plus, you now have unlimited access to the REV Campus Challenge team who will guide you in leveraging the many resources available through NYSERDA – so you can reach your energy goals easier and faster than ever.



Make the most of your membership.

Your new membership comes with a variety of benefits including:

- Access to **member-exclusive funding opportunities** like the Roadmaps Technical Assistance program and the Energy to Lead Competition.
- **Complementary** support from the REV Campus Challenge team to navigate NYSERDA funding opportunities and identify the most effective path for your school.
- **Annual regional workshops** hosted by members that offer the opportunity to connect with your peers, share best practices, and **provide valuable feedback to shape the future** of the REV Campus Challenge.
- Leverage REV Campus Challenge opportunities to engage your broader campus community in clean energy efforts.
- **Free assistance in creating materials, such as website content, case studies, and articles**, to highlight your clean energy commitments, projects, and progress.

Refer a friend, earn conference passes.

Help us grow the REV Campus Challenge community! If a non-member institution joins the REV Campus Challenge through your referral, you **both receive complementary admission to the State of NY Sustainability Conference!**

Get started today.

Member-exclusive funding opportunities are available from NYSERDA to support your clean energy efforts. In combination with a range of non-member-exclusive programs, these opportunities can help you to take the next step towards achieving your goals.

Roadmaps Technical Assistance Program (member exclusive): Jumpstart your clean energy efforts. Complete a customized comprehensive energy and climate plan. Receive up to \$150,000 to work with a consultant of your choice—and get extra funding to hire student interns to support your Roadmaps project.

On-site Energy Manager: Get up to \$200,000 to hire an energy manager for up to two years. Identify and implement energy conservation measures—and get additional incentives if the energy savings identified enable you to keep the energy manager permanently.

Workforce Training – Building Operations and Maintenance: Get up to \$400,000 to support the implementation of an on-site training program for your facilities and operations staff to enhance their ability to manage buildings in accordance with energy management best practices.

Real Time Energy Management (RTEM): Get up to \$200,000 to fund systems, software, and support services to manage building energy performance in real time anywhere, any time. Pre-qualified RTEM vendors tailor a solution to best meet your institution's needs.

Clean Heating & Cooling Communities: Work with community-based organizations, local governments, and other partners to promote the adoption of clean heating and cooling technologies in your community. Receive grants of up to \$200,000 to design and implement multi-year community outreach and education campaigns.

Energy to Lead Competition (member exclusive): The Energy to Lead competition provides awards of up to \$1 million to colleges and universities that propose replicable, impactful solutions. Stay tuned for the next Energy to Lead competition announcement.

Energy Storage Program: Engages entities interested in developing or installing energy storage technology. Free feasibility assessments available in addition to incentives to offset the capital costs associated with energy storage system deployment.

Combined Heat and Power Program: Promotes installation of clean, efficient, and commercially available combined heat and power (CHP) systems up to 3 MW with pre-approved vendors and a catalog of system options. Also supports the installation of custom engineered CHP systems from 1 MW to 3 MW.

Charge NY: Accelerate electric vehicle adoption through the promotion of charging station development and installation in NYS.

Note: Some NYSERDA programs require payment by the institution into the electric Systems Benefits Charge (SBC).



We are here to help.

The REV Campus Challenge team is standing by to help you navigate NYSERDA's portfolio of programs and identify the best path for you.

Contact us today.

REV Campus Challenge team: REVCampusChallenge@nyserda.ny.gov

REV Campus Challenge Mission

Promote and support colleges and universities in NYS that:

- **Invest in clean energy and GHG reductions**
- **Educate by integrating clean energy into the curriculum and supporting cleantech R&D**
- **Engage the campus and off-campus communities to promote clean energy and sustainability**

On campus, in the classroom, in the community.

Vision for the Future

The goal of Governor Cuomo's Reforming the Energy Vision (REV) initiative is to build a cleaner, more resilient, and affordable energy system for all New Yorkers:

- NYS colleges and universities are centers of clean energy innovation, leading by example and training the next generation of clean energy leaders
- NYSERDA's REV Campus Challenge aims to help NYS colleges and universities reduce GHG emissions and set and achieve ambitious clean energy goals

80%
Reduction
in greenhouse gas
emissions over 1990 levels
by
2050

Defining Clean Energy

In the context of REV Campus Challenge, **clean energy** is broadly defined to include:

- **Energy efficiency**
- **Energy conservation**
- **Renewable energy**

Energy Efficiency and Energy Management
Clean Heating and Cooling
Clean Transportation
Workforce Development and Training
Smart Grid
Behavior Changes

Member Resources and Benefits

- Exclusive NYSERDA funding and programs
- Easy access to program information and updates through email announcements
- Dedicated assistance with navigating programs and general questions
[\(REVCampusChallenge@nyserda.ny.gov\)](mailto:REVCampusChallenge@nyserda.ny.gov)
- REV Campus Challenge membership levels & badges
- REV Campus Challenge website with resources and membership details

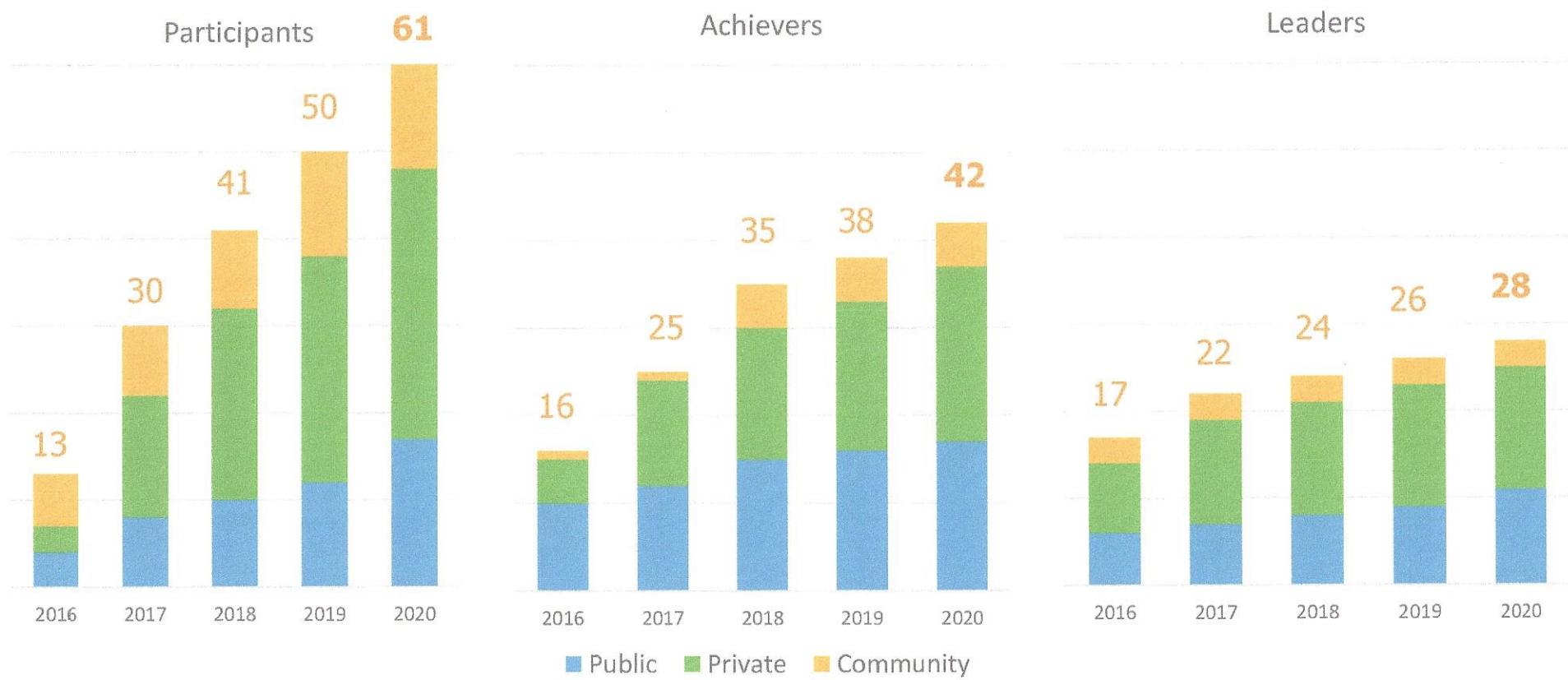


REV Campus Challenge Membership Update

18 new members since last year's workshop!

- Adelphi University
- Boricua College
- Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory
- College of Westchester
- CUNY: Hostos Community College
- CUNY: School of Law
- Marymount Manhattan College
- New York Institute of Technology
- New York Medical College
- SUNY: Buffalo State
- SUNY: College of Nanoscale Science & Engineering
- SUNY: Corning Community College
- SUNY: Downstate Health Sciences University
- SUNY: Maritime
- SUNY: Jamestown Community College
- SUNY: Old Westbury
- SUNY: Rockland County Community College
- Weill Cornell Medical College

REV Campus Challenge Membership



131 REV Campus Challenge Members!





NOTICE: This Event has been Postponed by COVID-19

Please Join Us!

Food Justice Garden – Phase 1

When: Tuesday, March 24, 2020: 12:30 – 3:30

Rain Date: March 25, 12:30-3:30

Where: Community Garden Plot adjacent to Natural Sciences Building

Contact: Jesse Curran (FYE/CALL) curranj@oldwestbury.edu

As part of this spring's **Earth Day Teach-In** (April 20-23), you are invited to participate in Phase One of a campus garden installation. Come participate in the process of creating an edible garden intended to provide fresh and nutritionally dense food to the Old Westbury community.

With the guidance and leadership of master gardener Dylan Licopoli, we will clear and prepare a plot of land and begin to plant a selection of leafy greens that will be harvestable for many months to come.

We invite all members of the campus community to join and lend a hand. Any and all questions about growing food here on Long Island are warmly welcomed!

*An initiative of the Campus **GREEN** Committee in partnership with the Honors College and the First Year Experience/CALL (Community Action, Leadership and Learning)*

Contact for information on Honors College:

Anthony Deluca, Ph.D.
Director, Honors College
SUNY Old Westbury
New Academic Building, Room 1021
delucaa@oldwestbury.edu

Contact for information on Green Committee:

Dr. Maureen Dolan (Mathematics/CIS)
Campus GREEN Committee, Chair
SUNY Old Westbury
Parliamentarian, Faculty Senate
NY Coalition for Sustainability in Higher Education
NYCSHE Regional Representative for Long Island
dolanm@oldwestbury.edu or 74601.1372@compuserve.com

TRANSFORMING OUR TOMORROW! 2020

UB SUSTAINABILITY IS SEARCHING FOR INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS FROM ACROSS NEW YORK STATE TO PRESENT THEIR PASSION IN CREATING A SUSTAINABLE WORLD THROUGH CLEAN ENERGY!

**COMPETITION IS AT THE END OF APRIL.
DATE AND LOCATION TBD**

UB Sustainability and NYSERDA Strategic Partners
Date: April 2020

**APPLICATION DUE
February 14th!**

SCAN TO APPLY
AND FOR MORE
INFO



OR...

[TINYURL.COM/3012020](http://tinyurl.com/3012020)

PRIZES!



*A BONUS PRIZE OF \$200 FOR ITS
CONSIDERATION ON THE SOCIAL
IMPACTS OF CLEAN ENERGY. THIS
COULD MEAN THEIR PROJECT'S
IMPLICATIONS FOR LOW-INCOME
COMMUNITIES, DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES, GENDER EQUALITY,
EDUCATION, RACIAL EQUITY AND
MORE.

This is Where Change Begins.



University at Buffalo
Sustainability

[Facebook.com/ubssustainability](https://www.facebook.com/ubssustainability)

@UBGreen

ubsustainability

buffalo.edu/sustainability



Registration is now open! The 6th annual NYS Organics Summit will take place April 7-8, 2020 at Albany Capital Center in downtown Albany, NY. This yearly event is an opportunity to connect with over 150 NYS materials management professionals to share success stories and discuss creative solutions to barriers that restrict the sustainable management of organic materials, with a specific focus on wasted food and food scraps. Learn more about registration and event details [here](#).



Beyond Waste Student Summit

On Saturday, February 22, in conjunction with the Post Landfill Action Network (PLAN), SUNY ESF will be hosting a Beyond Waste Student Summit for university students in the region. This Summit will be highly interactive and bring students together to understand the systemic impact of waste, from extraction to disposal; through collaborative simulated campaigns. NYSAR³ is happy to support this effort and hope to see our College Council members there! Learn more about the event [here](#).



Zero Waste Conference 2020



Registration is now open! The National Zero Waste Conference, organized by the National Recycling Coalition and held in Berkeley, CA is open for registration. This two-day conference, March 18 & 19, 2020, is in conjunction with the California Zero Waste Week at the UC Berkeley. Please reach out to [NRC Executive Director](#) with any questions.

Learn more about the event [here](#).

Office of the Governor



Governor Cuomo Signs Bill Establishing Statewide Paint Recycling Program: New York residents will soon have a new, more convenient way to recycle and safely dispose of unwanted paint thanks to a bill that Governor Andrew Cuomo recently signed establishing a postconsumer paint recovery program in NY State. [Read more](#).

Governor Cuomo Unveils 5th Proposal of 2020 State of the State: Banning the Use of Single-Use Styrofoam Food Containers in New York State: Governor Cuomo also announced on December 17 the 5th proposal of his 2020 State of the State Agenda - prohibiting the distribution and use of expanded polystyrene, commonly known as Styrofoam, single-use food containers. This would be the strongest statewide ban in the United States and would go into effect by January 1, 2022. [Read more](#).

New Decade, New Adventures - Bring Your own Bag!

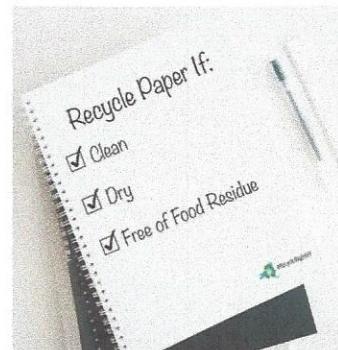
New York's plastic bag ban starts March 1, 2020, so now is a great time to get into the habit of using reusable bags. You can find more information about the upcoming plastic bag ban online. Reusable bags come in many different shapes, sizes, and materials, making it easy to find ones that work best for you and your everyday adventures.



February DEC Recycle Right Campaign Resources

February is dedicated to educating the public about paper recycling do's and don'ts with a bit of a Valentine's Day theme—show paper recycling some love! According to the US EPA, over 65% (approximately 44.2 million tons) of the paper and paperboard produced was recycled in 2017. Let's recycle even more in 2020 and make sure that the paper we're recycling is of high value and free of contamination. How? Recycle paper from your home, office, school and just make sure it is clean, dry, and free of food residue. Recycle paper right NY!

[Learn more](#) about the resources available.



DEC Recognizes Four New York Organizations as Innovation and Sustainability Leaders

The DEC recognized four organizations at the 16th annual New York State Environmental Excellence Awards Celebration. The event was held at Pat's Barn on the Rensselaer Technology Park Campus in Troy. [Read More](#).

Have you heard? In Westchester County, it's Now Easier To Recycle Right!

Sustainable Westchester Inc., a nonprofit consortium of Westchester County municipalities, is making recycling and zero waste solutions easy and accessible - with just one click. Their one-stop mobile app, Recycle Right Westchester, is a first step towards creating a zero waste community by giving residents easy access to accurate recycling instructions when they need it. [Learn more](#) about the app.



'Scrap It' Food Waste Recycling Program



2019 Annual Recycling Conference & Trade Show Re-cap

Thank you for joining us at this year's 30th Annual Recycling Conference in Cooperstown, NY! The Annual Conference presentations are now available online.

[View Presentations](#)

Upcoming Events - Conferences, Workshops and Webinars

February 22, 2020 | [PLAN Beyond Waste Student Summit](#)

March 10-11, 2020 | Landfill Operator Training, Saratoga Springs, NY - Contact: [Jeff Bouchard, Executive Director](#)

April 7-8, 2020 | [Annual NYS Organics Summit](#), Albany, NY

March 18-19, 2020 | [Zero Waste Conference](#), Berkley, CA

Sign Up for DEC Notices



Are you interested in receiving recycling and sustainability news, updates, and related events in NYS? Or maybe you're interested in receiving solid waste regulatory updates, funding opportunities, and solid waste related events? [Sign up for the DEC Delivers](#) Solid Waste and Recycling listserv.

If there is a public event or workshop related to recycling (organics, textiles, electronics, traditional recyclables, etc.) you'd like the greater community to know about, please email Kristine Ellsworth at kristine.ellsworth@dec.ny.gov and she can include it in upcoming DEC Delivers publications.

New York State Association for Reduction, Reuse & Recycling
518-482-7395 | nysar3@gmail.com | nysar3.org

STAY CONNECTED:



NYS Assn for Reduction, Reuse & Recycling,
1971 Western Ave, #1180, Albany, NY 12203-5066