



# An Introduction to the Sustainable Library Certification Program (SLCP)

**Panelists:**

Janet Scherer, Director, South Huntington Public Library, SLI Advisory Board

Lisa Jacobs, Library Director, Longwood Public Library, SLCP Mentor

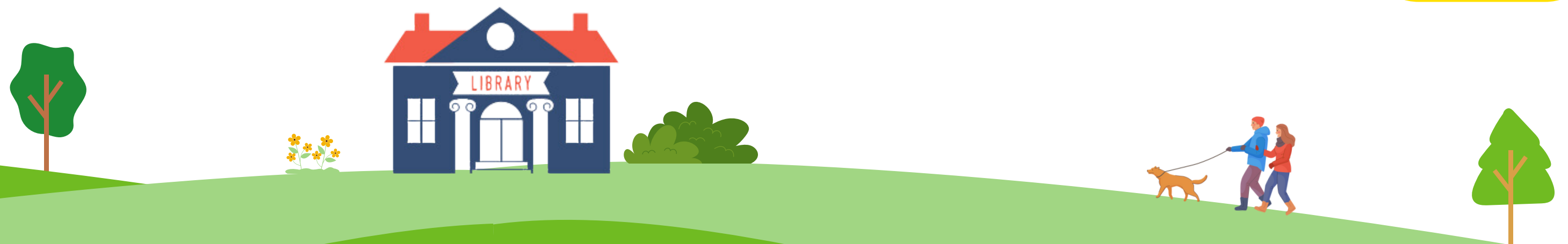
Lisa Kropp, Library Director, Lindenhurst Memorial Library, President-New York Library Association, SLI Advisory Board

**Moderator:**

Alex Blend, Sustainability Coordinator, Sustainable Libraries Initiative



10/15/24





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Libraries  
Initiative**

# A new opportunity

- Free Sustainable Libraries Initiative Membership for all Members
- Discount on the Sustainable Library Certification Program

ASSOCIATION  
OF RESEARCH  
LIBRARIES



NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
*The Voice of the Library Community*



# Sustainable Libraries Initiative

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Launched in 2015 as a community of practice for library leaders interested in addressing issues related to **climate change, community resilience and securing a vital, vibrant, and visible place** in the community/on campuses/in schools for libraries.



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Libraries  
Initiative**





# Sustainable Libraries

✓	<b>Strong &amp; Authentic Institutions</b> that live their values out loud
✓	Catalyst for <b>Social Cohesion &amp; Civic Participation</b> in Communities
✓	Working on <b>Climate Mitigation</b> (reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GhG))
✓	Active Participants in <b>Climate Adaptation</b> (strengthening community resilience)



## Triple Bottom Line Definition:

- Environmentally Sound
- Socially Equitable
- Economically Feasible





# Sustainable Library Certification Program

**20% Discount**  
for individual libraries

**25% Discount**  
for cohorts from your state



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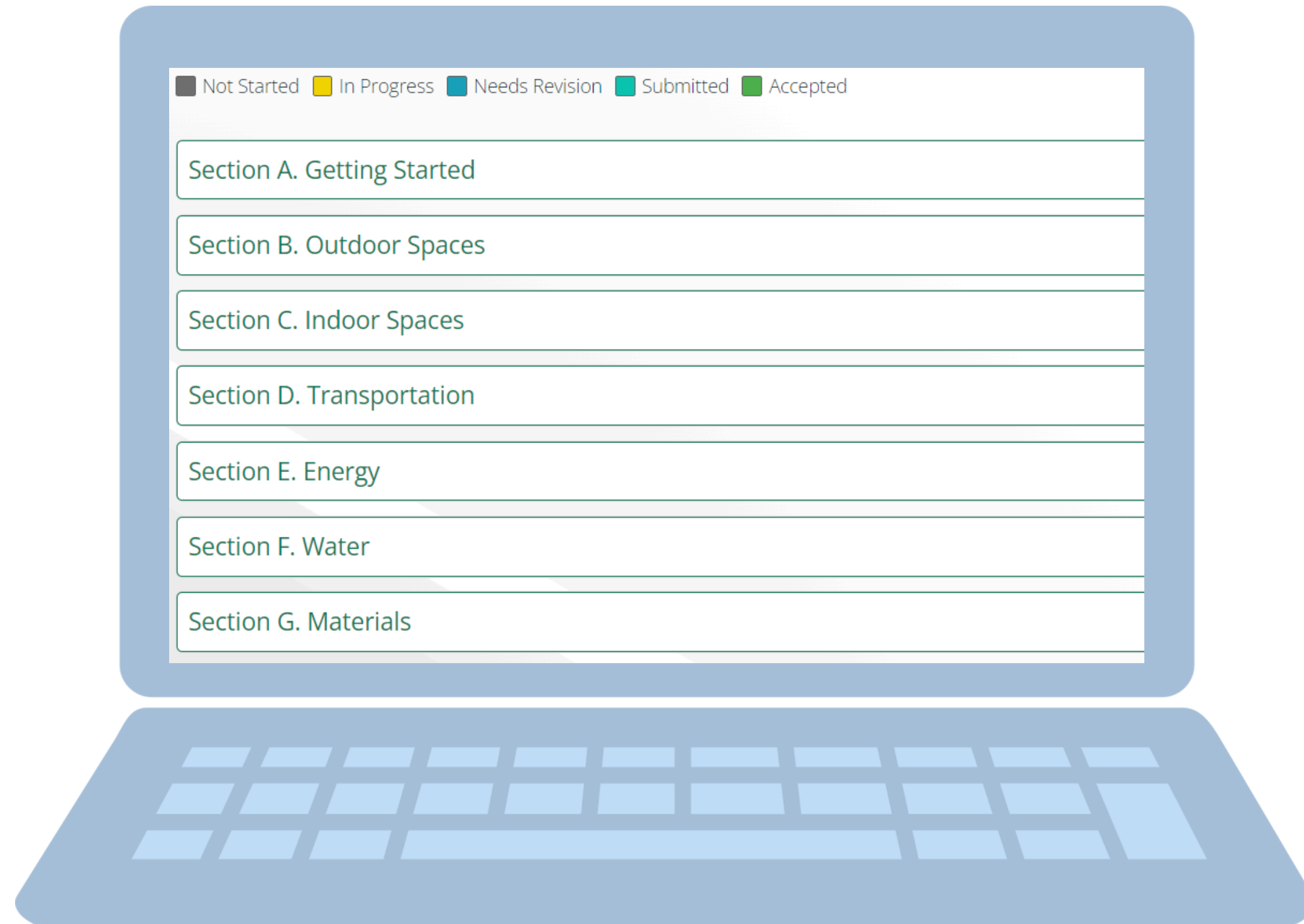
<https://www.sustainablelibrariesinitiative.org/>

# Sustainable Library Certification Program

- Step-by-Step Format
- Guidance from a Mentor
- Built-in Resources
- Community of Practice



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# Sustainable Library Certification Program

## Public & Academic Libraries and Library Systems

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

## School Librarians

- Partnerships & Community Involvement
- Leading Beyond the Library
- Social Equity & Resiliency
- Standards & Curriculum
- Collections



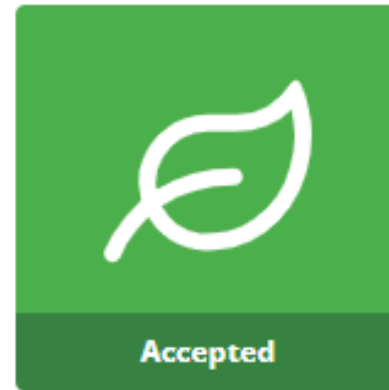
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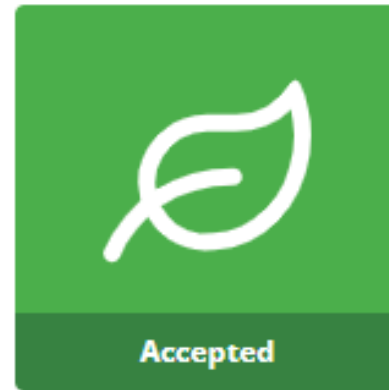


# Action Items and Response not Questions and Answers

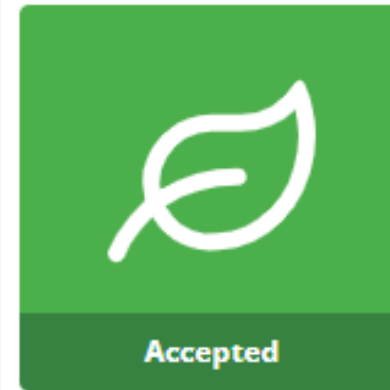
## Required Actions



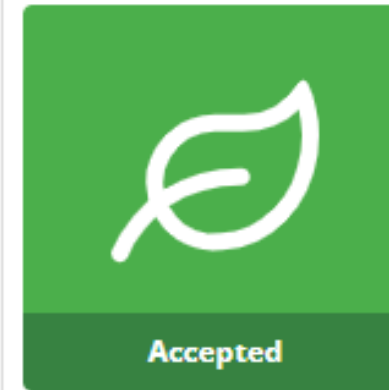
**B.1: Site Management Plan (Library Systems)**



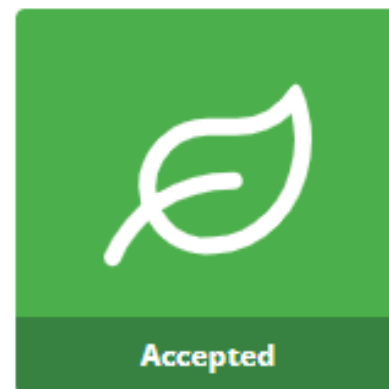
**B.2: Assess for Light Pollution (Library Systems)**



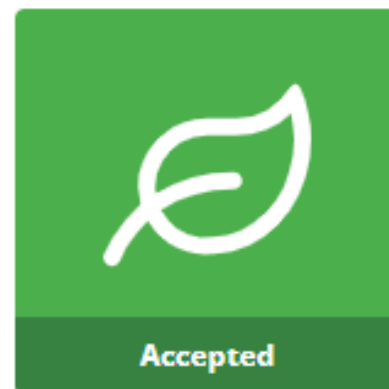
**B.3: Litter Free Outdoor Spaces (Library Systems)**



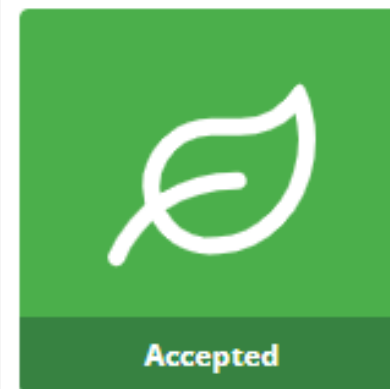
**B.4: Invasive Plants (Library Systems)**



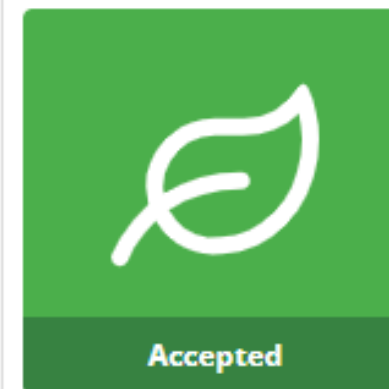
**B.5: Native Plants (Library Systems)**



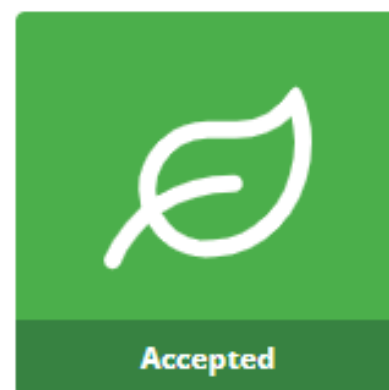
**B.6: Planting Areas (Library Systems)**



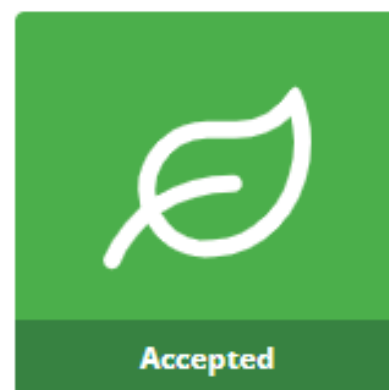
**B.7: Chemical Pesticides (Library Systems)**



**B.8: Herbicides (Library Systems)**



**B.9: Storm Drains and Runoff Water (Library Systems)**



**B.10: Amend Facility Plan (Library Systems)**



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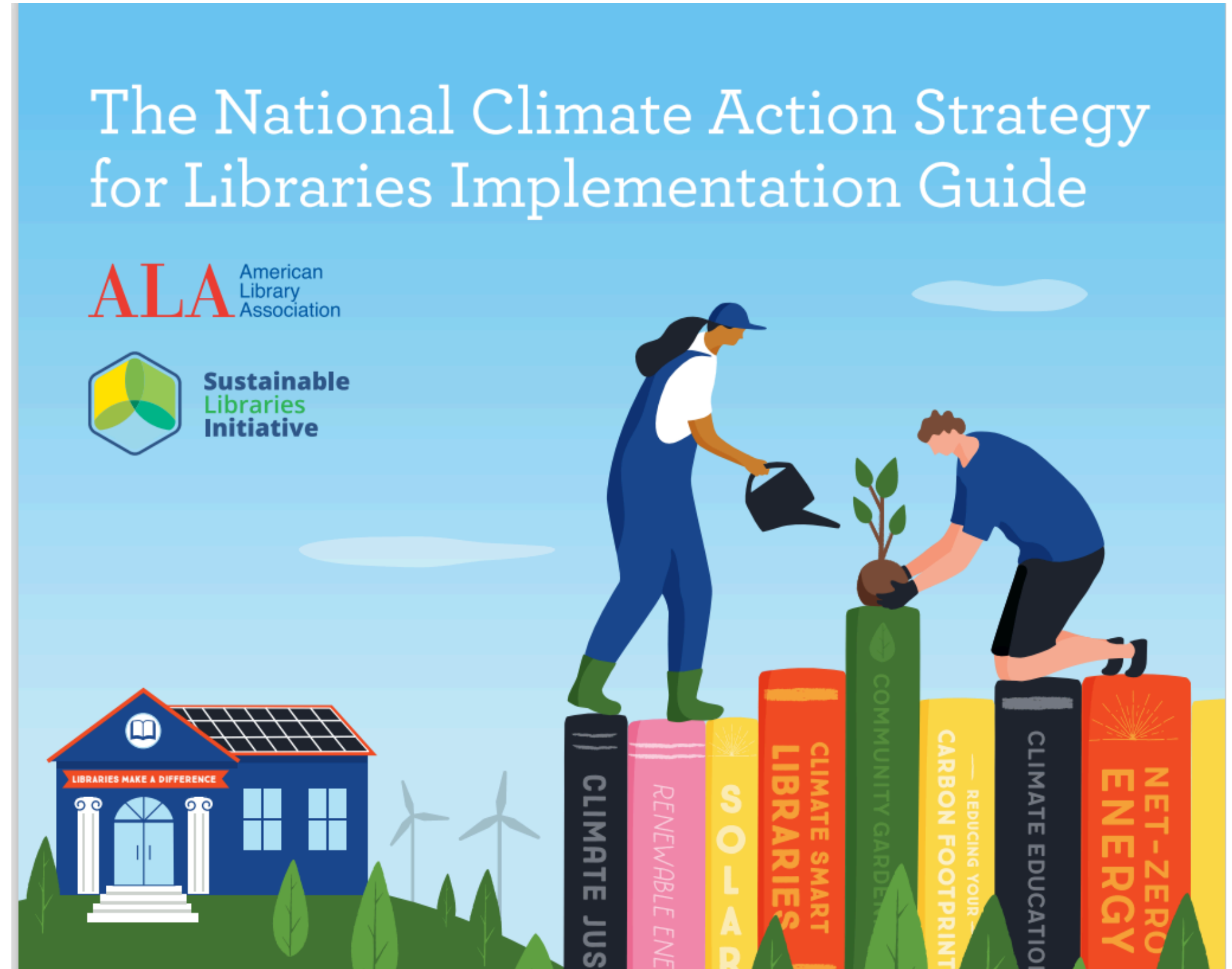
# CO2 Calculator

Input Your Use		Emission Type	CO2 Emissions
<b>Electricity</b>			
<input type="text" value="0"/>	KWh	Electricity	0.000 metric tons
<b>Building Fuel</b>			
<input type="text" value="0"/>	Gallons	Fuel Oil	0.000 metric tons
<input type="text" value="0"/>	Therms	Natural Gas	0.000 metric tons
<input type="text" value="0"/>	Gallons	LP Gas	0.000 metric tons
<b>Fleet Fuel</b>			
<input type="text" value="0"/>	Gallons	Gasoline	0.000 metric tons
<input type="text" value="0"/>	Gallons	Diesel	0.000 metric tons

The **National Climate Action Strategy for Libraries** provides a clear direction on where emphasis is necessary to move beyond good intentions to meaningful impacts, focusing on three areas:

- **Climate Mitigation** (reduction of greenhouse gas emissions)
- **Climate Adaptation** (helping people, institutions, and communities thrive in the face of climate change)
- **Climate Justice** (increasing the empathy, respect, and understanding we have of all community members)

This document outlines the strategy, followed by advice and resources, to aid libraries of all types - public, academic, school, consortia, and special libraries - in their tactical implementation of this strategy.



# Telling Your Library's Story



- Library web site, newsletter, social media, annual report
- Reflection Questions & Data Points
- Networking in Your Community
- Final Presentation
- SLI Ambassador to your Peers: Mentor & Presenter



## South Huntington Public Library Certification Presentation

Learn more about the work SHPL accomplished as their organization moved toward reducing waste and energy use, built strong connections with their community, and prepared for emergencies.



## Longwood Public Library Certification Presentation

Longwood Public Library's presentation showcases their LEED Certified building and strong relationship to their their community.



## Lindenhurst Memorial Library Certification Presentation

The Lindenhurst Memorial Library highlights their achievements in obtaining their Green Business Certification, their strong community partnerships and clear policies that focus on social equity and resiliency in this presentation. Highlights of this presentation include a new bike fixing station that has been installed as part

# Your Mentor

- Led their own library through the SLCP
- Provides Advice & Support
- Helps you “Right-Size” Expectations
- Is your Cheerleader!

YOU  
GOT  
THIS!



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# Connect with Others

- Monthly Meet-up
- Listservs by Library Type
- Facebook Group
- Live Webinars Quarterly
- Conference Hangouts



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# Benefits of Certification

- A Path Forward
- Reflective Process
- Step-by-Step Transformation
- Community of Practice
- Professional Development and Engagement
- Partnerships for Collective Impact
- Raise the Profile of the Library as a Recognized Leader on the topic of Climate Action and Community Resilience



# To access your free membership

1. Go to the SLI web site: <https://www.sustainablelibrariesinitiative.org>
2. Click on “Participate” --> “SLI Membership”
3. Choose the membership type and fill out the membership form
4. When you get to “How did you hear about us?” select “Other” and enter you are a member of a participating library association in the Notes field to waive the membership fee

*To access the discounts on the Certification Program email: [sliadmin@suffolknet.org](mailto:sliadmin@suffolknet.org) for information details*



# Panelists

**Janet Scherer**, Director,  
South Huntington Public  
Library, SLI Advisory Board  
**(Certified 2021)**



**Lisa Jacobs**, Library Director,  
Longwood Public Library,  
SLCP Mentor  
**(Certified 2021)**



**Lisa Kropp**, Library Director,  
Lindenhurst Memorial Library,  
President-New York Library Association,  
SLI Advisory Board  
**(Certified 2019)**



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