



**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**

NEWSLETTER

The latest news and updates from the [Sustainable Libraries Initiative](#)



Millbrook Library's Library of Local Seed Library

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

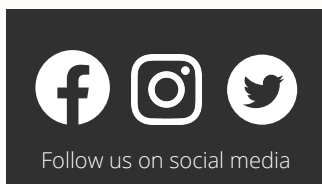
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LIBRARY OF LOCAL

This month we are featuring the [Library of Local](#) project. This program aims to build community resiliency in the Mid-Hudson region of New York. Through a partnership with a local environmental organization, selected libraries in the [Mid-Hudson Library System](#) are offered curated collections around different themes to highlight ways that community members can learn and act to build personal and community resiliency. Fifteen libraries are currently enrolled in this program. Two of these libraries, [Butterfield Library](#) and [Millbrook Library](#), are Sustainable Library Certification Program Members. Providing information and services about topics such as climate change and disaster awareness and partnering with other local organizations to increase services to the community are goals of both the SCLP and the Library of Local.
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BREAKING NEWS

[ALA Council's Committee on Sustainability](#) has released a briefing titled, "Sustainability in Libraries: A Call to Action." This publication includes information about the importance of sustainability to the library profession. Notably, it explores the connections between climate work and equity, diversity, and inclusion work and suggests practical steps for libraries to start working toward aligning their policies and practices with sound environmental, equitable, and financial principles. The [Sustainable Libraries Initiative](#) and our award-winning Sustainable Library Certification Program are highlighted in this briefing. More information and the link to the document can be found on our [website](#).



LIBRARY OF LOCAL, CONTINUED

Mid-Hudson Library System's Library Sustainability Coordinator, Casey Conlin, shares this description of the Library of Local Project:

Now beginning its second year, the [Library of Local](#) is a partnership between [Partners for Climate Action Hudson Valley](#), the Mid-Hudson Library System (MHLS), and participating MHLS member libraries offering library patrons a collection of books, tools, seeds, AV equipment, and other resources that equip local communities to take action on the climate crisis and advance ecological repair. The project also provides a robust monthly schedule of in-person and virtual educational events and community meetings that connect community members and provide guidance on issues related to climate change and repair. In 2022, the Library of Local will increase to a total of 15 locations in libraries in the Mid-Hudson region.

The Library of Local Project offers essential wisdom, know-how, and tools for local self-sufficiency and community resilience. In 2022, the Library of Local is offering programs and resources addressing the following topics: Regenerative Land Use, Green Building, Renewable Energy, and Climate Change. The Library of Local taps into the powerful connections local public libraries have in their communities to bring a robust schedule of in-person and virtual educational events which are free and open to the public at the libraries below. Library of Local libraries are also developing partnerships with local grassroots environmental organizations to provide meeting and program space, tools, and additional capacity-building resources to help communities work together to mitigate and persevere through the coming effects of climate change.



Millbrook Library's Library of Local Display

An entirely new collection of titles has been added to the Library of Local to address this year's topics, and new hand-built architectural displays, made by local artist [Johnny Poux](#) have been installed at participating libraries to house the locally-sourced books and seed library seeds gathered from local seed nurseries. Check out the [LoL's full list of tools and resources](#) and sign up for the [LoL Newsletter](#) [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

[SLCP Member Meetup](#). Thurs, July 7th, 11 am EST.

[PLA Webinar: Libraries as climate resilience hubs: Working with your community to take action to build resilience](#). (*there is a fee to attend) Weds, July 13th, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm EST

[SLI Workplace Wellness Webinar](#). Mon July 18th, 11 am EST

[Niche Academy: Free Webinar: Sustainable Thinking for the Future of Libraries](#). Weds, July 20th, 2 pm EST



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INTRODUCING SLI'S NEW SUSTAINABILITY ASSOCIATE

We are happy to announce the SLI's newest staff member, Sustainability Associate, Francesca Hembury!

Francesca is a recent college graduate from Pace University in New York City. Francesca's craving for sustainability led her to the Netherlands, a leading country making strides in sustainability, where she recently studied abroad. There, Francesca was able to live in an environment built around sustainability and saw how passionate everyone in her community and throughout the country was about maintaining their sustainable future. Upon returning, she was able to bring back and implement this way of life here on Long Island, where she has been passionate about being environmentally friendly since she was a child. Francesca has always encouraged her friends and family to join her efforts in recycling, reducing waste, and their carbon footprint.



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WORKPLACE WELLNESS WEBINAR

Join us Monday, July 18th at 11am for our next [SLI Webinar focusing on Workplace Wellness](#). SLI Sustainability Coordinator, Annemarie Gordon, will introduce this topic and moderate a discussion with representatives from selected SLI Member Libraries who have demonstrated successful wellness strategies for their staff and communities. Claudia Depkin from [Haverstraw King's Daughters Public Library](#) will discuss the library's mental health outreach efforts in their community. Terry Lucas from [Shelter Island Public Library](#) will discuss their Happiness Ambassador program. Finally, [Comsewogue Public Library's](#) Debbie Engelhardt will highlight the library's mental health outreach to employees during the pandemic. [Register here.](#)

MEMBER NEWS



Daniel Boone Regional Library

This month we welcome the [Concord Free Public Library](#) in Concord, MA to the SLCP. We have highlighted their new [Sustainability Plan](#) in presentations over this past year and look forward to coordinating the actions necessary for certification with their already documented commitment to sustainability. We also welcome Michelle Statfeld to the School Librarian SLCP. Michelle is Library Media Specialist at [Robert Moses Middle School](#) in North Babylon, NY. Joining the SLI as a member is Debb Wheeler from the [Daniel Boone Regional Library](#) in Columbia, MO. Welcome to all!