



**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**

July 2024



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Libraries
Initiative**

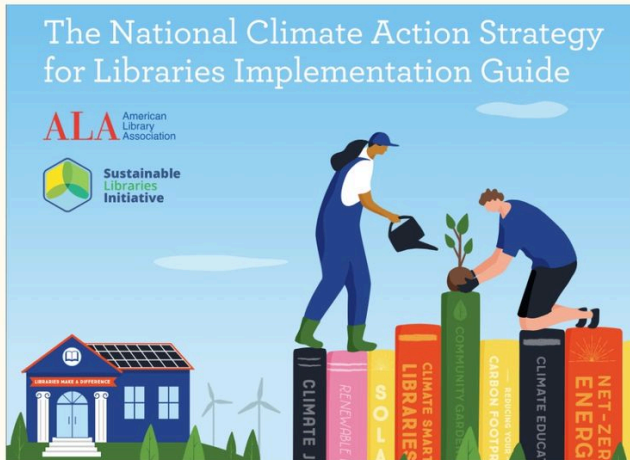
SLI Newsletter

The latest news and updates
from the Sustainable Libraries
Initiative

Issue Contents:

- Read the New National Climate Action Strategy!
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Read the New National Climate Action Strategy!



After working tirelessly over the last year to develop a blueprint designed to help libraries create climate action plans for our rapidly changing future, the **American Library Association (ALA)** in conjunction with the **Sustainable Libraries Initiative (SLI)** officially released the **National Climate Action Strategy and Implementation Guide for Libraries** this past weekend at the 2024 ALA Annual Conference in San Diego, California.

Find it at the link below!

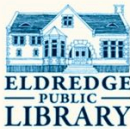
Member News

We welcome our new members to the Sustainable Libraries Initiative! We're happy to have you. Thank you for your joining our community of practice, and demonstrating your commitment to making the world a better place.

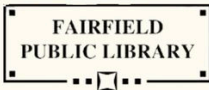
Sustainable Library Certification Program Members:



Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library
Clifton Park, New York



Eldredge Public Library
Chatham, Massachusetts



Fairfield Public Library
Fairfield, Iowa



Siena College, Standish Library
Loudonville, New York

Sustainable Libraries Initiative Members:

Personal Members:

- Anna Kinney
Moreton Bay, Queensland, Australia
- Becky Canovan
Dubuque, Iowa
- Deanna Contrino
Saco, Maine
- Jill Ganeshan
Frankfort, Illinois
- Nicole Doro
Hamilton, Ontario
- Vicky Biancolo
Boston, Massachusetts

Public Libraries:

- Johnston Public Library
Johnston, Iowa
- Livermore Public Library
Livermore, Iowa
- Westfield Public Library
Westfield, New Jersey

Academic Libraries:

- Marian University Libraries
Indianapolis, Indiana

SLI Updates

Announcing a New Partnership Between the Sustainable Libraries Initiative and the Maine Library Association!

The Sustainable Libraries Initiative is proud to announce a memorandum of understanding with the Maine Library Association. The agreement was signed on May 21st and has an initial term of one year.



With this partnership, Maine becomes the fifth state library association to sign-on with the SLI following New York, New Jersey, Iowa, and Massachusetts. These state associations have made a conscious choice to value sustainability and provide their members with the resources they need to make sustainability a common practice at their own institutions.

Members of all our partnered state associations receive one free year of annual membership to the Sustainable Libraries Initiative and a 20% discount on the award-winning Sustainable Library Certification Program. Cohorts of five or more libraries receive a 25% discount on certification, supporting the principle that there is power in collective action.

For more information, click the links below or email sliadmin@suffolknet.org to speak directly with SLI staff.



Information Card - Maine Library Association Partnership

Sign-Up for Our ALA eCourse Led by SLI President Rebekkah Smith Aldrich!



The Sustainable Libraries Initiative has partnered with the American Library Association to offer Sustainable Librarianship: Core Competencies and Practices: an asynchronous eCourse intended to help librarians develop their sustainable thinking and become leaders in climate-smart practices. The course begins on July 8th and runs for 4 weeks.

Rebekkah Smith Aldrich (MLS, LEED AP) is the president and co-founder of the SLI, as well as executive director of the Mid-Hudson Library System in New York. Her work with ALA extends to the upcoming National Climate Action Strategy set to be released this summer. In her third installation of this course, Rebekkah's eloquence and passion for her work translate into an enjoyable well-rounded learning experience.

The course is priced at \$188.10 for ALA members, and \$209.00 for non-members. Register with the link below!

There's Still Time to Register!

ALA Conference Recap



Pictured: San Diego County Library Deputy Director Susan Moore receives a Sustainable Library Certification Program (SLCP) certification plaque from SLI President and Co-Founder Rebekkah Smith Aldrich at the Imperial Beach Branch of San Diego County Library.

The SLI had a presence at this year's American Library Association Annual Conference in San Diego, California taking place from June 27th to July 2nd.

Thank you to everyone that stopped by our booth to say hi or learn more about the SLI! We thoroughly enjoyed our conversations and meeting with so many new and familiar faces. We hope you walked away with newfound motivation to think sustainably (and maybe a seed pencil or two).

SLI President Rebekkah Smith Aldrich and Vice President Matthew Bollerman gave a brief presentation and awarded the recently certified San Diego County Library with their certification plaque at their Imperial Beach Branch during a stop on ALA's Public Library Tour. Congratulations!

Most notably, **the National Climate Action Strategy for Libraries Implementation Guide** produced in partnership by the SLI and the ALA was officially released at the start of the conference. More details and a link to the document can be found on page 1 of this newsletter.

SLCP Member Receives the Nation's Highest Honor for Libraries



Harris County Public Library in Houston, Texas was awarded with the 2024 National Medal for Library Service from the Institute of Museum and Library Service (IMLS). The IMLS is a federal agency founded in 1996 that works to provide resources and funding to museums and libraries in an effort to reach communities across the United States and provide them with important support resources that encourage growth.

The library, one of only 10 recipients of this year's award, was nominated by U.S. Congresswomen Lizzie Fletcher and Sheila Jackson Lee for their effort in bridging gaps in accessibility to services, technology, information, and education. The work of Harris County Public Library is important in building social equity and serving as a catalyst for continued change within their community.

Join us in giving them a big congratulations for work well done!

Read the original press release below.

[Read the Official Press Release](#)

Joanna Goldfarb Awarded with a 40 Under Forty Award from New Paltz State University

Librarian and Sustainability Innovation Consultant Joanna Goldfarb from the Ramapo Catskill Library System was recognized for her post-graduate success by her alma mater SUNY New Paltz.

The award is given to accomplished alumni that have been active members in serving their community.

At the Ramapo Catskill Library System located in New York State's Hudson Valley, one of Joanna's core responsibilities is heading their efforts in the SLI's Sustainable Library Certification Program which is nearing completion.

Congratulations Joanna!



Grant Opportunity from the National Endowment for the Humanities to Help Create Climate Smart Organizations

The National Endowment for the Humanities, a federal agency created to support public-serving cultural organizations such as libraries, is offering to match **up to \$300,000** to be used in the creation of climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies.

Click the link below to learn more and view the official grant posting.

[Official Posting](#)

Participate in Plastic Free July!



Take the pledge to refuse and reduce plastic waste this July!

Plastic Free July, an annual event hosted by the Plastic Free Foundation, challenges people and organizations across the globe to join in on the movement to eliminate plastic waste: especially of the single-use variety. While the campaign only runs for one month in each annual cycle, the lessons learned, and new habits formed, make a lasting impact that continues to grow each year -- one step at a time.

Throughout its entire lifecycle from manufacturing to disposal, plastic waste has a huge number of detrimental effects on human health and our environment. Plastics can leach harmful chemicals into the ecosystem; cause the suffocation, strangulation, or starvation of plants and wildlife; and produce negative health consequences in organisms such as damage to the reproductive, respiratory, and endocrine systems.

Get involved by reading through their website and taking action to reduce our use!



[Plastic Free July Website](#)

For Your Calendar

July 11

**SLCP Meetup:
Transportation**

1:00 pm EST

Join us for a meeting with guest speakers as we discuss the sustainability of a library's transportation methods! Time is included to ask any topic-specific or general questions about the SLCP. All are welcome!

REGISTER NOW



July

**Environmental Awareness
Holidays**

Plastic Free July

1-7: National Clean Beaches Week

11: World Population Day

28: World Nature Conservation Day

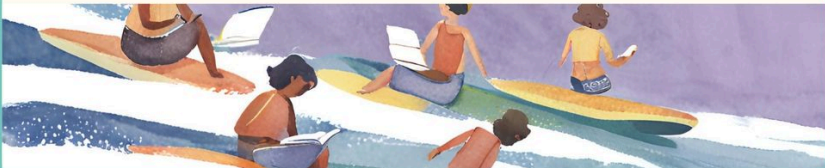
August 1

SLCP Meetup: Energy

1:00 pm EST

Join us for a meeting with guest speakers as we discuss how to best manage energy expenditure! Time is included to ask any topic-specific or general questions about the SLCP. All are welcome!

REGISTER NOW



July SLCP Meetup - Transportation

PrintReleaf empowers SLCP members to offset the paper and fiber-based materials consumption of your library, in order to sustain and grow our global forestry system. SLCP members can [submit your paper purchases](#) here.



OFFICE TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

Thanks to the SLI's partnership with CCP Solutions, Sustainable Library Certification Program members have **collectively offset the equivalent of 18.5M letter pages of paper consumption by reforesting 2.22K trees!**
Keep up the good work!



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