

COMPENDIUM OF STATE REGULATORY ACTIVITIES ON

Environmental Justice

November 2023

integral
consulting inc.

www.integral-corp.com

Our Commitment

Led by accomplished and motivated individuals grounded in collaboration, Integral is committed to creating an equitable, diverse, and inclusive environment for our staff, clients, and the communities we serve. With these core principles guiding the work we do, we are committed to working with our clients and partners to ensure environmental justice is upheld and advanced in all communities.

At a time when people are engaging in environmental, governmental, and social actions, as well as demanding effective corporate social responsibility efforts, Integral understands that comprehensive environmental justice policies and early and effective community engagement yield results. Moreover, we understand that solutions are not one-size-fits-all, but rather need to be project-, community-, and industry-specific. Putting our beliefs into action, Integral updated its State-by-State Environmental Justice Compendium in August 2023 to help clients navigate the network of different approaches to environmental justice across the U.S. and U.S. territories.

Environmental Justice

EPA DEFINES ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AS...

“the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies.”

In 1994, under Executive Order 12898, **environmental justice** was recognized as a federal initiative administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Since then, the environmental justice movement has expanded, becoming a focus for many state regulatory agencies. Recognizing that *marginalized groups*, including *People of Color* and *low-income communities*,^{*} bear the burden of the most polluted areas in the country, many state agencies are dedicated to ensuring their equal representation in environmental issues and protecting from environmental harm.

Principles of environmental justice, first expressed 30 years ago at the First National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit, have returned to center stage. The Biden Administration and Michael Regan, Administrator of the EPA, have elevated the importance of environmental justice through wide-ranging actions, including creation of two related White House councils, legislation to provide funding under the American Rescue Plan and Inflation Reduction acts, development of guidance for cumulative impact assessment that reflects environmental justice concerns, and directives to all offices within EPA (<https://joebiden.com/environmental-justice-plan/>).

^{*}Accurately naming affected populations is important in the context of environmental justice. We have identified these specific naming conventions with use of italics throughout.

Myriad approaches to environmental justice exist across state agencies. Some states have started enacting their own laws whereas others have included environmental justice within existing provisions for protection of public health. Understanding each state’s existing environmental justice programs, objectives, and guiding regulations is a challenging but vitally important component in assessing and mitigating environmental health risk to *overburdened communities*.

Integral Consulting Inc. initially evaluated environmental justice initiatives and regulations in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and all U.S. territories in 2021. Information was collected through standardized internet searches and compiled for each state and territory to the extent that information was publicly available. We understand states may be in the process of updating guidelines and policies and that environmental justice initiatives will continue to evolve. Therefore, Integral incorporates regular updates into this compendium. The month and year of the latest update can be found on the cover page and in the footer of each information page.

METHODS

Environmental justice programs and regulatory information were identified using the following methods:

🔍 State-specific internet keyword searches, including terms such as:



[State]
Environmental
Justice



[State]
Environmental
Regulations



[State]
Environmental
Justice Laws

👍 Review of state agency websites and environmental justice web pages



Agency-directed announcements via newsletter and email (if Integral is part of the distribution)

Information collected for each state:



Environmental justice program mission statement



Environmental justice screening or mapping tool



Environmental justice contact



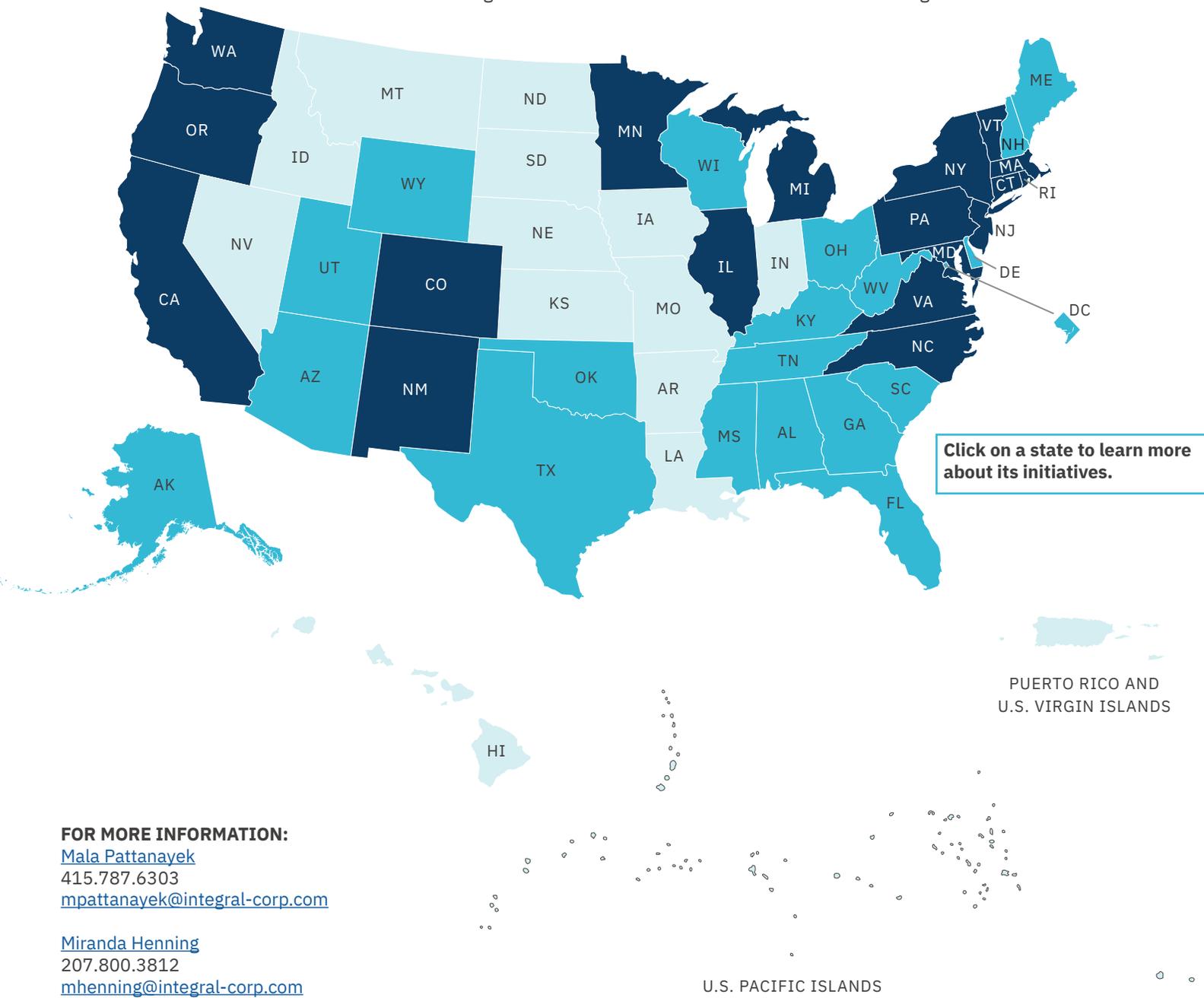
Agencies and programs that are involved in environmental justice initiatives/administration



Environmental justice regulations

Environmental Justice

- No Activity:** State has no state-specific environmental justice initiatives or regulations.
- Low Activity:** State has published, at minimum, a commitment to environmental justice. State may also have an identified agency to oversee environmental justice initiatives and have developed some goals and regulations.
- High Activity:** State has identified an agency to lead environmental justice initiatives, often including defined goals and subprograms, a spatial environmental justice screening tool, and regulations.



Click on a state to learn more about its initiatives.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
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 207.800.3812
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U.S. PACIFIC ISLANDS

PUERTO RICO AND U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✓ [Alabama Department of Environmental Management](#)

State Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



The mission at ADEM is to assure for all citizens of the State a safe, healthful, and productive environment.

SCREENING TOOL



Not Available

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CONTACT



Title VI/Environmental Justice Coordinator
(334) 271-7700



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✗ Alaska currently has no state agency or program identified as the lead for environmental justice initiatives.

State Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office. [The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities](#) acknowledges federal guidelines on environmental justice.

MISSION STATEMENT



Not Available

SCREENING TOOL



Not Available

CONTACT



Statewide Environmental Office
Juneau, Alaska
(907) 465-2975



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✓ [Arizona Department of Environmental Quality](#)

State Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Not Available

SCREENING TOOL



[My Community
Demographic and Environmental Dashboard](#)

November 2023 | 6

CONTACT



Not Available



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✗ Arkansas currently has no state agency or program identified as the lead for environmental justice initiatives.

State Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Not Available

SCREENING TOOL



Not Available

CONTACT



Not Available



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

✓ California Environmental Protection Agency

- Provides environmental justice grants to support eligible organizations in efforts to address environmental justice issues in affected areas
- Reports to the governor and legislature every three years regarding progress on objective in 2004 Intra-Agency Environmental Justice Strategy
- Uplifts and invests in community science
- Collaborates with racial equity team to ensure public health, improve and maintain environmental quality, and vitalize the green economy for all Californians
- Works with six boards, departments, and offices to implement environmental justice principles into internal and public missions
- Partners with environmental justice Liaisons
- Updates Disadvantaged Communities Designation to reduce greenhouse gas pollution and safeguard communities

✓ Environmental Justice Task Force

- Composed of members and advisory members from 12 of California’s boards, departments, and offices
- Increases compliance and enforcement in environmental justice areas
- Identifies disproportionately impacted areas
- Provides communities with opportunities to express environmental justice concerns
- Increases coordination between CalEPA’s boards, departments, and offices across all media in disproportionately impacted areas

✓ Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment

- Identifies communities with high pollution and vulnerability
- Identifies who is sensitive to pollution
- Informs the public of chemicals that can cause harm
- Maintains CalEnviroScreen
- Assists California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) in environmental justice efforts

MISSION STATEMENT



“Include those individuals disproportionately impacted by pollution in decision making processes. The aim is to lift the unfair burden of pollution from those most vulnerable to its effects.”

SCREENING TOOL



[CalEnviroScreen 4.0](#)

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CONTACT



Deputy Secretary
Environmental Justice,
Tribal Affairs, & Border Relations
Leticia Syslo, (916) 883-0956



State Government Regulations

✓ **SB 535**

- Establishes initial requirements for minimum funding levels to Disadvantaged Communities (DACs)
- Gives CalEPA the responsibility for identifying DACs

✓ **2004 Intra-Agency Environmental Justice Strategy**

- Product of a multiyear collaboration between CalEPA and stakeholders
- Ensures meaningful public participation in environmental decision-making processes
- Integrates environmental justice into environmental law, regulations, and policies
- Improves research and data collection to address environmental justice issues
- Ensures effective coordination and accountability in addressing environmental justice issues

✓ **Greenhouse Gases—Investment Plan: Disadvantaged Communities**

- Makes amendments to the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006
- Requires an increase in available money allocated to *low-income and/or disadvantaged communities*

✓ **California Government Code 65040.12**

- Proposes methods for equitable distribution of government resources to increase community quality of life
- Proposes methods to avoid overconcentration of industrial facilities that pose a risk to human health near schools and communities
- Identifies disproportionately impacted areas
- Provides communities with opportunities to express environmental justice concerns
- Increases coordination between CalEPA’s boards, departments, and offices across all media in disproportionately impacted areas

MISSION STATEMENT



“Include those individuals disproportionately impacted by pollution in decision making processes. The aim is to lift the unfair burden of pollution from those most vulnerable to its effects.”

SCREENING TOOL



[CalEnviroScreen 4.0](#)

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CONTACT



Deputy Secretary
Environmental Justice,
Tribal Affairs, & Border Relations
Leticia Syslo, (916) 883-0956



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

State Government Regulations

✓ Office of Health Equity

- Build relationships with communities and across sectors to address root causes of health disparities
- Use equity in decision-making and partner with all sectors of government to embed health and equity considerations into their decision-making process
- Use data to support the narrative of the social determinants of health and tell the story of what creates health
- De-center communications from the English language or any one dominant language, and prioritize language justice when engaging with communities
- Develop, implement, and provide guidance on health equity training, practice, and policies within the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and across the state of Colorado

✓ Environmental Justice Act HB21-1266

- Promotes outreach to and engagement with disproportionately impacted communities to gather input and share information regarding adverse effects
- Creates environmental justice task force in the Department of Public Health and Environment
- Requires Air Quality Control Commission to include permit processing fees that apply to permits for sources of pollutants that contribute to significant health or environmental impacts

MISSION STATEMENT



“Build partnerships to mobilize community power and transform systems to advance health equity and environmental justice.”

SCREENING TOOL



[Colorado Community Health Equity Map](#)
[Climate Equity Data Viewer](#)
[Disproportionally Impacted Communities Viewer](#)
[Colorado EnviroScreen](#)
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CONTACT



[Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment \(CDPHE\)](#)
Office of Health Equity
cdphe_ej@state.co.us



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

✓ [Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection \(CTDEEP\)](#)

- Assesses the effectiveness of CTDEEP efforts in the state's urban areas
- Assesses and responds to environmental problems in *low-income and minority communities*
- Develops strategies to increase public participation in the agency's decision-making process
- Identifies community health concerns in consultation with local and state departments of health
- Enhances public participation in administrative proceedings
- Educates the public on CTDEEP regulations, policies, and procedures
- Overcomes language barriers

State Government Regulations

✓ **Public Act 20-6**

- Requires applicants seeking a permit for a new or expanded "applicable facility" that is proposed to be located in an "environmental justice community," to file an Environmental Justice Public Participation Plan with and receive approval from CTDEEP **prior** to filing any application for such permit
- Requires the facility to enter an environmental benefit agreement if the facility must file under chapter 277a or if the proposed facility is in a municipality with five or more affecting facilities
- Requires public opportunity for residents of the community to express requirements or needs to be included in the agreement

MISSION STATEMENT



"Incorporate principals of environmental justice into program development, policy making, and regulatory activities."

SCREENING TOOL



[2020 Environmental Justice Census Block Groups](#)

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CONTACT



Administrator
Environmental Justice Program
Department of Energy and
Environmental Protection
(860) 424-3044, edith.pestana@ct.gov



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✓ **[Division of Community Affairs \(DNREC\)](#)**
 - Provides resources and facilitates [environmental justice in Delaware](#)

State Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Engage all stakeholders to ensure the wise management, conservation and enhancement of the State's natural resources; protect public health and the environment; provide quality outdoor recreation; improve the quality of life; lead energy policy and climate preparedness; and educate the public on historic, cultural and natural resource use, requirements and issues.

SCREENING TOOL



[DNREC EJ Area Viewer](#)

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CONTACT



DNREC Title VI Coordinator
DNREC_EJ@delaware.gov



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✗ Florida currently has no state agency or program identified as the lead for environmental justice initiatives.

State Government Regulations

- ✓ **Brownfield Redevelopment Act**
 - Environmental justice considerations should be part of a meaningful public participation plan
 - Advisory committee for rehabilitation and redevelopment of brownfield areas should include residents within or adjacent to brownfield areas; the committee will review and provide recommendations to the local government

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

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Not available

CONTACT



Not available



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

✓ Environmental Justice Commission

State Government Regulations

✓ Environmental Justice Act

- Creates environmental justice commission
- Requires permit applicants in environmental justice communities to take actions to mitigate health hazards
- Encourages government agencies to implement environmental policies that address disproportionate impacts of environmental hazards on environmental justice communities

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

CONTACT



Environmental Protection Division
(404) 656-4713



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✘ Formerly housed in the [Environmental Planning Office](#), which has since closed, Hawaii now has no state agency or program identified as the lead for environmental justice initiatives.

State Government Regulations

- ✘ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

CONTACT



Not available



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✘ Idaho currently has no state agency or program identified as the lead for environmental justice initiatives.

State Government Regulations

- ✘ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

CONTACT



Not available



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

✓ **Illinois Environmental Protection Agency**

- Ensures that communities are not disproportionately impacted by degradation of the environment or receive a less than equitable share of environmental protection and benefits
- Strengthens the public’s involvement in environmental decision-making, including permitting and regulation, and where practicable, enforcement matters
- Ensures that Illinois EPA personnel use a common approach to addressing environmental justice issues
- Refines its environmental justice strategy to ensure that it continues to protect the health of the citizens of Illinois and its environment, promotes environmental equity in the administration of its programs, and is responsive to the communities it serves
- Provides administrative and other support to the Commission on Environmental Justice

✓ **Commission on Environmental Justice**

- Advises state entities on environmental justice and related community issues
- Reviews and analyzes the impact of current state laws and policies on the issue of environmental justice and sustainable communities
- Assesses the adequacy of state and local laws to address the issue of environmental justice and sustainable communities

- Develops criteria to assess whether communities in the state may be experiencing environmental justice issues
- Recommends options to the governor for addressing issues, concerns, or problems related to environmental justice that surface after reviewing state laws and policies, including prioritizing areas of the state that need immediate attention

State Government Regulations

✓ **Environmental Justice Act 415 ILCS 155**

- Establishes [Commission on Environmental Justice](#)

✓ **Environmental Justice Policy**

- Define responsible person: Environmental justice officer is main contact for coordinating environmental justice efforts
- Environmental Justice Activities: Environmental justice officer will coordinate environmental justice activities related to public notices, permitting actions, response to public comments and complaints

MISSION STATEMENT



“Protect the health of the citizens of Illinois and its environment, and promote environmental equity in the administration of its programs to the extent it may do so legally and practicably.”

SCREENING TOOL



[Illinois EPA Environmental Justice Start](#)

CONTACT



Chris Pressnall
Environmental Justice Coordinator
(217) 524-1284



State Government Regulations

Approaches for Environmental Justice Activities:

- Public Notice Hearings and Receipt of Public Comments: Illinois EPA established a public participation strategy for permits in environmental justice communities; Illinois EPA works with communities to address environmental concerns regarding proposed facilities; meeting then held in and around affected community
- Informational meetings allow for meetings outside those required by law, allows for public participation in permitting process
- Permitting Actions: if concerns regarding environmental impacts in an environmental justice area are brought up the Illinois EPA will look into information provided and other available information to address potential for adverse health impacts; the Illinois EPA will conduct assessment or request assessment if there are potential adverse impacts; assessment will be available to the public

MISSION STATEMENT



“Protect the health of the citizens of Illinois and its environment, and promote environmental equity in the administration of its programs to the extent it may do so legally and practicably.”

SCREENING TOOL



[Illinois EPA Environmental Justice Start](#)

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CONTACT



Chris Pressnall
Environmental Justice Coordinator
(217) 524-1284



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✗ Indiana currently has no state agency or program identified as the lead for environmental justice initiatives.

State Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

CONTACT



Not available



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✗ Iowa currently has no state agency or program identified as the lead for environmental justice initiatives.

State Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

CONTACT



Rachel Zander, Civil Rights and Nondiscrimination Coordinator
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
502 E 9th St, Des Moines, IA 50319



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✘ Kansas currently has no state agency or program identified as the lead for environmental justice initiatives.

State Government Regulations

- ✘ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

CONTACT



Not available



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✓ **Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection**
 - Based on the [2021 Strategic Plan](#), the Department will consider environmental justice impacts in decision-making

State Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

CONTACT



Not available



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✘ Louisiana currently has no state agency or program identified as the lead for environmental justice initiatives.

State Government Regulations

- ✘ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

CONTACT



Not available



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✓ [Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future](#)

State Government Regulations

- ✓ **H.P. 1251**
 - Requires the Office of Policy Innovation and the Future to develop methods of incorporating equity in decision-making and define environmental justice
- ✓ **H.P. 1046**
 - Requires fair and equitable access to the Department of Environmental Protection decision-making process for environmental justice populations and frontline workers

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

CONTACT



Director, Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future
Hannah.Pingree@maine.gov



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

✓ Maryland Department of the Environment

- Integrates and incorporates environmental justice activities into state operations
- Continues education of state regulators on environmental justice and sustainable communities, with specialized focus given to *marginalized and disenfranchised communities*
- Strengthens government infrastructure at local levels to support *marginalized communities*
- Efficiently builds a network of people who are knowledgeable about the issues of concern to share expertise and advance the environmental justice agenda in Maryland, including reaching out to local businesses, legislators, planning and community organizations, and the academic community
- Collaborates with the Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities
- Optimizes limited state resources
- Seeks solutions appearing in the form of increased public participation and education, public-private partnerships, innovative outreach advertising, and strategic enforcement

- Coordinates with the Children’s Environmental Health and Protection Advisory Council on the issues of environmental justice and sustainable communities
- Develops criteria to assess what communities in Maryland might be experiencing environmental justice issues
- Recommends options for addressing environmental justice issues to the governor and the general assembly; includes prioritized areas of the state that need immediate attention

✓ Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities

- Advises state government agencies on environmental justice
- Analyzes the effectiveness of state and local government laws and policies to address issues of environmental justice and sustainable communities

State Government Regulations

✓ Md. Env. Code § 1-701

- Codifies the Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities and their duties

✓ HB1200

- “Requiring a person applying for a certain permit from the Department of the Environment to include in the application the EJ Score from the Maryland EJ tool for the census tract where the applicant is seeking the permit; requiring the Department, on receiving a certain permit application, to review the EJ Score for the census tract where the applicant is seeking a permit using the Maryland EJ tool to verify the applicant’s information; etc.”

MISSION STATEMENT



“To prioritize environmental health in all communities, with a particular focus in communities with environmental justice concerns, through increased permitting, enforcement, compliance monitoring, and resource allocation.”

SCREENING TOOL



MD EJScreen
 MD Climate and Health Equity Mapper
 MD Park Equity Mapper

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CONTACT



Maryland Department of the Environment
 (800) 633-6101
devon.dodson1@maryland.gov



State Government Regulations

✓ [SB0090](#)

- “Requiring the Department of the Environment to create and maintain a database of supplemental environmental projects that the Department may consider for implementation as part of a settlement of an enforcement action; and requiring the Department to prioritize the selection of a supplemental environmental project located in the same geographic area as the alleged violation and to ensure that the scope and cost of a chosen project are sufficient to allow the Department and the alleged violator to reach a settlement.”

MISSION STATEMENT



“To prioritize environmental health in all communities, with a particular focus in communities with environmental justice concerns, through increased permitting, enforcement, compliance monitoring, and resource allocation.”

SCREENING TOOL



[MD EJScreen](#)
[MD Climate and Health Equity Mapper](#)
[MD Park Equity Mapper](#)

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CONTACT



Maryland Department of the Environment
(800) 633-6101
devon.dodson1@maryland.gov



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

✓ Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

- Establish state environmental justice policy
- Engage environmental justice populations in environmental decision-making through expanded and inclusive outreach, to minimize health risks through targeted environmental enforcement
- Improve environmental quality in all communities through initiatives that include reduction of pollutants and emissions, remediation and redevelopment of contaminated land, and investment in urban parks and greenspace

✓ Environmental Justice Task Force

- Develops a secretariat-wide environmental justice strategy to promote environmental, energy, and climate justice across the commonwealth in ways that are tailored to the Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs mission

✓ Environmental Justice Council

- Advises and provides recommendations to the Secretary of the Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs on relevant policies and standards to achieve environmental justice principles
- Conducts a comprehensive analysis every 5 years to ensure the definition of environmental justice population achieves the objectives of the environmental justice principles

State Government Regulations

✓ Executive Order 552: Executive Office of Energy and Environmental affairs shall

- Appoint a Director of Environmental Justice
- Establish Environmental Justice Advisory Council
- Update the Environmental Justice Policy
- Review and revise environmental justice population definition
- Establish an Interagency Environmental Justice Group

✓ MEPA

- Requires that state agencies study the environmental consequences of their actions, including permitting and financial assistance
- Requires that state agencies “use all practicable means and measures to minimize damage to the environment,” by studying alternatives to the proposed project, and developing enforceable mitigation commitments, which will become conditions for the project if and when they are permitted

MISSION STATEMENT



“Ensure equal protection and meaningful involvement of all people with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies and the equitable distribution of environmental benefits.”

SCREENING TOOL



[EJ Populations in Massachusetts](#)

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CONTACT



Director of Environmental Justice
 Department of Environmental Protection
Rishi.P.Reddi@mass.gov



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

✓ [Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy \(EGLE\), Office of the Environmental Justice Public Advocate](#)

- Accepts and investigates complaints and concerns related to environmental justice within the state of Michigan
- Establishes complaint, investigatory, informational, educational, and referral procedures and programs relating to environmental justice, coordinating with existing investigatory programs where feasible
- Establishes a statewide uniform reporting system to collect and analyze complaints about environmental justice for the purpose of publicizing improvements and significant problems, coordinating with existing programs where feasible
- Assists other departments or agencies in the resolution of complaints where necessary or appropriate
- Assists in the development, and monitors the implementation of, state and federal laws, rules, and regulations relating to environmental justice
- Recommends changes in state and federal law, rules, regulations, policies, guidelines, practices, and procedures relating to environmental justice
- Cooperates with persons and public or private agencies and undertakes or participates in conferences, inquiries, meetings, or studies that may lead to improvements in environmental justice
- Publicizes the activities of the Office of the Environmental Justice Public Advocate

- Identifies issues related to environmental justice that transcend state departmental jurisdictions
- Reports matters of environmental injustice involving state departments and agencies to the governor and the director of the EGLE
- Attends and participates in meetings of the Response Team

✓ [Interagency Environmental Justice Response Team](#)

- Assists EGLE in developing, implementing, and regularly updating a statewide environmental justice plan
- Identifies and makes recommendations to address discriminatory public health or environmental effects of state laws, regulations, policies, and activities on Michigan residents, including an examination of disproportionate impacts
- Develops policies and procedures for use by state departments and agencies, including collaborative problem-solving, to assist in assuring that environmental justice principles are incorporated into departmental and agency decision-making and practices
- Recommends mechanisms for members of the public, communities, tribal governments, and groups, including disproportionately burdened communities, to assert adverse or disproportionate social, economic, or environmental impact upon a community and request responsive state action

MISSION STATEMENT



“To serve as an external advocate and catalyst for ensuring Environmental Justice throughout the state.”

SCREENING TOOL



[MiEJscreen \(DRAFT\)](#)

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CONTACT



Regina Strong
Environmental Justice Advocate
StrongR1@Michigan.gov



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- Makes recommendations to ensure consistency with federal environmental justice programs and recommend specific mechanisms for monitoring and measuring the effects of implementing the statewide environmental justice plan
- Identifies state departments and agencies that could benefit from the development of a departmental or agency environmental justice plan
- Assists in the development of departmental or agency environmental justice plans and review the plans for consistency with the statewide environmental justice plan
- Recommends measures to integrate and coordinate the actions of state departments to further the promotion of environmental justice in the state
- Recommends environmental justice performance goals and measures for EGLE and other state departments and agencies with departmental or agency environmental justice plans
- Reviews the progress of EGLE and other departments and agencies with environmental justice plans in complying with the statewide environmental justice plan and promoting environmental justice
- Interacts with tribal governments regarding environmental justice issues
- Works to achieve Michigan’s goal of becoming a national leader in achieving environmental justice
- Makes recommendations to improve environmental justice training for state and local officials and employees
- Reviews best practices to enhance community environmental quality monitoring
- Recommends changes in Michigan law
- Performs other advisory duties as requested by the director of EGLE or the governor

State Government Regulations

✓ [Executive Order 2019-06](#)

- Created the Interagency Environmental Justice Response Team and Office of the Environmental Justice Advocate

MISSION STATEMENT



“To serve as an external advocate and catalyst for ensuring Environmental Justice throughout the state.”

SCREENING TOOL



[MiEJscreen \(DRAFT\)](#)

CONTACT



Regina Strong
Environmental Justice Advocate
StrongR1@Michigan.gov



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✓ **Minnesota Pollution Control Agency**
 - Develops an environmental justice framework to guide integration of environmental justice initiatives
 - Creates an Implementation Report to assess progress as it relates to the framework

State Government Regulations

- ✓ **Environmental Justice Administrative Policy**
 - Defines environmental justice terms
 - Sets forth key aspects of environmental justice policy in Minnesota

MISSION STATEMENT



“Strive for the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.”

SCREENING TOOL



[Understanding Environmental Justice in Minnesota](#)

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CONTACT



Environmental Justice Coordinator
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
(651) 757-2557



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

✓ [Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Community Engagement](#)

- Develops transparent and accessible decision-making processes to enable meaningful community stakeholder participation
- Presents information in ways that will enable community stakeholders to better understand environmental issues and offer input in an informed way during the decision-making process
- Be responsive to stakeholders and assist [Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality](#) staff in addressing the stakeholder concerns to the extent practicable

State Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



“Community engagement and collaboration are cornerstones for the protection of human health and the environment. We are dedicated to serving potentially impacted community organizations and concerned citizens through engagement activities.”

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

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CONTACT



[Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Community Engagement](#)
(888) 786-0661



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✓ [Department of Transportation](#)

State Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

CONTACT



Not available



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✘ Montana currently has no state agency or program identified as the lead for environmental justice initiatives.

State Government Regulations

- ✘ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

CONTACT



Environmental Justice Coordinator
2601 2nd Ave. N. Suite 3200, Billings, MT 59101
(406) 657-6101
USAMT.Environmental@usdoj.gov



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✗ Nebraska currently has no state agency or program identified as the lead for environmental justice initiatives.

State Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

CONTACT



Not available



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✗ Nevada currently has no state agency or program identified as the lead for environmental justice initiatives.

State Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

CONTACT



Not available



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✓ [New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services \(NHDES\)](#)

State Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) recognizes the importance of Environmental Justice (EJ) and will work to incorporate EJ principles, including meaningful involvement and fair treatment of all New Hampshire residents, in the implementation of Agency programs and activities.

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

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CONTACT



NHDES
Environmental Justice Coordinator
(603) 271-6865



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

✓ [New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection \(NJDEP\), Office of Environmental Justice](#)

- Administers the Environmental Justice Advisory Council
- Aids in the development and/or implementation of department policy, regulations, and procedures to increase opportunities for meaningful public participation and to address potential environmental justice concerns
- Aids in health tracking and environmental data analysis
- Informs community members of opportunities for public participation
- Acts as a community liaison to amplify community concerns within the department
- Conducts outreach and educational efforts to municipalities and community-based organizations
- Streamlines access to information to effectuate meaningful involvement in state level environmental decision-making
- Fosters partnerships to increase involvement in environmental decision-making at all levels of government
- Promotes sustainable and equitable community revitalization
- Supports the consideration of environmental justice in climate mitigation and resiliency and clean energy

✓ [Department of Health, Environmental Public Health Tracking \(EPHT\)](#)

- Collects data on health, human exposures, and environmental hazards

✓ [Environmental Justice Advisory Council](#)

- Serves as advisory body to the Commissioner of NJDEP

State Government Regulations

✓ [Environmental Justice Law, N.J.S.A. 13:1D-157](#)

- Limits the placement and expansion of facilities that have the potential to increase environmental and human health stressors in *overburdened communities* by placing permit requirements and restrictions on such proposed facilities
- Creates list of *overburdened communities* and updates it at least every 2 years

✓ [N.J.A.C. 7:1C](#)

- Requires certain facilities seeking certain permits in *overburdened communities* to prepare an environmental justice impact statement and conduct a public hearing to ensure meaningful public participation in the permitting process

✓ [N.J.S.A. 13:1D-157 et seq](#)

- Economic considerations will not be part of the compelling public interest language, and

MISSION STATEMENT



"DEP's Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) aims to improve the quality of life in New Jersey's most vulnerable communities by educating and empowering communities who are often outside of government decision-making processes and guiding DEP's programs and other state departments and agencies in implementing environmental justice."

SCREENING TOOL



[Overburdened Communities under NJ 2020 EJ Law](#)

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CONTACT



Office of Environmental Justice
 Department of Environmental Protection
environmentaljustice@dep.nj.gov
 (609) 292-2908



State Government Regulations

applicants will not be allowed to trade fewer pollution reductions for more jobs and tax rateables when preparing an environmental justice impact statement

- The NJDEP has discretion to hire a third-party expert or experts, at the applicant's expense, to evaluate certain information submitted by the applicant
- When evaluating the degree to which public interest exists, the NJDEP has opted to measure a "significant degree of public interest" on a case-by-case basis rather than provide a definition

MISSION STATEMENT



"DEP's Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) aims to improve the quality of life in New Jersey's most vulnerable communities by educating and empowering communities who are often outside of government decision-making processes and guiding DEP's programs and other state departments and agencies in implementing environmental justice."

SCREENING TOOL



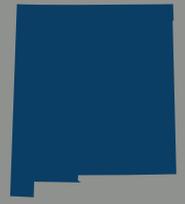
[Overburdened Communities under NJ 2020 EJ Law](#)

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CONTACT



Office of Environmental Justice
Department of Environmental Protection
environmentaljustice@dep.nj.gov
(609) 292-2908



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

✓ New Mexico Environment Department

- Ensures meaningful involvement and fair treatment so that no group of people bear a disproportionate share of environmental consequences
- Seeks public input and comment on environmental concerns in communities pertaining to permitting and public participation, enforcement and supplemental environmental projects, border issues, land grants, uranium mining, religious sites, farm worker exposures, and wastewater treatment

State Government Regulations

✓ Executive Order 2005-056

- Creates program and policies to promote protection of human and environmental health, ensure the needs of *low-income communities* of color are met, and address disproportionate exposure to environmental hazards and risks
- Utilize available environmental and public health data to address impacts of *low-income communities* and when determining siting, permitting, compliance, enforcement, and remediation of facilities
- Creates a multiagency task force to serve as an advisory body regarding state actions to be taken to address environmental justice; the task force will develop policies and procedures for the public to request actions to be taken to address environmental justice issues in their communities

MISSION STATEMENT



"The State of New Mexico is committed to affording all New Mexicans, including people of color and low-income communities, fair treatment and meaningful opportunities for involvement in the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws and regulations regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, gender, disability, religious or political affiliation, income or educational level."

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

November 2023 | 39

CONTACT



Environment Department
Non-Discrimination Coordinator
Kate Cardenas
nd.coordinator@state.nm.us
(505) 827-2855



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

✓ [New York Department of Environmental Conservation, Office of Environmental Justice](#)

- Offers [grants](#) to support and empower communities to develop and implement solutions to environmental issues and improve public outreach and education
- Manages Potential Environmental Justice Area interactive maps
- Releases quarterly environmental justice reports

State Government Regulations

✓ [Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, S6599](#)

- Minimizes the adverse impacts of climate change by reducing statewide greenhouse gas emissions
- Improves the state’s resiliency to the certain effects and risks of climate change
- Ensures that the ongoing transition of the state’s energy sector will create good jobs and protect workers and communities during the transition process
- Prioritizes the safety and health of disadvantaged communities, controls the potential regressive impacts of future climate change mitigation, and adopts policies for these communities
- Reviews and prioritizes the allocation of public investments

✓ [Power NY Act of 2011 – A08510](#)

- Analyzes environmental justice issues associated with major electric generating facilities
- Enhances public participation
- Reviews environmental impacts on environmental justice communities
- Reduces disproportionate impacts in overburdened communities

✓ [Pollution Justice Act of 2022, S4378 \(in Senate Committee\)](#)

- Requires electric generating units that operate during periods of peak electricity demand (so-called “peaker plants”) to submit to a mandatory replacement and compliance plan, requiring

MISSION STATEMENT



“Address environmental issues and concerns that affect primarily low income and minority communities through grant opportunities, enforcement of environmental laws and regulations, consultation, guidance, and enhanced public participation.”

SCREENING TOOL



[Potential Environmental Justice Areas](#)

November 2023 | 40

CONTACT



Department of Environmental Conservation,
Office of Environmental Justice
(518) 402-8556



State Government Regulations

the replacement of current systems with clean and renewable energy systems within a given timeframe

✓ **S1031 (in Senate Committee)**

- Makes various provisions regulating the location of environmental facilities to insure equity of treatment for minority communities or economically distressed areas or disadvantaged communities
- Requires environmental impact statements to state whether the siting of a facility will cause or increase a disproportionate burden on such areas

✓ **S3126 (in Senate Committee)**

- Establishes energy efficiency measures by the public service commission and New York State Energy Research and Development Authority including requiring utilities to hire and train employees who are from priority populations or living in areas designated as environmental justice communities

✓ **S3211 (passed Senate)**

- Requires applicants for major projects located near an environmental justice community to submit an enhanced public participation plan

✓ **S4371B (passed Senate and Assembly)**

- Establishes standards for and limits on the emissions of toxic air contaminants, and creates a mechanism to enforce such limits via civil and administrative penalties
- Requires major source facilities to monitor ambient air concentrations in or near *fenceline communities*

S841 (signed by Governor)

- Reduces emissions of air pollutants from petroleum bulk storage facilities

S914 (passed Senate)

- Establishes environmental standards for ambient lead and lead contamination

MISSION STATEMENT



“Address environmental issues and concerns that affect primarily low income and minority communities through grant opportunities, enforcement of environmental laws and regulations, consultation, guidance, and enhanced public participation.”

SCREENING TOOL



[Potential Environmental Justice Areas](#)

November 2023 | 41

CONTACT



Department of Environmental Conservation,
Office of Environmental Justice
(518) 402-8556



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

✓ [North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality \(DEQ\)](#)

- Upholds Title VI of the Civil Rights Act
- Engages public in environmental justice initiatives and presents clear information through the Public Participation Plan and Limited English Proficiency Language Access Plan

✓ [Environmental Justice and Equity Advisory Board](#)

- Assists DEQ in achieving its mission
- Advises the secretary on the consistent implementation of fair treatment and meaningful involvement of North Carolina citizens across DEQ regarding new and ongoing complex permits, ongoing and proposed innovation, ongoing and future mitigation of contaminant exposures to human health and the environment, and other items deemed important by DEQ
- Advises the secretary on the integration of environmental justice and equity considerations into DEQ programs, policies, and activities to mitigate the environmental or public health impacts in communities disproportionately burdened by environmental harms

State Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



“Work to ensure the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies.”

SCREENING TOOL



[North Carolina Community Mapping System](#)

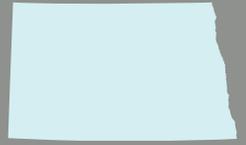
November 2023 | 42

CONTACT



[Title VI and Environmental Justice Coordinator](#)
[Department of Environmental Quality](#)
 (919) 707-8193

North Dakota



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✘ North Dakota currently has no state agency or program identified as the lead for environmental justice initiatives.

State Government Regulations

- ✘ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

CONTACT



Not available



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

✓ Environmental Justice Commission

- Conducts studies of environmental justice issues
- Establishes policy statements and makes recommendations to the General Assembly and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency regarding the application of environmental justice policies
- Coordinates programs and policies regarding environmental justice throughout the state

State Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

CONTACT



Not available



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✘ Oklahoma currently has no state agency or program identified as the lead for environmental justice initiatives.

State Government Regulations

- ✘ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



All people should be protected from the impacts of environmental pollution regardless of race, national origin, or income. DEQ is committed to ensuring such protection through the development, implementation, and consistent enforcement of environmental laws and regulations.

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

November 2023 | 45

CONTACT



Not available



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

✓ [Oregon Department of Environmental Quality \(DEQ\)](#)

- Works with local environmental justice groups to improve air quality and protect at-risk populations
- Builds strong relationships with tribal communities and understands DEQ action’s impacts on these communities
- Strengthens protections for people who eat fish from Oregon’s waters by increasing water quality standards
- Improves environmental health of nail salon workers and customers through education and outreach
- Cleans up contaminated lands around the state that pose a risk to the health of people who are predominantly in *low-income and minority communities*
- Develops partnership with Oregon public health to provide information about environmental health to those not familiar with DEQ’s work
- Creates opportunities for people to share comments or concerns

- Identifies, in cooperation with natural resource agencies, *minority and low-income communities* that may be affected by environmental decisions made by the agencies
- Meets with traditionally *underrepresented communities* and makes recommendations to the governor regarding concerns raised by these communities
- Defines environmental justice issues in the state
- Develops environmental justice mapping tool

State Government Regulations

✓ [ORS 182.538](#)

- Creates the Environmental Justice Task Force

✓ [HB 4077](#)

- Expanded the definition of “environmental justice communities” to broadly include communities of color, communities experiencing lower incomes, communities experiencing health inequities, tribal communities, rural communities, remote communities, coastal communities, communities with limited infrastructure, and other communities traditionally underrepresented in public processes and adversely harmed by environmental and health hazards, including seniors, youth, and persons with disabilities

✓ [Environmental Justice Council](#)

- Advises the governor on environmental justice issues
- Advises natural resource agencies on environmental justice issues, including community concerns and public participation processes

MISSION STATEMENT



“DEQ is committed to the principles of environmental justice and to ensuring that the agency’s actions—including permitting, cleanup, policy and planning, outreach and education, and compliance and enforcement—address the interests of Oregon communities, especially minority, low-income and other traditionally underrepresented communities, as much as state and federal laws allow.”

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

November 2023 | 46

CONTACT



Environmental Justice Coordinator
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
(503) 229-5301

Pennsylvania



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

✓ [Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection \(DEP\) Office of Environmental Justice](#)

- Ensures that DEP maintains a proactive approach to Environmental Justice issues within Pennsylvania
- Eliminates any existing environmental disparities in *minority and low-income communities*
- Engages, educates, and empowers *minority and low-income communities* to become active participants in the permit review process and compliance assistance program
- Ensures equitable enforcement of regulations and statutes, and the equitable application of internal guidance and policies within *minority and low-income communities*
- Increases the level of environmental monitoring in *minority and low-income communities*
- Fills the gaps and oversees the implementation of the Environmental Justice Work Group recommendations that were published in June 2001
- Identifies and promotes action against environmental inequities in Pennsylvania
- Determines whether DEP’s current decision-making process can adequately address environmental justice issues

✓ [Environmental Justice Advisory Board](#)

- Oversees the implementation of DEP’s Enhanced Public Participation Policy
- Provides a forum for protecting the health of

communities, especially communities with the greatest concentration of environmental risks

- Reviews and makes recommendations to DEP management on existing and proposed regulations and policies that impact the environmental health of communities
- Provides a forum for stakeholders to share environmental concerns in their communities

State Government Regulations

✓ **Article I §27 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania**

- The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment
- Pennsylvania’s public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people

✓ **Environmental Justice Public Participation Policy**

- Provides guidelines for DEP’s approach to public engagement for permit application reviews in environmental justice areas

MISSION STATEMENT



“Help the DEP ensure the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people with the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental policies, regulation, and laws; as well as with respect to the identification of environmental issues that affect the most vulnerable communities.”

SCREENING TOOL



[Environmental Justice Areas Viewer](#)

November 2023 | 47

CONTACT



Director, Office of Environmental Justice
 Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
 (484) 250-5818



TERRITORY AT A GLANCE

Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

✘ Puerto Rico currently has no agency or program identified as the lead for environmental justice initiatives.

Government Regulations

✘ There are no new environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

CONTACT



Not available



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

✓ [Office of Land Revitalization and Sustainable Materials Management](#)

- Helps the Rhode Island department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) make more informed decisions, improve work quality through collaborative efforts, and build mutual understanding and trust between the Department and the public it serves
- Ensures that RIDEM staff understand the characteristics of the communities surrounding the sites that they are assigned to regulate
- Increases awareness in the urban centers about RIDEM, the Site Remediation program, and the opportunities for assistance offered by RIDEM to residents living in these neighborhoods
- Provides a clear process for residents to identify potentially contaminated sites to RIDEM, monitors the initial consideration of those sites, and understands the results of the evaluation
- Encourages investment and development in environmental justice areas that balance the needs of residents and municipalities and the redevelopment community
- Provides a clear and effective process for ongoing two-way communication and understanding as a site is investigated and cleaned up
- Helps RIDEM staff engage residents within their own communities and neighborhoods in order to help build capacity of residents and community groups within urban areas to support progress towards the goals of this policy
- Provides an opportunity to raise concerns about environmental justice and ensures they are considered by RIDEM

State Government Regulations

✓ [Chapter 23-19.14, Section 23-19.14-5](#)

- Sets forth guidelines for environmental equity and public participation

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



[Environmental Resource Map](#)
(select “Boundaries and Regulatory
Overlays” layer)

November 2023 | 49

CONTACT



[Department of Environmental Management](#)
[Office of Land Revitalization and Sustainable](#)
[Materials Management](#)
(401) 222-2797

South Carolina



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✓ **[South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, Office of Environmental Affairs](#)**
 - Ensures environmental justice communities are considered during decision-making processes
 - Builds and strengthens relationships with communities by sharing information, providing technical assistance, and identifying resources
 - Promotes partnership between communities and other stakeholders
 - Facilitates capacity building and problem solving within environmental justice communities
 - Strengthens agency’s leadership goal of sustaining environmental justice

State Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Ensure “the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of people of all races, cultures and income with respect to the development, adoption, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies in working towards increasing prosperity of all South Carolinians.”

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

November 2023 | 50

CONTACT



Environmental Justice Coordinator
Office of Environmental Affairs
Department of Health and Environmental Control
(803) 898-0774



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✗ South Dakota currently has no state agency or program identified as the lead for environmental justice initiatives.

State Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

CONTACT



Not available



Tennessee



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✓ **Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation**
 - Undertakes early and proactive discussions with community leaders, nonprofits, local, state and federal agencies, elected officials, and the private sector
 - Ensures that engagement opportunities are broadcast through a variety of means including those that are most likely to reach the community members most impacted by the decision
 - Provides multiple means for community members to participate in public meetings and hearings, such as in-person, videoconference, and phone
 - Educates interested stakeholders on the department’s roles and responsibilities as related to the action/activity
 - Ensures that comments can be submitted through many methods

State Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



“Fair and equitable treatment of every community in its practices as agency decisions and actions have the potential to involve and impact underserved or environmentally overburdened communities.”

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

CONTACT



Not available



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

✓ Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

- Helps communities participate in decision-making and regulatory processes
- Serves as contact for environmental justice concerns
- Considers and handles concerns fairly
- Ensures all people receive equal benefit from environmental regulations and protection

State Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



“Address environmental equity (also known as environmental justice) concerns for all Texans, including low-income and minority communities across the state, so that all Texans can fully participate in decision-making processes and enjoy the benefits of our environmental programs.”

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

November 2023 | 53

CONTACT



Environmental Equity
Commission on Environmental Quality
(512) 239-2566



TERRITORY AT A GLANCE

Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✗ The U.S. Pacific Islands currently have no agency or program identified as the lead for environmental justice initiatives.

Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

CONTACT



Not available



TERRITORY AT A GLANCE

Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✘ The U.S. Virgin Islands currently have no agency or program identified as the lead for environmental justice initiatives.

Government Regulations

- ✘ There are no new environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

CONTACT



Not available



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✓ [Utah Department of Environmental Quality](#)

State Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



[Utah Environmental Interactive Map](#)
(select “Environmental Justice” layer)

CONTACT



Not available



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✓ **Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)**
 - Develops an Environmental Justice Policy for Vermont
 - Empowers team member to serve as division liaison in environmental justice
 - Advises on how to integrate environmental justice into Vermont’s regulatory, outreach, and funding programs
 - Explores funding sources (e.g., EPA Healthy Communities grant program) for projects in Vermont communities
 - Develops a plan for environmental justice sustainability and consistent application throughout all DEC divisions into the future
 - Supports and develops further staff training including environmental justice team experts (e.g., Diversity, Equity & Inclusion and Poverty Training)
 - Monitors the effectiveness of its Environmental Justice Policy and Title VI compliance
 - Promotes awareness of environmental justice within the department

State Government Regulations

- ✓ **Bill S.148**
 - Requires Agency of Natural Resources, of Transportation, of Commerce and Community Development, and of Education; Dept. of Health, of Public Safety, and of Public Service to report actions that will be taken to incorporate environmental justice into Vermont’s policies by July 1, 2024
 - Requires development of an environmental justice mapping tool
- ✓ **Bill H.440**
 - Proposes “green justice zones” starting in two communities to establish community-led, participatory planning, budgeting, and referendum process
 - Implementing projects to address social and environmental vulnerabilities
 - Would create jobs to address social and environmental vulnerabilities, with a unionized workforce, and would prioritize Black, Indigenous and People of Color individuals

MISSION STATEMENT



“Incorporating environmental justice into all of DEC’s programs through collaboration with external stakeholders and other state agencies, piloting innovative community engagement techniques, staff training, development of an environmental justice mapping tool for Vermont and exploring opportunities to fund this critical work.”

SCREENING TOOL



[Vermont Social Vulnerability Vermont Environmental Disparity Index](#)

November 2023 | 57

CONTACT



Not available



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
Virginia



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

✓ **Virginia Department of Environmental Quality**

- Serves as lead agency for environmental justice initiatives and incorporates recommendations of the Interagency Environmental Justice Working Group
- Establishes fair and more meaningful engagement in communities that bear a greater burden of pollution and other environmental factors

✓ **Interagency Environmental Justice Working Group**

- Assesses and provides recommendations regarding agency improvements to meaningfully engage environmental justice communities and “fenceline” communities in decision-making activities
- Compiles environmental justice report to define future of the Environmental Justice program in Virginia

State Government Regulations

✓ **Environmental Justice Act HB 704/SB 406**

- Defines environmental justice terms and requires environmental justice is carried out throughout Virginia with a focus on environmental justice and “fenceline” communities
- Budget item 372 #1c established Interagency Environmental Justice Working Group, a group tasked to identify what resources and processes were required to develop environmental justice policies

MISSION STATEMENT



“To ensure the fair and meaningful involvement of all people into the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies across all DEQ programs.”

SCREENING TOOL



[VA EJScreen+](#)

November 2023 | 58

CONTACT



Manager
Environmental Justice Office
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
(804) 914-3508



DISTRICT AT A GLANCE

Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✓ [Office of Enforcement and Environmental Justice](#)

Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



“Promote environmental justice in enforcement decisions and support Department of Energy and Environment’s work to ensure that District low-income, minority, or limited English proficiency residents have meaningful opportunities to participate in DOE environmental decision making.”

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

November 2023 | 59

CONTACT



Department of Energy & Environment
Office of Enforcement and Environmental Justice
(202) 741-2139



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

✓ Washington State Department of Ecology

- Develops and maintains interactive map of contaminated sites in the state
- Funds affordable housing and development of brownfields
- Protects communities from climate change

✓ Environmental Justice Council

- Provides recommendations to the state on implementing environmental justice requirements such as environmental justice assessments, community engagement plans, and strategic plans
- Develops guidance on identifying overburdened communities and the use of the environmental health disparities map
- Tracks progress toward increasing health equity and ensuring environmental justice throughout Washington
- Provides recommendations on the development and implementation of climate programs, including programs funded from carbon revenues
- Serves as a forum for environmental justice concerns and priorities
- Provides recommendations to the governor and legislature on actions that advance environmental justice

✓ Environmental Justice Task Force

- Provides guidance for using the Washington Environmental Health Disparity Map to identify communities that are highly impacted by environmental justice issues with current demographic data
- Develops best practices for increasing meaningful and inclusive community engagement that takes into account barriers to participation that may arise due to race, color, ethnicity, religion, income, or education level
- Sets measurable goals for reducing environmental health disparities for each community in Washington state and ways in which state agencies may focus their work towards meeting those goals
- Models policies that prioritize highly impacted communities and *vulnerable populations* for the purpose of reducing environmental health disparities and advancing a healthy environment for all residents

✓ Office of Equity and Environmental Justice

- Assures no community in Washington is overburdened by environmental pollution
- Leads agency strategy to reduce pollution and health disparities in communities most at risk
- Helps identify governmental barriers for at-risk communities and determines how they can be removed

MISSION STATEMENT



"Committed to making decisions that do not place disproportionate burdens on disadvantaged communities. And we seek to lift the weight of pollution and contamination borne by those communities. Focusing our time and resources toward strategic actions to address these long-standing inequities will lead to improvements in health and the environment, and more resilient communities in Washington."

SCREENING TOOL



[What's in My Neighborhood?
Washington Environmental Health Disparity Map](#)

November 2023 | 60

CONTACT



Millie Piazza, Program Manager
Office of Equity & Environmental Justice
millie.piazza@ecy.wa.gov
(360) 489-2416



State Government Regulations

✓ Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Act

- Implements findings of environmental task force
- Prevents and addresses environmental health disparities by administering ongoing and new environmental programs, and to remedy effects of past disparate treatment of *overburdened communities and vulnerable populations*
- Requires agencies to:
 - Create and adopt a community engagement plan for engagement of *overburdened and vulnerable populations*
 - Conduct environmental justice assessment to support considerations of *overburdened communities and vulnerable populations* when making decisions and equitable distribution of environmental benefits, reduction of environmental harms, and identification and reduction of environmental and health disparities
 - Incorporate environmental justice principles in decision-making processes for developing budgets, making expenditures, and granting or withholding environmental benefits
 - Have consultation framework to coordinate with tribal governments
- Establishes Environmental Justice Council

✓ Climate Commitment Act

- Implements an economywide cap and invest system to work toward the state’s goal of net-zero emission by 2050, with enforceable greenhouse gas emission reductions required in 2023
- Requires annual/biannual conducting of an Environmental Justice Assessment when allocating funds accrued in the various state treasury accounts tied to the cap and invest framework by covered agencies
- Also requires each covered agency to establish a minimum threshold of 35% of its total investments that provide direct and meaningful benefits to vulnerable populations

MISSION STATEMENT



“Committed to making decisions that do not place disproportionate burdens on disadvantaged communities. And we seek to lift the weight of pollution and contamination borne by those communities. Focusing our time and resources toward strategic actions to address these long-standing inequities will lead to improvements in health and the environment, and more resilient communities in Washington.”

SCREENING TOOL



[What’s in My Neighborhood?
Washington Environmental Health Disparity Map](#)

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CONTACT



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(360) 489-2416



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✓ [West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection \(DEP\)](#)

State Government Regulations

- ✓ [Environmental Equity Policy](#)
 - Ensures no segment of the population, because of its status as a *low-income* or *minority community* or any other factors relating to its racial or economic makeup, bear a disproportionate share of the risks and consequences of environmental pollution or be denied equal access to environmental health benefits

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

CONTACT



Environmental Advocate Office
West Virginia Department of Environmental
Protection
(304) 926-0441



State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✓ [Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#)

State Government Regulations

- ✗ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Environmental justice is the principle that all people have the right to live in a clean, healthy environment and be protected from environmental pollution. Environmental exposures can lead to poor health. Throughout Wisconsin and the United States, the burden of these exposures falls disproportionately on people with low incomes and people of color. Exposure to environmental toxins contributes to unequal health outcomes among people of different socioeconomic status and race, such as higher chronic disease rates and lower than average birth weights. The same groups also bear an unfair burden of the effects of climate change.

SCREENING TOOL



[Wisconsin Environmental Equity Tool](#)

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CONTACT



Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation
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State Agencies and Programs That Manage Environmental Justice Issues

- ✕ Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality

State Government Regulations

- ✕ There are no new state-specific environmental justice policies, guidance, or requirements available in the public domain since the Biden Administration took office.

MISSION STATEMENT



Not available

SCREENING TOOL



Not available

CONTACT



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