

Green Jobs Now

9.27.08: A DAY TO BUILD THE NEW ECONOMY

— OVERVIEW: SEPTEMBER 27, 2008 —

On September 26, we will watch the presidential candidates' first debate.

The next day, the candidates will watch US.

Saturday, September 27, will be a National Day of Action: "*Green Jobs Now.*" On that day, everyday people will stage hundreds of grassroots events throughout the country. People of all backgrounds will participate, with a special focus on low-income communities and communities of color.

Our actions will send the message that people of all classes and colors are ready for a new economy – one that uplifts people and honors the planet. These events will call for building green pathways out of poverty and into prosperity for millions of people. From coast to coast, tens of thousands of people will tell the world: "I'm ready for the green economy."

Goals for the National Day of Action

1. Push elected leaders and presidential candidates to prioritize green jobs and an inclusive green economy.
2. Build a powerful and diverse base of organizers, promoting the movement for green jobs as the best way to fight poverty and global warming.
3. Elevate the voices of low-income people, people of color and other vulnerable constituencies in the movement for green jobs.

— BECOME A GREEN JOBS NOW PARTNER —

Help us make September 27 a success by becoming a *Green Jobs Now* Partner. Whether you represent a place of worship, a business, a labor union, a local coalition, a national organization, a community-based organization, a campus group or some other type of organization, you can make a difference. To be an official partner, we ask you to make these simple commitments:

1. **Spread the Word:** Send a message to your group's full e-mail list and make phone calls to your supporters, asking them to host and attend *Green Jobs Now* events on September 27.

2. **Link to Us:** Add a link to www.GreenJobsNow.com on your website, calendar, or blog.
3. **Organize Events:** Take the lead by organizing one or more events in places where you have supporters. Make sure to tell us about it, so we can connect you with other groups nearby who could help.
4. **Sponsor the Day (optional):** Donate to support *Green Jobs Now: A Day to Build the New Economy*. We will use a portion of the funds to help less affluent groups and organizers create events. (If you contribute, we will recognize you on our website as a *Green Jobs Now* Sponsor.)

In exchange for supporting *Green Jobs Now* in these ways, we will place your logo and website on GreenJobsNow.com and list you as an official *Green Jobs Now* Partner. (Please note that the GreenJobsNow.com website will not launch until early August. Partner now and be with us when we go live.)

To become a *Green Jobs Now* Partner, contact:

- Josh Lynch: 510/663.6500 x314 | josh@greenforall.org, or
- Adi Nochur: 301/270.4550 x22 | adi@1sky.org

— YOUR GREEN JOBS NOW EVENT(S) —

Pitch in and help make *Green Jobs Now* a day for the history books. **All you need to organize a *Green Jobs Now* event is a good idea, good people, and a camera.**

We want people around the country to get together and do AT LEAST two things:

- 1) upload a photo or a video of themselves, holding a sign that says “I’m Ready,”
and
- 2) sign the “I’m Ready” petition.

The more people who appear in each image, the better. The more images we get, the better. And the more people who sign the petition, the better. When we show that thousands of people are united behind one goal – “Green Jobs Now” – the next Congress and President will pay attention.

We are here to help you succeed. We’ve got educational materials on our website. Educate yourselves while planning an event. Educate others during your event.

Event Ideas

All events should be creative, fun, and positive. Use the suggestions below to come up with something that works best for you. Please register your event at www.greenjobsnow.com and share your ideas with other organizers across the country.

OPTION #1: The "I'm Ready" Visual Statement

This is the most basic and simple activity to support the National Day of Action: organize a gathering and a group photo or video that sends an “I’m Ready” message to leaders and to the public.

It’s easy: make signs that say “I’m Ready” and “Green Jobs Now.” Use props like green hard hats, tools, solar panels, posters depicting windmills, etc. Be creative. Take interesting photos and/or videos of your gathering. You can shoot images of people in a large group and also do small groups and individuals.

If you can, gather in a place that highlights the potential for a green economy in your community. For example: it might be a private facility or a public space, an urban construction site, an unemployment center, city hall, the block where you live, your place of worship, your training center, your business, a prominent street corner, a park, a farmer’s market, or other place where people will see you.

It might be fun to engage people passing by. Gather signatures on the “I’m Ready” petition. Hand out information.

This type of event can be small with just the members of your group participating. Or you can make it really big by getting lots of people to turn out – transforming the event into a huge group photo.

OPTION #2: "Solutions Fair" with Music, Education, and Fun

Here’s another idea, for those of you who want to go “all out.” A "Solutions Fair" combines educational speakers, cultural performance, food, and fun! This could be a "Block Party" on your street, a barbecue at your neighborhood park, a teach-in at your school with food and music performance, or a celebratory rally at the site of a new green initiative.

Show that the whole community is "Ready for Green Jobs Now" by recruiting a diverse group of stakeholders to your event - from college students and "at-risk" youth artists, to seniors, workers, elected officials and business leaders. Get

members of the general public to come for the food/music and leave with new ideas about how green jobs benefit us all. Include food, music, and speakers talking about solutions.

Bring props and tools for a fun picture, and make sure to collect as many signatures on the "I'm Ready" petition as you can. Set up a photo/video booth and invite people to record an "I'm Ready" visual statement to their leaders. Invite your Mayor, City Council members, Senators and Congress members to come and see how ready your community is for green jobs now!

OPTION #3: A Service or Work Project

You can organize a local work project. Those attending can donate their time to repair the environment, do something about climate change, and improve the community. You could bring people together at a local community center to install energy-efficient light bulbs and conduct an energy audit of the building. Or you might head to a neighborhood park to do a simple clean up. Or you could highlight the green service projects already underway in your community and the volunteers that make them possible.

Take photos and/or video of people working, along with a group "I'm Ready for Green Jobs Now" photograph, and post them on GreenJobsNow.com. Ask volunteers and people who stop by to sign the "I'm Ready" petition.

REPORT OUT ON THE NIGHT OF THE 27TH!

Of course, you could do all three of the options above. Or you could do something altogether different – as long as it is positive and solution-oriented. It is up to you.

But the most important step is to be sure to upload your photos and video to our website the night of the 27th. The next day, hundreds of images will be available – and the green jobs movement will be visible to itself and the world for the very first time.

We also need to collect all the petitions, to show how many support the call for green jobs. Fax or mail copies to on the night of September 27th.

— **GREEN JOBS NOW PARTNERS** —

Co-Producers:

Green For All (www.greenforall.org)

1Sky (www.1sky.org)

The We Campaign (www.wecansolveit.org)

Partners

(as of 7/25/08, the list is growing daily)

350.org

American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE)

Apollo Alliance

Applied Research Center

Blacks in Green

Bringing Youth Towards Equality

Campus Progress

Center for American Progress

Center for Civic Policy

Center on Wisconsin Strategy (COWS)

Chesapeake Safe Energy Coalition

Climate Crisis Coalition

Democracia USA

Ella Baker Center for Human Rights

Energy Action Coalition

Focus the Nation

Future Majority / Millennial Politics

Generation Vote

Genesis

Green Foundations

League of Young Voters

Majora Carter Group

Massachusetts Green Jobs Coalition (MAGJC)

National Association of Environmental Law Societies (NAELS)

New Mexico Youth Organized

Open Left

People's Grocery

Public Citizen Energy Program

Rock the Vote

Service Nation

Social Venture Network

Southern Energy Network

Southwest Workers Union

Sustainable South Bronx

The Corps Network

West Coast Green

Wiretap Magazine

Young People For

YouthBuild USA