

The State of Environmental Justice in America 2009 Conference



WASHINGTON, DC MAY 27–29, 2009

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

The State of Environmental Justice in America 2009 Conference planners are inviting individuals to submit a short abstract of **no more than 150 words** that describes a paper or individual or panel presentation related to the current state of environmental justice.

The abstract should include the submitter's name and full contact information.

Submissions

Abstracts should be sent to: <u>ejinamerica@hotmail.com</u>.

Relevant Dates

Abstract Due:	December 15, 2008
Notice of Acceptance Received:	January 21–February 1, 2009
Response to Notice of Acceptance Due by:	February 15, 2009
Presenters Contacted by Panel Managers:	March 1–31, 2009
Presentations Due:	May 1, 2009
Conference Dates:	May 27–29, 2009

Purpose and Goals of Conference

The year 2009 marks the 15th anniversary of Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low- Income Populations." This executive order gave the promise of integrating environmental justice into agency policies, programs, and activities with the intent of improving the quality of life in minority, Tribal, and low-income communities. The year 2009 will also mark the third annual **State of Environmental Justice in America Conference**. For the past two years, the **State of Environmental Justice in America Conference** has brought together individuals with a wide variety of interests and featured a spirited exchange of ideas about environmental justice's past, present, and future. The third annual **State of Environmental Justice in America 2009 Conference** intends to continue this process through the following:

- Identify significant environmental justice success stories, strategies, and lessons learned, and how to replicate them.
- Identify potential collaborations that can produce additional strategies and success stories.
- Identify emerging issues in environmental justice including climate change, community benefits, and youth engagement in environmental justice.
- Assess Federal environmental justice integration since Executive Order 12898.
- Develop an additional resource in Washington, DC, for an annual environmental justice conference and other support for environmental justice efforts.

Expected Outcomes

- Rigorous analysis and discussion of environmental justice issues from diverse points of view.
- Better understanding of environmental justice successes and how to replicate them.
- Stronger commitment to environmental justice from key groups including local, state and Federal agencies, business and industry, academic institutions, and other entities.

Projected Audience

The conference seeks to continue bringing together participants from academia, business and industry, community activist groups, faith-based organizations, Federal agencies, non-profit organizations, philanthropic organizations, and others to participate in dialogue on achieving equality of environmental protection. The conference will also continue to serve as an academic and legal conference to advance scholarship regarding environmental justice. A related goal of this conference is to expose law students to the myriad of complicated aspects of environmental justice.

Conference Contact Information

For additional information, conference suggestions, sponsorship support, or to volunteer to serve on the conference planning committee, please contact John Rosenthall at <u>ejinamerica@hotmail.com</u>.