NYSP2I Newsletter | Spring 2026 | View in web browser

Congratulations to the winners of the Sustainable Innovation Student Competition!

During Earth Week, we welcomed student researchers from NYSP2I's five partner universities to RIT for a day of innovative research presentations and networking. The **NYSP2I Sustainable Innovation Student Competition Exhibition and Research Poster Showcase** highlighted both newly developed competition projects and ongoing student research, creating a collaborative forum for applied problem solving, knowledge sharing, and recognition for students across New York State.

Congratulations to the winning research teams, and to all of the students who participated!

Sustainable Innovation Student Competition Winners:
- Cornell University undergraduate team: *Circularity Beyond Compost*
- Cornell University graduate team: *Energy Atlas: City-Scale Digital Twin for Operational Carbon Reduction and Retrofit Planning in Tompkins County, NY*

Sustainable Innovation Poster Showcase Winners:
- Clarkson University: *Advancing Sustainable Fertilizer Production Through Plasma-enabled Nitrogen Fixation*
- Binghamton University: *Taking the "Lead" Out of Solar Leadership*
- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute: *Glycerin Production from Biodiesel Synthesis*
- Clarkson University: *Sustainable Waste-Derived Adsorbents for Efficient Phosphorus Removal from Eutrophic Waters*
- Rochester Institute of Technology: *Biochar Evaporative Cooling Unit*

Learn more

NEW! Community Impact Accelerator Grant Program
Applications due July 1, 2026

New funding opportunity! We're pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for the **2026–2027 NYSP2I Community Impact Accelerator Grant Program**. Successful applicants may receive $30K–$50K to implement scalable, community-led projects with measurable outcomes, replication potential, and statewide impact. Learn more

Upcoming Workshop

Registration is now open! Join us in Troy, NY, on July 15, 2026 for the 2nd annual **Bridging the Gap: Green Chemistry Innovation + Education Workshop**. This free green chemistry event brings together industry professionals and educators for a full day of keynote speakers, panel discussions, and hands-on learning focused on safer labs, sustainable innovation, and workforce development across New York State. Register now

Resources Making the News

Design Lab Turns Student Talent into Real-World Results

RIT's Command+g Design Lab students worked with NYSP2I to produce an animated short film on the climate impacts of food waste.

Read the article and watch the video below

From Pasture to Plate: The Life Cycle of Cheddar Cheese

A short animated video that unwraps cheese's complex journey, highlighting the environmental impacts at every phase of its life cycle—reminding us that even our favorite foods have a footprint worth knowing about.

Watch the video

RIT Initiative Helps Golf Courses Cut Pollution and Protect Waterways

Golf courses across Central and Western New York have adopted new sustainability practices through a program led by NYSP2I.

Read the article and download the guides below

Golf Course Sustainability Handbook

An easy-to-use reference highlighting 34 best management practices for sustaining a beautiful, healthy golf course while addressing critical environmental issues, including water, nutrient management, pests, and pollution.

Download the guide

Wash-Water Pollution Guide

This e-book offers strategies for keeping golf course mowing equipment clean and local ecosystems healthy, all while using less water. It's also a practical guide for landscapers and grounds maintenance teams.

Download the guide

New Case Studies

Case Study: Ecovative Design

Life Cycle Assessment of Forager™ Mycelium Hide

View the case study

Case Study: Carbon To Stone

Greenhouse Gas Impact Assessment of Residue-Based Carbon Mineralization in Cement Manufacturing

View the case study

Case Study: Carbon To Stone

Greenhouse Gas Impact Assessment of Residue-Based Carbon Mineralization in Electric Arc Furnace Steelmaking

View the case study

Past Editions

- *Winter 2026:* $650K for sustainability research, the environmental impacts of cheddar cheese, and more.
- *View all*

Binghamton University · Clarkson · RIT · Cornell University · RPI

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