



# How to Use the EJMAP to Determine Program Eligibility

## Introduction

The EJMAP provides the public with a visual representation of the location of Overburdened Communities (OBCs) throughout the New Jersey.

OBC Communities are State-designated census block groups per the New Jersey Environmental Justice Law, N.J.S.A. 13:1D-157 where:

1. At least 35 percent of the households qualify as low-income households (at or below twice the poverty threshold as determined by the United States Census Bureau);
2. At least 40 percent of the residents identify as minority or as members of a State recognized tribal community; or
3. At least 40 percent of the households have limited English proficiency (without an adult that speaks English “very well” according to the United States Census Bureau).

## Using the EJMAP

Please follow these steps to determine if a proposed project is within a State-designated Overburdened Community or Adjacent Community census block.

**For a project to be eligible for NJ Cool funding, it must be within the blue or yellow shaded areas on the OBC EJMAP or in the municipalities of Atlantic City, Edison, or Newark.**

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### Step 1

Click on the links below to access the OBC Map.

- Visit the *EJMAP OBC* website

[Overburdened Communities | NJ Environmental Justice Mapping, Assessment and Protection Tool \(EJMAP\)](#)

- Review the *How to Use EJMAP* website

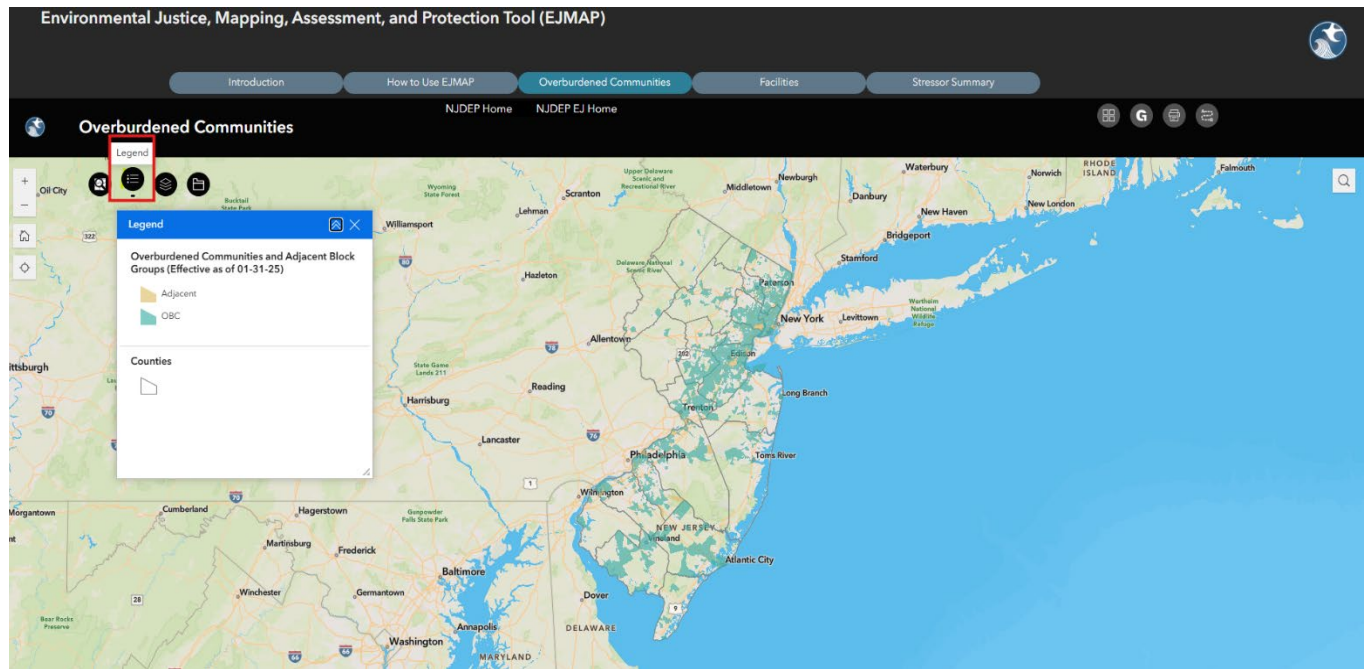
[How to Use EJMAP | NJ Environmental Justice Mapping, Assessment and Protection Tool \(EJMAP\)](#)



## Step 2

Use the OBC EJMMap Tool to search the project location to determine eligibility.

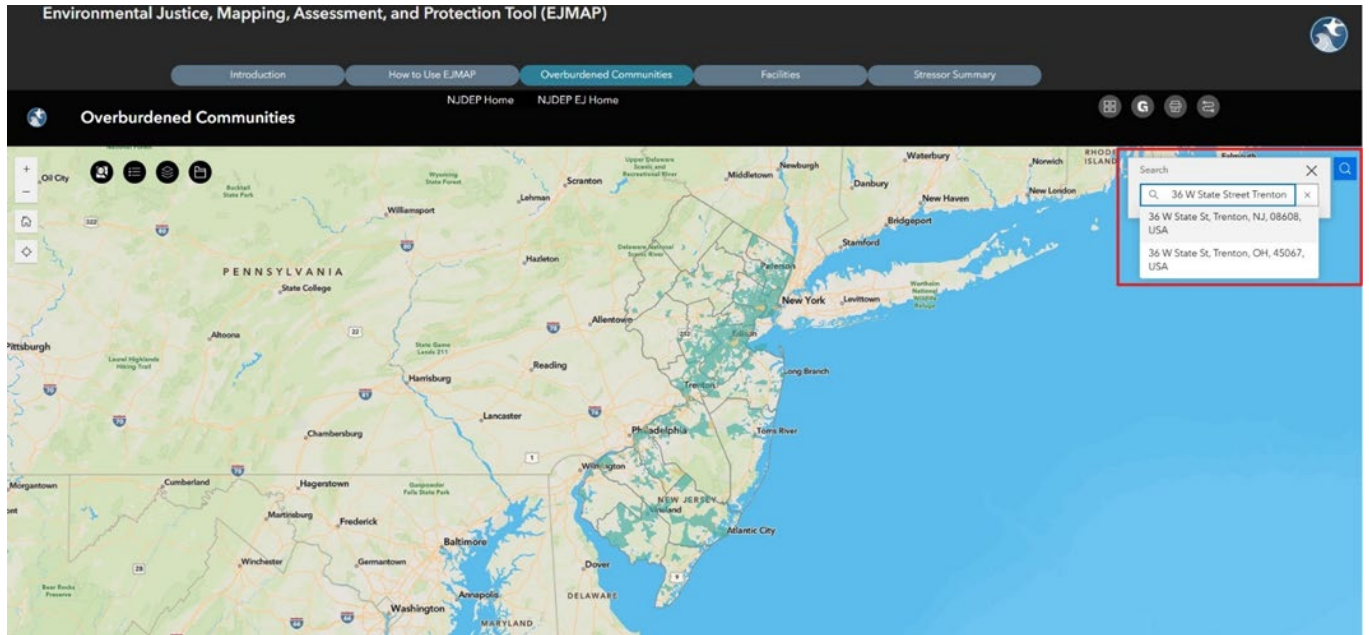
- Click the “Legend” button to see how OBC and Adjacent Block Groups are visualized on the map (blue and yellow areas).



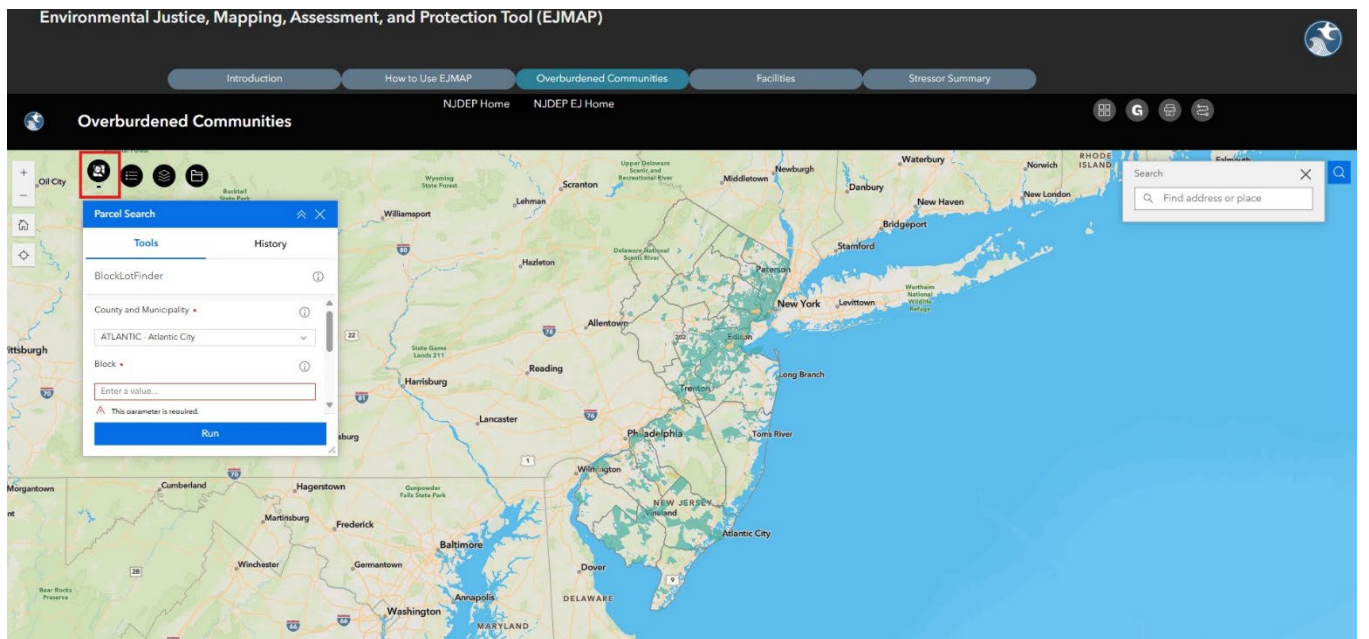


### Step 3

Use the Address Search to locate the target property.



- Alternatively, you can use the Parcel Search to find a location.





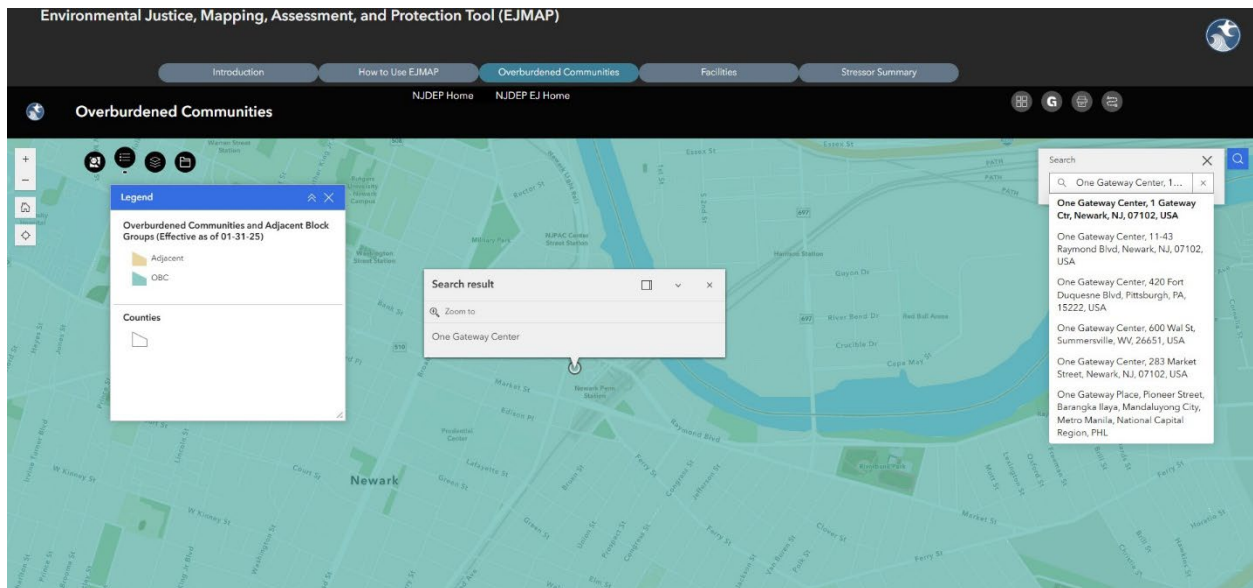
## Step 4

### Determine Eligibility

- Review search results to determine if the target property is within an OBC or Adjacent Block Group (blue or yellow shaded area).

### Example 1. Eligible Project Location

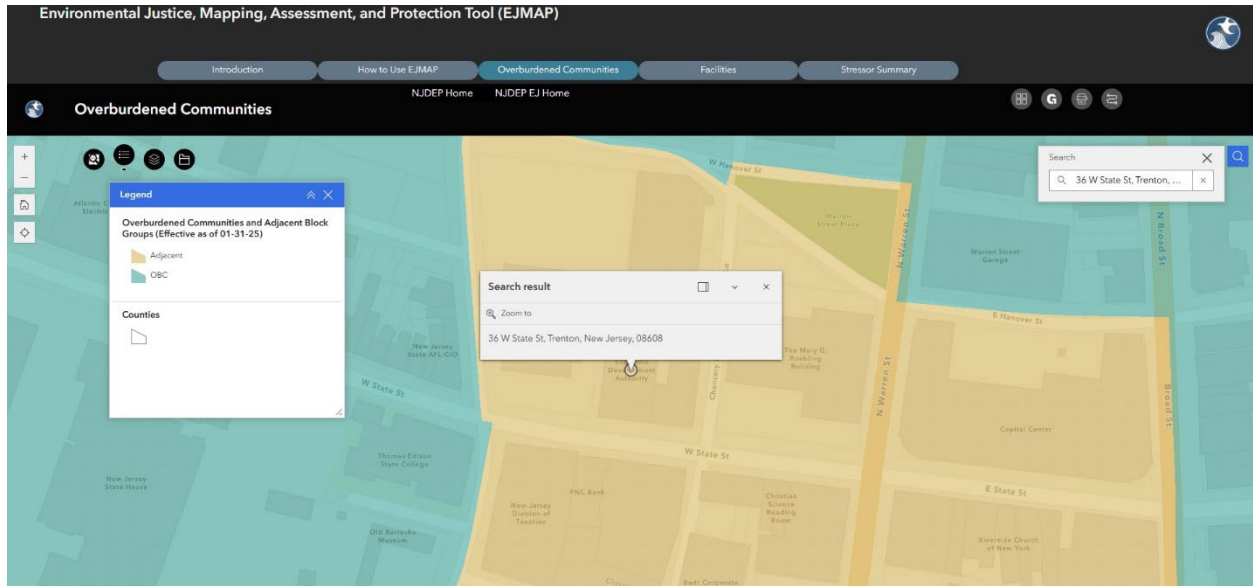
#### OBC Community – One Gateway Center, Newark





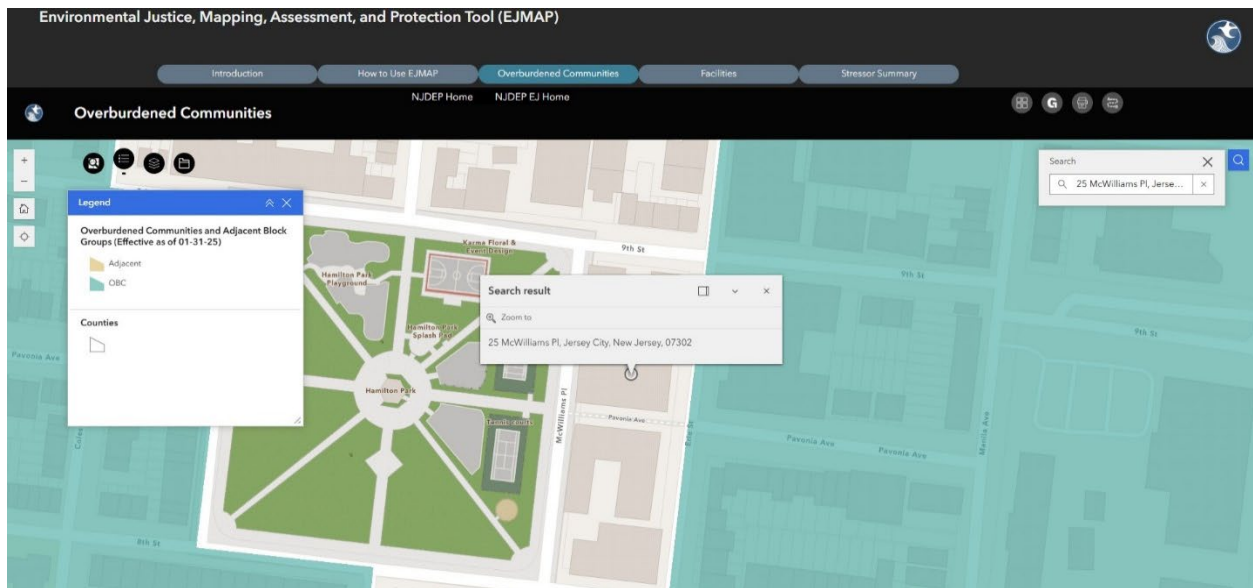
## Example 2. Eligible Project Location

*Adjacent Block Group – 36 W State St, Trenton*



## Example 3. Ineligible Project Location Example

*25 McWilliams Pl, Jersey City*














## Step 5 (OPTIONAL):


### Submit Pre-Application Form

- Submit a Pre-Application Form available on the [NJ Cool's Program Website](https://njcool.njeda.gov) to [NJCool@njeda.gov](mailto:NJCool@njeda.gov).

TRANSLATE     


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## NJ COOL PROGRAM





The NJ Cool application portal is now open. The NJ Cool program expanded geographic eligibility on 05/27/2025. All other program requirements remain the same.

[APPLY HERE](#)

[PRE-APPLICATION FORM \(OPTIONAL\)](#) 

[FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS](#) 

[ADDITIONAL CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAMS](#) 

[PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTOR INTEREST FORM](#) 

The NJ Cool program is a \$15 million pilot program launched by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA) to provide financial assistance to commercial, industrial, and institutional building owners and tenants undertaking retrofit construction projects that reduce operating greenhouse gas emissions from existing buildings in State-designated Overburdened Community and Adjacent Community census blocks. Eligible project locations must fall within the blue or yellow shaded areas mapped on the [Overburdened Communities | NJ Environmental Justice Mapping, Assessment and Protection Tool \(EJMAP\)](#) tool or within the municipalities of Newark, Edison, and Atlantic City.

The NJEDA will provide grant awards ranging from \$50,000 to \$1 million to reimburse applicants for eligible hard construction costs from projects that upgrade building heating and cooling systems to less polluting alternatives, as well as implement other energy efficiency measures or on-site renewables. This pilot is funded by the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) proceeds allocated to NJEDA and will accelerate the adoption of more environmentally friendly building systems, technologies, and construction practices within New Jersey.