

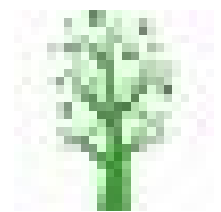
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Green businesses, earning green

By Shanae Auguste

Ever wanted your business to go green but had no idea how to do it? SJF Ventures, a venture capital fund that focuses on clean tech, business services, Web-enhanced services and consumer brand companies, will host the SJF Summit on the New Green Economy: How to Make It Work. [The event will take place June 2-3](#) at the Durham Convention Center, 201 Foster St.



Four keynote speakers, eight CEOs and 15 investors, economic developers and green job leaders will answer questions, take suggestions and discuss issues related to clean technology investment, green jobs development and pioneering business tactics.

Confirmed speakers include N.C. Treasurer and former state legislator Janet Cowell, Center for Responsible Lending CEO Martin Eakes and Greenfire Development Managing Partner Michael Lemanski.

But the experts won't be doing all of the talking. At the end of the summit, attendees will share what they learned and highlight the necessary steps to keep the green discussion moving.

SJF has presented Cleantech CEO Panels for the past four years on Wall Street but sought to expand and bring the summit back to its headquarters in Durham. "We like to say the summit went from Wall Street back to Main Street," said Anne Claire Broughton of SJF Advisory Services.

Broughton also added that this year's summit looks to focus on green policies enacted by federal and state governments and on what schools and communities can do to go green.

"The time is now for entrepreneurs, investors, policy makers and community leaders to come together to share strategies for investing in and building the new green economy," said David Kirkpatrick, managing director and co-founder of SJF Ventures.

So if you're starting a business, already own one or just plain curious, check out the SJF summit. Visit www.sjfund.com for more about SJF Ventures and summit registration information.

The *Independent Weekly* is a media partner for the conference.

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