

Joylette Portlock

Executive Director, Sustainable Pittsburgh

Dr. Joylette Portlock is the executive director of Sustainable Pittsburgh, a nonprofit working to advance sustainability policies and practices in southwestern Pennsylvania.

Sustainable Pittsburgh regularly works with hundreds of partners in the region—including local governments, nonprofits, and the business community—to ensure our economy is built to last and that our people and our planet thrive.

Prior to her role at Sustainable Pittsburgh, Dr. Portlock served as associate director of science and research at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History and as executive director of Communitopia, a nonprofit based in Pittsburgh that focuses on climate change communication. She holds a bachelor's degree in biology with a minor in anthropology from MIT and a Ph.D. in genetics from Stanford University.

Her work focuses on building community around sustainability topics, with a particular interest in making important scientific, technical or complex information accessible and useful. Dr. Portlock has worked on environmental issues at the local, state, and federal level, and also currently serves on the Allegheny County Board of Health.

She was an advisor to Project Drawdown, and serves in many other roles in the community, including as an advisory board member of the Black Environmental Collective. Dr. Portlock has lived and worked in the Pittsburgh region since 2007.