# Sustainable Jersey For Schools

Donna Drewes, Co-Director

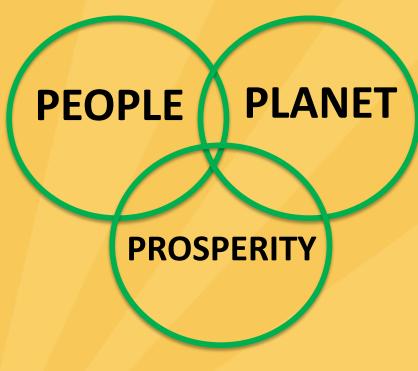
Sustainable Jersey
Sustainability Institute at
The College of New Jersey





# Components of Sustainability







# Overview

- •What Is Sustainable Jersey?
- •What are the benefits of participating?
- •How will the Schools program be developed?
- •How will the certification program work?
- •What Best Practices will be included in the program?



# What is Sustainable Jersey?



Haddon Township celebrates achieving Sustainable Jersey certification



# Sustainable Jersey is:

- Certification program for NJ municipalities & Schools
- Free and voluntary
- NJ based and consensus driven
- Non-profit, non-partisan organization with Board of Trustees
- Partners include state agencies, NJ School Boards,
   NJ League of Municipalities, NGOs & expert SUSTAINABLE

# Sustainable Jersey

Certification program for municipalities and schools in New Jersey:

- Identifies actions to help become sustainable
- Provides tools, resources, and guidance for progress
- Provides access to grants and funding



# Participating Communities

- 399 (70%) NJ municipalities participating
- 82% of NJ's population lives in these communities
- 137 municipalities certified:
  - 117 towns at bronze level
  - 20 towns at silver level



## Actions: Prosperity, Planet, People

ENERGY EFFICIENCY	POINTS
Energy Audits for Municipal Facilities*	20-50
High Efficiency Municipal Buildings	10-20
FOOD	
Farmland Preservation	10 each
Food Production	10 each
Planning for Local Food Production	10 each
Support Local Food	10 each
LOCAL ECONOMIES	
Buy Local Programs	10 each
Green Business Recognition Program	10
Green Jobs/Economic Development	10
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	
Green Fleets*	10-30 each
Adopt Behavioral Policies	5
Green Purchasing Program	10 each
Grounds and Maintenance	10 each
ARTS/CULTURE/HISTORIC PRESERVATION	
Historic Preservation	10
Strengthening School Arts Programs	10
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AND OUTREACH	
Create GreenTeam*	10
2 2 51 2 10 1	10

GREEN DESIGN	POINTS
Green Building Policy/Resolution	5
Green Building Training	5
Green Design Commercial and Residential Buildings	5-20
Green Design Municipal Buildings	10-20
GREENHOUSE GAS	
Municipal Carbon Footprint*	10
Community Carbon Footprint	10
Climate Action Plan	10
Wind Ordinance	10
INNOVATIVE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS	
Geothermal	10
Green Roofs	10
Raingardens	10
Solar	10
Wind	10
Other	10
LAND USE & TRANSPORTATION	
Sustainable Land Use Pledge*	10
Complete Streets Program	20
Municipal Planning & Zoning Self-Assessment	10
Sustainability Master Plan Revision	20
NATURAL RESOURCES	
Natural Resource Inventory*	20



# Role of the School Green Team

#### **Empowering Leadership & Action**





A Better Tomorrow,



One Community At A Time

ABOUT SUSTAINABLE JERSEY

ACTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

PARTICIPATING COMMUNITIES

TRAINING AND EVENTS

GRANTS AND RESOURCES

REGISTER YOUR MUNICIPALITY

LOG IN

#### **SECTION**

**Create Green Team** 

Who to Involve

Timeframe

**Project Costs** 

Why Important

What to Do

Submission Requirements

Spotlight

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Resources

Appendix 1

Appendix 2

Who should lead and be involved with this action?

The Mayor and City Council should form a Green Team and appoint members by resolution, ordinance, or proclamation. Members of the Green Team could be appointed from municipal staff and departments, elected officials, and volunteer members of community boards and commissions (Environmental Commission, Shade Tree, Economic Development, Health and Welfare Boards, Arts and Recreation, Planning and Zoning, Historic, Agricultural and Open Space, Senior Citizens). Communities could also invite representatives from schools including educators, school board members, parent-teacher organizations, school staff, as well as students. Local Businesses, chambers of commerce, academic institutions, civic organizations, faith-based groups, and community residents are also important partners in municipal sustainability efforts.

In diverse communities, especially ones that wish to improve the degree to which various demographics (race, income, age, etc.) are involved in civic life, the formation of the team is a prime opportunity to expand inclusion. Aspiring to create a Green Team that reflects the overall demographics of the town is the optimal goal. The creation of a Green Team allows communities to reach out and engage people from all community perspectives.

#### Certification Benefits



- Save Money. Get Money
- Support student achievement through safe and healthy school environments
- Get recognized and Promote your school district
- Support successful participation in DOE Green Ribbon and other green school programs

#### **Awards and Promotion**



Gloucester achieves Sustainable Jersey certification



Sustainability Champion award



# 119 NJ Projects Funded by Small Grants



- Electric vehicle charging stations
- Wind turbine
- School food composting
- City-wide Buy Local initiative
- Edible school gardens
- Water conservation education
- Model green ordinances
- Municipal and community carbon footprints





# Certification Steps

- Pass a resolution; form
   Green Team
- Register your school online
- Implement actions
- Upload documents to meet submission requirements
- Certification awarded after review and verification





## Bronze Certification

- Total of at least 150 points
- Mandatory Green Team
- Implement 2 of 7 priority actions
- Actions completed in 6 of 16 categories





#### Silver Certification

- Significant progress and is a statewide leader
- Total of at least 350 points
- Green Team
- Implement 3 out of 7 priority actions
- Actions completed in 8 of 16 categories





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# **Energy & Green House Gas**



- Schools Use 25-30% More Energy than is Necessary
- Energy Audits-- Can also
   Help Educate Students on
   Science, Engineering and
   Technology
- ESIPS and Energy Bidding
- Energy Management and Tracking

# Programs to Save Money and Energy

#### **BPU Clean Energy Programs:**

- Direct Install
- Energy Audit Program
- Energy Efficient Products
- Pay for Performance
- Clean Power Choice
- ESIPS



**New Jersey Board of Public Utilities** 



# Waste Reduction & Recycling



- Reduces Solid Waste
- Recycling Programs
- Composting
- Reduces Paper Usage
- No Waste Lunch Days



#### **Health and Wellness**









- Improving air quality results in fewer sick days
- Schools with more day lighting show higher academic scores
- Indoor air pollution is often 2-5 times greater than outdoor levels of air pollution

- Creation of Program Content
  - Schools Certification Standards Committee
    - Membership from Sustainable Jersey Board of Trustees
    - Chairs of Task Forces
    - Key Partners
  - Responsible for Program Design & Decision making



#### Task Forces Role

- Identify Best Practices
- Develop Program Actions
- Define Sustainability
- Update Actions Annually



- Define Best Practices that advance Sustainability
- Identify Key Partners-link policy, program delivery and grants/funding
- Link & Leverage Existing Programs and Resources
- Drives more resources to existing programs
- Strategically supports all program goals

- Build Additive and Supportive Model
  - US Dept. Of Education "GREEN RIBBON SCHOOLS"
  - National Wildlife Federation, "EcoSchools"
  - NJ Partnership for Healthy Kids
  - Alliance for a Healthier Generation
  - Lots of other great programs.....







#### **Proposed Task Forces for Schools**

- Animals
- Green Design

Purchasing

Arts/Culture

Health & Wellness

Buildings and

Climate Adaptation

Land Use &

Grounds

- Community Partnerships
- **Transportation**

Waste

& Outreach

Leadership & Capacity

Management &

- Sustainability Curriculum
- Building

Recycling

Diversity & Equity

Operations &

Water Conservation

Energy & Greenhouse

Maintenance

Gasses

Fleets



## Sustainable Jersey Sponsors





































#### Get Involved!









# Thank You

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Sustainable Jersey



