



Sustainable Jersey Community Certification Report

This is the Sustainable Jersey Certification Report of Morristown Town (Morris), a Sustainable Jersey bronze certified applicant.

Morristown Town (Morris) was certified on December 17, 2014 with 180 points. Listed below is information regarding Morristown Town (Morris)'s Sustainable Jersey efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable Jersey contact for Morristown Town (Morris) is:

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Sustainability Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Morristown Town (Morris) was approved for in 2014 appears below. Note: Standards for the actions below may have changed and the documentation listed may no longer satisfy requirements for that action. Additionally, points associated with actions prior to 2013 certifications may not be accurate.

Community Partnership & Outreach

Community Education and Outreach

10 Points

Program Summary:

Sustainable Morristown, in collaboration with the Town of Morristown Office of Sustainability, promotes energy outreach and education through a year-long series of activities and initiatives. The sustainablemorristown.org web site has extensive information on a variety of sustainability issues. This information is routinely showcased in the monthly e-blast that goes out to nearly 1,000 people. We also began hosting a new educational workshop series at the Morristown Library - in 2013 these included: a May 1st - "Sustainability 101" and a May 8th "Food Miles Travelled". In 2014, these programs featured presentations and discussions on "Melting Permafrost" and "Energy Basics". Sustainable Morristown also includes information about sustainability in exhibits at events that it either hosts, or participates in, throughout the year. In 2013, these included: April 22nd - Earth Day Green Drinks at Hyatt Morristown May 19th - Festival Earth on the Morristown Green July 26th - Bike Walk Picnic at Vail Mansion August 7th - Green Drinks at Hyatt Morristown August 24th - morristowngreen.com film festival at Hyatt Morristown September 8th & 9th - Gran Fondo in downtown Morristown October 6th - Wellness Motown on the Morristown Green October 10th - Green Drinks at George & Martha's Restaurant

 [Community Education and Outreach - E-blast](#)

 [Community Education and Outreach - "Sustain What?"](#)

 [Community Education and Outreach - E-blast v2](#)

Create Green Team

10 Points

Bronze Mandatory

Program Summary:

Sustainable Morristown, Inc. serves as the Town of Morristown's designated "Green Team" for participation in the SJ program. The organization grew out of the Step Ahead initiative which orchestrated Morristown's initial certification in 2009. Morristown's approach to this action has always been framed in a commitment to equally addressing the three pillars of sustainability. Therefore, our "green team" operates under a more inclusive title: Sustainable Morristown Action Team. Sustainable Morristown was incorporated as a freestanding non-profit organization in April of 2012 and is governed by a 13-member Board of Trustees representing a broad cross-section of community stakeholders. The Coordinator for the Town of Morristown Office of Sustainability holds a leadership position on this governing body and provides a direct connection to activities and projects emanating from Town Hall. Sustainable Morristown incorporates additional structures around this function as well. Eight Action Teams are organized around the 16 SJ action categories. The Action Teams are comprised of an ever changing mix of sector specific leaders as well as committed citizens who bring a passion &/or expertise to a particular issue area. These Teams meet on a rotating schedule as the workload and action-related tasks present themselves. Additionally, a newly forming Community Advisory Council will be comprised of municipal department heads, elected officials, business community leaders and board /director level representatives of schools, non-profits, and faith institutions. This Council will meet four times per year to give guidance, direction and feedback on a variety of sustainability initiatives undertaken by the Sustainable Morristown organization - including prioritization of Sj actions to be undertaken on behalf of the community.

 [Action Team designation resolution](#)

 [Sustainable Morristown activities](#)

 [SusMo Trustee list](#)

Education for Sustainability Programs

10 Points

Program Summary:

Sustainable Morristown joined forces with the Morris School District and Morris Education Foundation to fund the development of a new sustainability-based curriculum for all 3-5th grades. The effort grew out of Alexander Hamilton Principal (& SusMo Trustee nominee) Josephine Noone's participation in the 2013 NJ Learns program on a SusMo scholarship. The Cloud Institute was hired to work with a team of local educators to write the numerous new units to be integrated into the Character Education curriculum. Beginning in September 2014, all MSD 3-5th graders will be learning that the values of sustainability and caring for the commons and nature - are a moral obligation and a key to good citizenship. The program's initial success has motivated the partners to now move on to creating a similar curriculum for all K-2 students as well.

 [Education for Sustainability - Grade 3](#)

 [Education for Sustainability - Grade 4](#)

 [Education for Sustainability - Grade 5](#)

Green Fairs

Hold a Green Fair

10 Points

Program Summary:

Morristown plays host to an annual "Festival Earth" - a production of the Sustainable Morristown organization with significant planning, production and programming assistance from the Town's Office of Sustainability. Last held on May 19, 2013, the event incorporated a Sustainable Living Expo, a Hybrid & Electric Auto Show, a Spring Farmers' Market, an Arts and Music Showcase and a Healthy Foods Pavilion. Both Sustainable Morristown and the Town's Office of Sustainability host exhibit booths at a multitude of community events throughout the year in an attempt to reach an audience beyond those who attend our annual festival.

 [Festival Earth Poster 2013](#)

Food Production

Community or School Gardens

10 Points

Program Summary:

Morristown's local food production efforts are championed by the Grow It Green Morristown (GIGM) organization. The organization's two primary locations are made possible through the cooperation and support of two government entities. The Early Street Community Garden was started on a piece of privately owned land - which has since been purchased by the Town of Morristown to ensure that the garden will survive the threats of development in the surrounding neighborhood. More than \$2 million was raised to purchase this 1-acre parcel, which is now leased to GIGM to continue their good work. The organization is currently undergoing a Capital Campaign to raise funds to expand the community garden. At present time, more than 50 area families are members of the community garden, and there is a waiting list of 75 more. The expanded garden will have 95 garden beds and also add other community assets like a parklet, rain garden, ADA Walking Path and a solar-powered Community Event Pavilion. Grow It Green Morristown also created The Urban Farm at Lafayette, which is NJ's largest school garden. Located on land leased from the Morris School District Board of Education, the Urban Farm serves as a teaching garden to the District's 4,500 students. Adults can also

attend classes at the farm, focused on everything from canning to growing mushrooms. Through the Urban Farm, GIGM also provides thousands of pounds fresh, local produce to area shelters and community groups each growing season.

 [Lesson Plan](#)

 [Lesson Plan](#)

 [Quantitative Assessment](#)

 [Spring/Summer Events Flyer](#)

 [Farm Stand Flyer](#)

 [Achievements Flyer](#)

Support Local Food

Farmers Markets

10 Points

Program Summary:

The Morristown Farmers Market will celebrate it's 24th year in 2014 and is a collaborative effort of three municipal entities. The Town of Morristown Health Department works with the Morristown Partnership to streamline vendors' required applications and allows for a discounted health permit for the market participants. The Town also aggressively promotes the Market through the municipal web site, on all bulletin boards in Town Hall and through announcements at Town Council meetings which air on television and stream online. The market takes place on a public property with permission from the Parking Authority of the Town of Morristown. As one of the state's premier markets, it attracts nearly 20 unique produce and specialty vendors and more than 1,000 shoppers each Sunday throughout it's 23-week season. The monthly Second Sunday Celebrations incorporate local food cooking demos and tastings, live music and offers opportunities for local businesses and Town Departments to do outreach to the community. Many of our Farmers participate in the WIC program and donate leftover food to area food pantries and soup kitchens. The Morristown Farmers Market derives its revenues from vendor fees and underwriting sponsors - enabling it to operate with positive cashflow to support other local economy efforts within the Morristown Partnership.

 [Farmers Market - 2014 Poster](#)

 [Farmers Markets - 2nd Sunday Web Ad](#)

Green Design

Green Building Policy/Resolution

5 Points

Program Summary:

The Town of Morristown Planning Division took the lead in facilitating a community-driven process to create a new sustainability-themed Master Plan. Now begins the arduous process of bringing forth the many supporting policy resolutions and zoning ordinances that will enable full implementation of the plan. The new Green Building Policy is one of the first wave of these such policy documents. It was developed in through a process of cross-department review and assessment. In its final form, it was presented in a resolution to, and unanimously passed by, the Morristown Town Council on September 9, 2014. The document has subsequently been electronically distributed to all members of the Planning & Zoning Boards, Environmental Commission and the Sustainable Morristown organization (SJ Green Team).

 [Green Building Policy/Resolution Documentation](#)

Solar Actions

On-Site Solar System

10 Points

Program Summary:

MORRISTOWN SOLAR INSTALLATION AT WATER TREATMENT FACILITY PROJECT OVERVIEW: Attached "Fact Sheet" provides project specifications, costs, outputs, etc. PHOTO DOCUMENTATION: The attached photo provides an aerial view of the completed project EDUCATIONAL COMPONENT: A 42" Flat Screen monitor is been installed in the lobby of Town Hall. Real time live streaming data screens will show electricity production from the solar panels, electric use at the wastewater facility, power coming in from and out to the JCPL grid, amount of greenhouse gases saved etc. This information will also be available on the Town website 24/7. See www.Noveda.com for sample of monitoring.

 [Solar Project Fact Sheet](#)

 [Solar at Sewer Plant Photo](#)

Land Use & Transportation

Bicycle and or Pedestrian Plan

10 Points

Program Summary:

The Morristown Bicycle Plan and was completed in September 2010 in conjunction with Morristown's Environmental Commission and the New Jersey Department of Transportation. The Township adopted the Plan in 2013. The Plan is based on findings from a commissioned study that assessed bicycle compatibility of roadways and intersections using NJDOT guidelines, an analysis of reported bicycle crashes, and the identification of regional and local bicycle facilities and trip generators. The vision of the Plan is to develop an easily accessible bicycle transportation system that will enhance mobility for residents and visitors, connecting them to a rich array of area resources. To accomplish this, the short-term (3-5 years) implementation plan recommends: • Installation of bicycle lanes and/or "Share the Road" signs and Shared Lane markings on 10 lane miles (5 miles in each direction) of roadways in Morristown; • Increase student bicycle use by 100% to Morristown schools; • Increase number of bicycle parking facilities to a total of 40 bicycle racks that serve various destinations, especially transit and employment centers; • Create a bicycle education program that teaches cyclists the rules of the road and makes automobile and pedestrians more aware of the bicycling environment. During the course of development, every effort was made to include the public in the planning and decision-making process. The process was two-fold, beginning with the creation of Steering Committee and proceeding with public surveys, public reviews and multiple workshops. Finally, Morristown's Bicycle Plan was crafted with the goal of compatibility in mind; to merge with existing State and local bicycle plans to integrate resources and promote trail development. With the help of New Jersey Department of Transportation, work is continuing to improve pedestrian and bike connections between neighborhoods and to local parks and public places as well as formalize connections to other pedestrian/bike trails linking Morristown to destinations within the region.

 [Morristown Bike Plan](#)

 [Bike Plan Reference in Master Plan 1](#)

 [Bike Plan Reference in Master Plan 2](#)

 [Bicycle Plan in Planning Board Meeting](#)

 [Bike Plan References in Master Plan](#)


 [Resolution Adopting the Master Plan](#)

Complete Streets Program

20 Points

Program Summary:

Morristown established and adopted its Complete Streets Policy via resolution as of July 17, 2012. The policy is built around ten (10) main goals and establishes a "Priority Action Plan" and "Project Checklist" to address pedestrian, bicyclist and transit accommodations for each transportation and land use project that utilizes public funds. In addition, the Complete Streets Policy calls for the creation of a student commuter safety plan in conjunction with the Morristown Police Department regarding safe streets and sidewalks for school-aged children who walk or ride to school. Morristown's 2014 Master Plan, dubbed "Morristown Moving Forward" lays the foundation for implementation strategies and additional goals. One of Morristown's greatest assets is its strategic location within the region, which is also one of its chief challenges. It is located at the crossroads of major regional transportation corridors, including an interstate highway, significant state and county roadways, and commuter rail to New York City. These networks are at the core of the town's economic and social potential for success, but they have also facilitated unsustainable, auto-centric development patterns that, if left unchecked, would serve to undermine its small town urban character and form. Traditionally, municipal transportation plans describe and make recommendations for improving vehicular traffic, while treating transit, cycling, and walking as secondary concerns. Morristown Moving Forward is different in that it strikes a balance among all modes. The goals are oriented towards complete, pedestrian- and bike-friendly streets, accessible and convenient public transit, minimizing negative impacts of traffic on local and regional highways, and parking that supports walkability, transit ridership, and sustainable development.

-  [Complete Streets Policy](#)
-  [Complete Streets Template](#)
-  [Complete Streets Resolution](#)
-  [Complete Streets References in Master Plan](#)
-  [Resolution Adopting the Master Plan](#)

Sustainable Land Use Pledge

10 Points Bronze Priority Silver Priority

Program Summary:

The Town of Morristown Planning Division, led by Planners Phil Abramson and Daniel Hernandez, took the lead on this action. The process began with a cross-departmental review and assessment of the recently expired Sustainable Land Use Pledge - first passed in 2009. Cross-referencing this assessment with the recently completed, sustainability-themed Master Plan further refined the direction and buy-in for the new 2014 version of the Land Use Pledge. The document was presented to, and unanimously approved, via resolution of the Morristown Town Council at a meeting on September 9, 2014. The document has subsequently been electronically distributed to all members of the Town Planning & Zoning Boards, the Town Environmental Commission and the Sustainable Morristown organization (SJ Green Team).

-  [Sustainable Land Use Pledge Documentation](#)

Buy Local Programs

Buy Local Campaign

10 Points

Program Summary:

Morristown's SID organization, the Morristown Partnership, has been actively promoting a Buy Local message since its formation 18 years ago. Its most successful component is its Gift Certificate program. More than 200 participating local businesses benefit from the more than \$150,000 in annual sales this program pumps into the local economy. A new twice-a-year "Green Backs" promotion offers purchasers of a 20% bonus on their total buy. The "Think Local - Shop Morristown" campaign was a further enhancement to the Buy Local initiative - launched in 2008 and continuing today through the ongoing distribution of palm cards, bumper stickers, temporary tattoos, etc. Ongoing print advertising placements and ever expanding social media mechanisms have been introduced to keep the campaign fresh and relevant. The latest boon to Morristown's local economy has been the 2014 launch of the wildly successful "Meet Me in

Morristown". This collaboration of Morristown Partnership and Morris Arts has brought thousands of people to the streets, shops and restaurants of Morristown on the last Thursday of each month - beginning in June and running through September.

 [Buy Local Campaign Materials](#)

 [Gift Certificate Program Info](#)

 [Meet Me in Morristown graphic](#)

 [Sidewalk Sale Poster](#)

Natural Resources

Environmental Commission 10 Points

Program Summary:

The Environmental Commission was established for the protection, development or use of natural resources, including water resources, located within the territorial limits of the Town of Morristown. The Commission has power to conduct research into the use and possible use of the open land areas of the Town and may coordinate the activities of unofficial bodies organized for similar purposes and may advertise, prepare, print and distribute books, maps, charts, plans and pamphlets which in its judgment it deems necessary for its purposes. It keeps an index of all open areas publicly or privately owned, including open marshland, swamps, and other wetlands, in order to obtain information on the proper use of such areas and may from time to time recommend to the Planning Board plans and programs for inclusion in the Master Plan and the development and use of such areas. Morristown has a very active Environmental Commission which regularly participates in planning and zoning application reviews and assessments. In addition to facilitating updates to the Town's ERI and OSRP - the Commission led the charge to protect a sizable parcel of open space which has a critical impact on aquifer recharge.

 [Envir. Commission Ordinance](#)

 [Environmental Commission Annual Report](#)

Natural Resource Inventory

20 Points Bronze Priority Silver Priority

Program Summary:

The Morristown Environmental Commission was established in 1999 for the protection, development or use of natural resources, including water resources, located within the territorial limits of the Town of Morristown. The Commission has power to conduct research into the use and possible use of the open land areas of the Town and may coordinate the activities of unofficial bodies organized for similar purposes. In 2011, the Commission authorized an update to its 2003 Environmental Resource Inventory (ERI) to identify and document the Town's ever-evolving unique natural resources. The Land Conservancy of New Jersey's Partners for Greener Communities authored the Environmental Resource Inventory Update (2011), with support from a Smart Growth Planning Grant from the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC), as well as additional funding from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation. New environmental data was incorporated from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, the Highlands Regional Master Plan, and the federal floodplain databanks. The driving force behind Morristown's ERI and its update remains the preservation of quality of life for Morristown residents. Documentation of the natural resource base: the geology, hydrology, ecology, and wildlife helps the Town understand the scope and condition of the resources upon which it relies and continues to influence its smart growth policy. The Environmental Resource Inventory Update (2011), in combination with the updated Open Space and Recreation Plan and recently completed Community Forestry Management Plan, forms a comprehensive reference and strategy guide for the Town's future growth and preservation. The ERI document itself cites that the purpose of it "keeps an index of all open areas publicly or privately owned, including open marshland, swamps, and other wetlands, in order to obtain information on the proper use of such areas and may from time to time recommend to the Planning Board plans and programs for inclusion in the Master Plan and the development and use of such areas" (2). The Town is home to a myriad of natural resources, of which protection

and use smart development practices are laid out in the 2014 Master Plan and the Town's Land Use Code. The updated NRI Plan is "a guide for the Town's future growth and preservation" (1).




-  [Morristown 2011 ERI Update](#)
-  [ERI References in Master Plan](#)
-  [ERI Update Commitment Letter](#)
-  [Resolution Adopting the Master Plan](#)

Open Space Plans

10 Points

Program Summary:

The Open Space and Recreation Plan was created in combination with Morristown's Environmental Resource Inventory and the Community Forestry Management Plan, which together form the basis for the Town's visionary sustainable values, policies, and goals. The OSRP serves as an "action plan" to connect the valuable natural resources and recreational sites throughout the community and region by creating opportunities for residents' access to health and wellness activities. The plan also strikes a balance with other sustainable initiatives within Morristown such as the Bike Plan and Complete Streets Policy in providing initiatives for adequate infrastructure and expansion of facilities. In 2004 the Town of Morristown completed an OSRP to identify lands for preservation. The 2011 Plan Update reconfirms the 2004 goals and identifies priority areas to protect water resources, preserve cultural and historical sites, expand trails and walkways, and maintain recreational areas and facilities. It is also central to the practice environmental stewardship. The Land Conservancy of New Jersey's Partners for Greener Communities authored the OSRP (2011), with support from a Smart Growth Planning Grant from ANJEC with additional funding from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation. As part of the 2011 Update, the Environmental Commission hosted two public meetings in order to better understand open space and recreational needs of Town residents. Members of the Planning Board and Office of Sustainability worked with the Environmental Commission to further determine the priorities for the municipal open space program. In recent years, the Town of Morristown has applied for and received over \$1 million in funding through the Morris County Open Space Preservation Trust Fund for a variety of open space projects. In 2011 the Town of Morristown received \$100,000 as a matching grant award from the State of New Jersey's Green Acres program of open space preservation. This matching grant supports the acquisition of the pending Hillcrest Park project which received funding in 2010 to preserve existing woodlands and spectacular view sheds and create picnic, play areas, and benches. This property was also partially funded through the State's Standard Acquisition program.

-  [Morristown 2011 OSRP Update](#)
-  [Open Space Reference in MP1](#)
-  [Open Space Reference in MP2](#)
-  [Resolution Adopting the Master Plan](#)

Recycling

Community Paper Shredding Day

5 Points

Program Summary:

NO UPDATES FOR SEPT SUBMISSION - COMPLETION EXPECTED BY NOVEMBER The Town of Morristown Clean Communities Committee, (a program within Morristown's Public Works Department) in cooperation with Morristown Kiwanis Club, hosts two community shredding days each year in the parking lot at Town Hall. In 2013, the spring event was expanded to include electronics recycling in collaboration with Sustainable Morristown and Samsung Corporation. The events are widely promoted through a variety of mechanisms, including: a large banner on the front lawn of town hall as well as through wide distribution of press releases and printed fliers. The 2013 fall event - held on October 12th - generated 8,500 pounds of paper generated by nearly 75 local residents and business owners. Th

espring 2014 event was held in April with tonnage results anticipated for disclosure by the fall submission deadline.
ADDITIONAL NARRATIVE & DOCUMENTATION TO FOLLOW.

 [Community Paper Shredding Day Flier](#)

 [Community Paper Shredding Day Tonnage Report](#)

Recycling Depot

10 Points

Program Summary:

Morristown's lake Road Recycling Depot is recognized for the breadth of materials that it accepts. In addition to all mandated materials, the depot also accepts ALL plastics - from #1-7 containers to rigid and bulky items - including a unique child seat recycling initiative. The Depot also accepts e-waste at no cost to the residents. The Town's business community is also encouraged to use the Depot as it not only saves them money in service cost avoidance but also derives the Town the benefit of additional revenue from the associated commodity sales. The Depot also hosts a very popular Book Exchange. The Depot has undergone significant infrastructure improvements to make the user experience more enjoyable and efficient. The Center is open 5 days per week - year round. Tuesday - Friday 7am - 3:30pm and Saturday 8am - 2pm.

 [Recycling Depot - Materials & Tonnage](#)

 [Recycling Depot - Flier](#)