



Sustainable Jersey Certification Report

This is the Sustainable Jersey Certification Report of Cape May City, a Sustainable Jersey silver certified applicant.

Cape May City was certified on October 03, 2012 with 530 points. Listed below is information regarding Cape May City's Sustainable Jersey efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable Jersey contact for Cape May City is:

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Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Cape May City was approved for in 2012 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

Green Team

10 Points

 Bronze Required

Program Summary: The Green Team continues to meet quarterly and has taken on many new initiatives in 2012 including the installation of a wind turbine at the Cape May Elementary School, development of a School Safety Plan, documenting the City's Buy Local Campaign, planning a Energy Efficiency Workshop for Businesses, etc. The Mayor's Letter of Intent explicitly supporting

the Green Team to pursue Sustainable Jersey certification in 2012 is provided in File 3. On February 1, 2011 the City Council of the City of Cape May established the Cape May City Green Team and appointed members. Since being established the Cape May City Green Team have meet monthly working to document past actions and to develop new actions. The Green Team participated in Harbor Fest, conducted a very aggressive Pledge Campaign, worked to get Wildlife Certification and met with Operation Porchlight, participated in training and development of the Vision Plan to name just a few of the actions that the Green Team has participated in.

PDF: [RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING GREEN](#)

PDF: [CERTIFIED GREEN TEAM RESOLUTIO](#)

PDF: [MAYOR LETTER OF INTENT](#)

Green Fair

10 Points

Program Summary: Harbor Fest has continued to grow in environmental significance in 2012 with the help and support of Cape May City, the Cape May City Green Team and the Cape May City Environmental Commission- this is further detailed in File 2. Environmental exhibits are provided from the Atlantic County Utilities Authority, New Jersey American Water Company, South Jersey Energy and Atlantic City Electric among others including alternative energy companies. The Environmental Commission and the Green Team distributed environmental and energy saving information, and the City purchased and distributed reusable bags. At the very first Harbor Fest, a tradition was started whereby a memorial service or “Blessing of the Waters” is conducted at the Fisherman’s Memorial on the Friday night before the event. After the loss of the Lady Mary in 2009, the Blessing took on added significance as the families of the lost fishermen gathered and joined local clergy and the community at the Blessing of the Waters ceremony. More than any other Cape May event, Harbor Fest and the Blessing of the Waters epitomizes Cape May’s close association with the sea; the sea upon which this community depends for so much.

PDF: [HARBOR FEST 2012](#)

PDF: [MAKING HARBOR FEST A GREEN FAI](#)

PDF: [HARBOR FEST 2012 ADVERTISEMENT](#)

Green Challenges

10 Points

Program Summary: A Green Challenge Program engages the community by challenging individuals, families and businesses to change their behavior in support of the community's goals for sustainability. The Green Challenge for Cape May City asked people to agree to eleven goals - a copy of the Green Challenge is provided in File 1. The Cape May City Green Team hit the streets to get locals to sign the Green Challenge. They manned tables at Harborfest, the Nature Center, the School and asked their friends, neighbors and relatives to sign a pledge. The Green Challenges were reviewed to insure that each one include the residents name, address and e-mail address. Copies of all the Pledges are available upon request. In total over 350 pledges were signed. This was a tremendous effort and the Green Challenge resulted in conversations regarding what can be done to live move sustainability locally. The Green Challenge extended throughout the calendar year 2011; hence many of the pledges were submitted with 12 months of the submission of this certification.

PDF: [CAPE MAY CITY GREEN CHALLENGE](#)

WORD: [PLEDGE DOCUMENTATION](#)

Community Education & Outreach

10 Points

Program Summary: There are a total of twenty-two pages that was added to the City's web site that highlight the beaches, harbor, water conservation, recycling, alternative energy and energy efficiency, open space & recreation, getting around gas free and Cape May for All Seasons. The Web Site Green Pages were fully funded by a grant from Clean Air – Cool Planet. It can be viewed at www.capemaycity.org The Nature Center of Cape May was founded in 1992 and operates out of a building owned by the City of Cape May. This is a true partnership with the twin goals of creating a responsible stewardship program for open space surrounding Cape May Harbor and providing environmental education for people of all ages. Members of the City's Green Team and Environmental Commission are actively involved in planning and presenting program at the Nature Center. The Center's focus on "hands-on" activities reflects a philosophy of personal responsibility for education. The web site for the Nature Center of Cape May is very informative and provides detail regarding their community education and outreach programs. For more information about the Nature Center's programs please visit:

<http://www.njaudubon.org/SectionCenters/SectionNCCM/Introduction.aspx> The City also distributes a host of information regarding energy efficiency, deregulated energy, water conservation, transit options, ridesharing, etc. at various City buildings throughout the community.

PDF: [CAPE MAY CITY NATURE CENTER](#)

PDF: [POWERPOINT PRESENTATION](#)

Energy

Energy Tracking & Management

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: The Energy Star Portfolio Manager was set up as part of the LGEA Energy Audit for Cape May City. The energy audit is attached. The Portfolio includes data for a full year and all municipally-owned and operated facilities that occupied and conditioned have been included. The report has been linked to Sustainable Jersey. The Green Team plans to update this data annually to determine how much energy efficiency and renewable Energy improvements have impacted energy usage. In the past year, efforts that have been made to impact the data in the Energy Star Portfolio Manager includes: - installed solar panels on the Public Works Building, Nature Center, and Life Guard Headquarters - installed 83 energy efficient light fixtures, occupancy sensors and new HVAC systems at Public Works Building - installed 485 energy efficient light fixtures and occupancy sensors in City Hall - completed a Local Government Energy Audit of all City Buildings to determine what can be done to further reduce energy needs. - Continued to promote the use of T8 lighting fixtures and CFL bulbs in City Buildings. - applied for

deregulated energy for all City Buildings

PDF: [CAPE MAY CITY ENERGY AUDIT](#)

PDF: [ENERGY PERFORMANCE REPORT](#)

Municipal Onsite Solar System

10 Points

Program Summary: The Conservation Plan adopted in 2009 includes recommendations, policies and goals for energy conservation including promotion of alternative energy sources that include the proposed USCG wind turbine generator project. Certification of the City through the Sustainable Communities program is also recommended. Solar energy projects within the City have been developed and include solar projects at the Lifeguard headquarters, the Nature Center and the Public Works Department. The results of this project can be tracked on a kiosk at each building and on the City's web site. Documentation of existing solar PV systems are provided in File 1 (Public Works) & 2 (Life Guard Headquarters). The City has also installed solar parking kiosks throughout the community. The City is pursuing another solar project which will include solar panels on the new Convention Hall and the Cape May City Elementary School. And outreach documents pertaining to future solar projects are provided in File 3. Photos of the Public Works and Life Guard Solar Installations are provided in File 3 as well.

PDF: [SOLAR PV SYSTEM - PUBLIC WORKS](#)

PDF: [SOLAR PV SYSTEM LIFE GUARD HEA](#)

PDF: [PHOTOS AND FUTURE SOLAR](#)

Fleet Inventory

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: The City's Fleet Improvement Plan and Fleet Inventory is provided herein.

WORD: [FLEET IMPROVEMENT PLAN](#)

PDF: [2011 FLEET INVENTORY](#)

Food

Farmers Markets

10 Points

Program Summary: The Cape May City Nature Center operates a farmer's market in July and August each year. The Farm Stand is run through Rutgers's 4-H. The produce sold at the farm market is grown and bought through Rea's Farm in West Cape May and some other local growers.

At this time the Farm Stand is a service the Nature Center of Cape May and Rutgers Cooperative Extension provides to the community. They provide fresh, locally grown produce and all money raised is donated to the Food Bank of Cape May. The project costs us about \$300.00 dollars and this year we raised \$450.00 for the food bank. The Jr. Intern's coordinate the selling and care of the produce, as well as developing the flyer to promote the farm stand. Attached in File 1 is an advertising Flyer for the Farmer's Market and assorted pictures. In File 2 is a memo from the Director of the Nature Center documenting the City's role in this effort. The farm market operated in the summer of 2011. The market is run by thirty middle school volunteers who are learning how to run a business and the importance of giving back to the community. The farmer's market is open every Tuesday and Thursday and all proceeds go to the local food bank which is run by the Cape May Presbyterian Church. The City supports the farmer's market by providing the property for the market and advertising the farmer's market on the City's web site and public access TV station. The partners participating in the Farmer's Market include the City, the Audubon Society of New Jersey, and the City's Environmental Commission.

PDF: [FLYERS & PICTURES](#)

PDF: [MEMO FROM DIRECTOR RE: CITY SU](#)

Community Gardens

10 Points

Program Summary: The Cape May City Elementary School is one of nine schools that received a \$7,500 mini-grant for programs to help students eat more fruits and vegetables, learn about good nutrition and promote locally grown produce from the New Jersey Department of Agriculture and Rutgers Cooperative Extension's Department of Family and Community Health Sciences. A school garden has been planted as part of the grant. The School had to grow at least three different vegetables that were harvested and sampled by students. This program is more than a garden, it is an entire wellness program. A press article that highlights the program is attached as well. You will see from the budget section of the attached proposal, that the garden is a small percentage of the grant, (as allowed), and this has not changed. However, after the School was selected, the budget was revised and is now a total of \$7,500. The School is committed to gaining support from community groups, the city, other grants, CMCE staff, the Nature Center, private businesses, etc. to help with garden expenses and required labor. The GROW HEALTHY grant was awarded by Rutgers Cooperative Extension, New Jersey Department of Agriculture. The School works under the guidance of the Department of Family and Community Health Science, (FCHS) program is called "Get Moving - Get Healthy New Jersey." Their contact staff members are Marilou Rochford, Cape May County, RCE-FCHS and LeeAnne Savoca, RCE. Other team members include: Sandy Sandmeyer-Bryan, lead teacher; Joan Maurer, school nurse; Tom Holden, physical education teacher; and Marianne Linnington, food service manager. The curriculum that the School is using is provided by FCHS and is entitled: Healthy Foods from Healthy Soils. The Family and Community Health Science staff also provides training for some of our school staff and two parent volunteers who will be the school's "Wellness Champions." These parents teach several nutrition lessons to our K-6 grade students, and are advocates for updated, school Wellness Policies. Important to note, that the School had a meeting in May for parents who wanted to be part of a Wellness Team. They gave input as to their priorities for wellness policies at our school, and voiced opinions and ideas for helping our children to "grow healthy." There were requests for guidance and support to create backyard gardens. In addition, participants showed a desire for a community garden program, composting information, and a rain barrel workshop. We are thrilled that the City of Cape May is supporting our school garden through help with supplies, delivery and labor. On June 10 and June 13, 2011, the Cape May City Public Works Department brought us a total 7-8 cubic yards of mulch. This is being used to conserve water and protect our garden beds. Proposed collaborations include help with fencing and in the construction of a shed for garden tools/supplies. A Workshop is planned at the Nature Center for September 24th to discuss how to

develop a Schoolhouse Garden.

WORD: [SCHOOL GARDEN - GROW HEALTH GR](#)

WORD: [GROW HEALTHY LESSON PLANS](#)

PDF: [QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT & NEWS](#)

Green Design

Green Building Training

5 Points

Program Summary: City Staff will be encouraged to attend the Energy Efficiency workshop that will be held at the Cape May City Convention Hall in September 2012 to become more familiar with the programs available through the NJ Clean Energy Program. Member of various City departments and boards were invite to attend the Green Solutions Conference for the Hospitality Industry. While Jim Rutala and Lisa Bender form the Green Team attended, non-green team members including Councilwomen Deanna Fiocca and Mary Ann Gorek attended. Ms. Fiocca is also the Chair of the Cape May City Tourism Commission. The Conference is important to Cape May City with its large lodging sector. The Mayor and the Green Team encouraged B & B, hotel, and motel owners and City employees to attend. The flyer is attached. Gail Schmidtchen, a member of the Cape May Environmental Commission, attended the five part webinar series of Sustainable Communities sponsored by ANJEC. Ms. Schmidtchen provided copies of her detailed notes to the Environmental Commission and the Green Team, see File 2 below.

PDF: [GREEN SOLUTIONS CONFERENCE](#)

PDF: [ANJEC SUSTAINABILITY SERIES](#)

PDF: [CAPE MAY GREEN HOSPITALITY NEW](#)

Green Building Policy/Resolution

5 Points

Program Summary: City Council adopted the resolution endorsing the adoption of green building practices for civic, commercial and residential building on May 17, 2011. The resolution is dated and signed by the City Clerk. The resolution has been distributed to the Department Heads as demonstrated by the memo found in File 2. A typo appeared in the first memo to Staff submitted, the word was corrected and the memo was redistributed. A new "Green Initiatives" tab to the homepage of the City's website has been added. The Green Building Policy, Purchasing Policy and solar links are located there.

PDF: [GREEN BUILDINGS RESOLUTION](#)

PDF: [REV MEMO TO STAFF](#)

PDF: [MEMO DOCUMENTING ACTIVITIES](#)

Upgrade/Retrofit-Water Conservation

10 Points

Program Summary: A new “Green Initiatives” tab has been added to the homepage of the City’s website. The Green Building Policy, Purchasing Policy and solar links are located there. The Green Buildings Policy has been adopted by City Council and distributed to all Departments as well. The Local Government Energy Audit that was conducted for Cape May City includes recommendations for upgrades to City buildings. If all the conservation measures recommended by the audit were implemented 815,000 gallons of water would be saved annually. The audit recommends low flow faucets and waterless urinals to save 815,000 gallons of water and 40 therms from domestic hot water heating. These strategies will be implemented as renovations are done in each City Building. In the short term the City is installing 3,889 water meters with encoded registers, radio frequency automatic meter readings and leak detection. Currently, the completion rate is 94%. This initiative reduces labor, fuel costs and resulting environmental impacts since City employees will not be reassigned for one week on a quarterly basis to conduct the on-site reading of individual meters. Also, the leak detection feature should ensure more timely identification of unknown leaks and thus conserve water, especially in seasonally occupied homes.

PDF: [GREEN BUILDINGS RESOLUTION](#)

PDF: [WATER CONSERVATION AUDIT](#)

Health & Wellness

Anti-Idling Education & Enforcement Program

10 Points

Program Summary: The City has identified priority anti idling locations and have posted signage at these locations. The City of Cape May City adopted by Ordinance No. 777 an Anti-Idling Ordinance that restricts idling in the City, see attachment. In additional, City Council adopted a resolution of September 4th that includes all the items referenced in "What to include in an anti-idling resolution" in the guidance materials. This resolution is provided in File 1. Educational materials are provided at City locations including City Hall, the library, Transportation Center and the Nature Center, the copy of a custom brochure is attached. A photograph of the anti-idling sign and a map showing anti-idling signed locations is provided in File 3.

PDF: [ANTI IDLING RESOLUTION](#)

PDF: [CAPE MAY CITY ANTI-IDLING BROC](#)

PDF: [SIGN & LOCATION MAP](#)

Safe Routes to School

10 Points

Program Summary: The City of Cape May is a walkable community and many efforts have been made to encourage a health lifestyle and alternative means of transportation. In 2012, Cape May City and Cape May Elementary School worked together to develop a School Travel Plan. The Cape May Elementary School is the only school in the Community and 70% of the school children live at the US Coast Guard Base a distance of about 1 1/2 miles. To address the need to provide a safe bike and pedestrian link between the school and the Coast Guard Base a NJDOT Safe Routes to School Grant application was submitted with support from throughout the Community. The City of Cape May holds an annual triathlon to encourage children to bike, swim and run. This daylong event provides students with encouragement to bike and walk while having fun at the same time. Tom Holden, the Physical Education and Health teacher at Cape May Elementary School, has attracted more than 60 students annually to participate in this event. Students may complete individually or on a three member team. In addition to numerous obvious benefits, this event includes instructions by the school faculty, police department, Coast Guard personnel and fire department to the students concerning biking and walking safety practices. The Mayor attends this event annually and encourages/cheers on the participants, addresses the participating students in the auditorium during the awards ceremony following the competition, and awards formal City-issued participation certificates to each participant at the End of the School Year Awards Assembly on the next to the last day of school. The School also provides safety assemblies to stress wearing a helmet when biking and other safety rules.

PDF: [SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN](#)

Innovative Projects

Innovative Community Project 1

10 Points

Program Summary: The City of Cape May has shown leadership in the maintenance and construction of its beaches. In 2011 Trip Advisor ranked the Cape May City beaches 9th in the world and 2nd in the United States. Numerous beach cleanups are scheduled by local and Statewide groups to maintain the quality of the beach. The dune system is continuously managed to stabilize the beach and provide important habitat. The City Public Work's Department cleans the beaches daily to insure quality conditions. The City has strived to educate the public regarding the importance of the beach environment through nature walks, educational signage, and displays at the Nature Center. In April 2011, the area received the Obama Administration's most prestigious environmental award, the 2010 Coastal America Partnership Award for restoring the Lower Cape May Meadows. This 350 acre beach and wetlands area between Cape May and Cape May Point is a key freshwater ecosystem for migratory birds. For decades it suffered from the coastal erosion that caused saltwater to degrade the wetlands. Studies began in 1987 to determine how to restore the degraded wetlands and replenish the beaches to prevent saltwater damage. Two beach replenishments have occurred since 2004. An April 20, 2011 article from the Press of Atlantic City documenting this innovative effort is attached. The Army Corp, NJDEP, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Nature Conservancy all active participated in this enhancement. The Spring 2011 NJ Audubon Magazine featured Cape May City's Nature Center efforts to promote Marine Conservation by hosting Guy Harvey's first public appearance in the area on August 17, 2010. Harvey dedicates much of his time to programs that protect our oceans and reef system.

PDF: [2010 COASTAL AMERICAN PARTNERS](#)

PDF: [MARINE CONSERVATION DAY](#)

Local Economies

Buy Local Campaign

10 Points

Program Summary: The City of Cape May and its merchants promote shopping locally in many different ways. The elements of this campaign is provided in File 1.

PDF: [BUY LOCAL CAMPAIGN](#)

PDF: [PRESS AND WEB SUPPORT](#)

Support Local Businesses

10 Points

Program Summary: Cape May City has recognized the power of the arts, history and culture in transforming the landscape of the Community. The City has adopted a program of private-public partnerships that have infused a progressive growth of Cape May's economy into a ten and a half month economy as opposed to the average 12 week season typical in most seashore resort communities. This program facilitates the leasing of the City-owned property on a long term basis of \$1 per year with non-profit organizations being responsible for renovations, operations, and maintenance of the properties. This ensures the the City maintains a nurturing environment by providing the essential physical infrastructure so that fledgling, local non-profit cultural, arts, environmental and historical organizations can flourish while benefiting the taxpayer by reducing costs associated with maintenance of properties. In 2010 - 2011 the City continued to support seven such agreements involving City -owned property and they include: - Emlen Physick Estate with the - Washington Street Mall Information Booth with the Mid- Atlantic Center of the Arts - Franklin Street School with the Cape May Stage - The former Welcome Center with the Cape May Stage - The Nature Center with the NJ Audubon Society - The Marine Research Facility with Rutgers University - The Transportation Center/ Welcome Center with the Chamber of Commerce of Greater Cape May These partnerships have created many local employment opportunities that maintain the City's population base and solidify its economic viability. For example, the Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts & Humanities (MAC) is a multi-faceted non-profit organization that promotes the restoration, interpretation and cultural enrichment of greater Cape May for its residents and visitors. With a membership of more than 3,200, a paid staff of 160 and some 300 volunteers, MAC offers a year-round calendar of tours and special events that serves more than 300,000 people each year. Through its sponsorship of cultural and heritage tourism, MAC has helped transform Cape May from a "summer only" beach resort to the country's leading Victorian theme destination that is busy 10 1/2 months a year.

PDF: [QUANTITATIVE ASSESSMENT FORM](#)

Green Business Recognition Program

10 Points

Program Summary: The Chairman of the Cape May Chamber of Commerce is a member of the Green Team and he has worked on unique and very effective ways to recognize green businesses in Cape May. For example, he organized a tour of Cape May for a group of reporters that resulted in the article found in File 1 which recognizes many Cape May businesses entitled "Cape May, NJ: Green is hear to Stay" dated August 19, 2011. A Green Recognition Program known as the Conservation Awards have been in place in Cape May for some time and it is managed by the Cape May County Chamber of Commerce Environmental Affairs Committee. The categories include: water conservation, energy conservation, recycling, and community leadership. This year\'s nominees include the Cape May City Green Team for promoting energy conservation and the Mad Batter Restaurant/Carroll Villa Hotel. The Mad Batter has installed 38 solar panels on their 1882 architectural landmark building, providing 10,293 Kwh annually, feature waterless urinals, Energy Star appliances, bamboo flooring, and environmentally appropriate cleaning products. Various news articles about the Mad Batter are provided in File 2. Awards are presented at the Annual Meeting and Installation Dinner. Nominations are accepted for a business/organization/person to be recognized for their efforts to conduct environmentally friendly "Green" business practices. A nomination form is provided and the Environmental Affairs Committee judges the nominees.

PDF: [GREEN TRAVEL MAZAZINE](#)

PDF: [MAD BATTER](#)

Natural Resources

Tree Hazard Inventory

10 Points

Program Summary: The City's Shade Tree Commission includes Tree Risks in their Forestry Plan as provided in File 1. File 2 includes the Priority Pruning Recommendations - the format used for this assessment is from the guide titled " Urban Tree Risk Management: A Community Guide to Program Design and Implementation". We have verified through the secretary to the Shade Tree Commission that the 2008 tree priority pruning assessment has been updated recently and that additional work has been completed in 2010 to 2012.

PDF: [SECTION OF THE FORESTRY PLAN -](#)

PDF: [TREE HAZARD EVALUATION](#)

Community Forestry Management Plan & NJUCF Accreditation

20 Points

Program Summary: Cape May City recognizes the importance of protecting existing vegetation and replacing vegetation that is removed when land is developed. Cape May has a landscaping ordinance that requires up to 60% of a lot be left in vegetation and tree replacement for larger trees that are removed. The City participates in Tree City USA and has also adopted a "Community Forestry Management Plan from 2011 to 2015" authored by the Shade Tree Commission with the intent of increasing the community's understanding of the urban forest and increasing the public's appreciation of trees on public and private land that benefit the entire community. The 2012 Approval from the NJDEP is provided in File 3.

PDF: [FORESTRY MANAGEMENT PLAN - PAR](#)

PDF: [FORESTRY MANAGEMENT PLAN - PAR](#)

PDF: [TREE CANOPY GOAL & 2012 NJDEP](#)

Tree Planting Programs

10 Points

Program Summary: The Shade Tree Commission's vigorous efforts have resulted in Cape May being designated as a "Tree City USA Community" of 30 years. The City planted 300 trees through a grant from the Cool Cities Initiative sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection in 2009. The total budget for this project was \$105,000 in grant funds. A picture of a few of the trees that were planted is provided in File 3. Additionally, there is a tree planning program at the Nature Center. The City has an arborist that attends the monthly Shade Tree Commission meetings and staff maintains their CEUs so that they can meet the 8 CEU requirement.

PDF: [CAPE MAY TREE PLANTING PLAN](#)

PDF: [MAINTENANCE PLAN FOR TREE PLAN](#)

PDF: [PHOTO](#)

Tree Maintenance Programs

10 Points

Program Summary: The City's Shade Tree Commission had \$15,500 budgeted for tree maintenance in their 2010 budget and has retained a Manear's Landscaping and Tree Service to provide maintenance as required. A copy of the City's tree maintenance regulations are provided in File 1. The Tree Maintenance portion of the Community Forestry Management Plan from 2011 - 2015 is provided in File 2 and the actual work completed in 2010 as required is provided in File 3. In the last year the City trimmed or removed 118 trees at a cost of \$21,717.25. The City used a local contractor to perform this work.

PDF: [TREE MAINTENANCE](#)

PDF: [MAINTENANCE SECTION OF FORESTR](#)

PDF: [PURCHASE ORDERS FOR TREE MAINT](#)

Water Conservation Education Program

10 Points

Program Summary: The City has established a Water Conservation Demonstration Garden at Madison and Cape May Avenues to help to education the community on the importance of water conservation and to illustrate zeroscaping for responsible water use. The ongoing Garden project hosts a variety of low-water use and wildlife friendly plants. A brochure was recently printed that describes the type of trees, shrubs flowers and grasses used in the garden along with the City's Water Conservation Ordinance is distributed throughout the community. A Low Water Gardening Coloring Book was also created and printed within the last three years and is distributed in the Elementary School. A informative brochure titled "Use Water Wisely" has been produced by the CMC Environmental Commission and the Southern Cape Regional Water Advisory Commission. A copy is attached. A great vehicle for educating the public on water conservation has been the Cape May City Green Challenge. This pledge was signed by hundreds of local residents and provided an opportunity to engage them in a discussion about the need for water conservation as well as other environmental goals. A lot of time was invested by the Green Team to man table at public events and knock on doors to make this campaign an huge success. A copy of the Green Challenge Form is provided in File 1 along with the completed Water Conservation Education Program Worksheet. Water conservation is such a mission in Cape May City that the City staff have a water conservation message on their business cards, a unique way to encourage water conservation.

PDF: [WORKSHEET & PLEDGE](#)

PDF: [LOW WATER GARDENING COLORING B](#)

PDF: [WATER CONSERVATION ORDINANCE](#)

Open Space Plans

10 Points

Program Summary: Cape May City has a long history of meaningful planning. The 2003 Master Plan represents a continuation of the City's planning efforts. This Plan sets the goal to preserve and enhance the City's open space system and upgrade recreational land use to protect Cape May's environmental resources and meet the needs of residents and visitors. A copy of this work is provided in File 3. The 2009 Master Plan Reexamination added objectives to the 2003 Plan including acquiring land near the Elementary School to upgrade active recreation and acquire environmentally sensitive lands know as Sewell Point for passive recreation. The 2009 Reexamination is provided in File 2. To implement its Open Space Plan the City established a Open Space Fund in 2002 by adopting Ordinance No. 1259-2002. The City is working with Temple's Department of Landscaping Architecture and Horticulture to design the improvement of several of the City parks, creating a nature reserve in the eastern end of town and preparing a "Pedestrian City Trail". The plan is to integrate the parks more fully and sustainably into a walkable and vibrant destination City. A \$3.2M application for Green Acres funding has been completed for the area bordered by St. John Street, Lafayette and the Cape May Elementary School.

PDF: [INVENTORY & MAPS](#)

PDF: [OPEN SPACE SECTION OF 2009 PLA](#)

PDF: [OPEN SPACE PLAN 2003](#)

Environmental Commission

10 Points

Program Summary: The 2011 Annual Report to Council is attached which summarizes the activities of the Environmental Commission. The Cape May City Environmental Commission was established by Ordinance No. 375 on July 24, 1972, a copy is provided in File 3. The Environmental Commission is chaired by Charlotte Todd, who also serves on the Green Team and as a Nature Center volunteer. The Commission is very active in participating in Green Team activities and promoting alternative energy and energy efficiency.

PDF: [2011 ANNUAL REPORT TO MAYOR &](#)

WORD: [ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION CODE](#)

PDF: [ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION ORDIN](#)

Natural Resource Inventory

20 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: The Cape May City Environmental Commission revises the Natural Resources Inventory on an ongoing basis. As new information comes to light the Commission adds it to the Inventory. This keeps the Inventory up to date and useful.

PDF: [NATURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY SE](#)

PDF: [CAPE MAY CITY NATURAL RESOURCE](#)

PDF: [NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY](#)

Tree Protection Ordinance *Retires 12/31/25*

10 Points

Program Summary: Cape May City has a strong Shade Tree Commission and the City has worked diligently to maintain health trees in the community. Protecting trees within the City has many benefits for the environment as well as for the health and safety of residents. Trees help to prevent flooding and improve water quality. They also contribute to climate control and reduce soil erosion and sedimentation. Indiscriminate, uncontrolled and excessive destruction, removal, and cutting of trees upon lots and tracts of land within the City can cause increased drainage control costs, increased soil erosion and sedimentation, decreased fertility of the soil, degradation of water resources, and decreased groundwater recharge. The City adopted a Tree Protection Ordinance in 2006 which remains in effect and is provide in File 1.

PDF: [TREE PROTECTION ORDINANCE](#)

Clustering Ordinance

10 Points

Program Summary: The City of Cape May has a Cluster Provision in its Zoning Ordinance. This provision is designed to preserved open space. When clustering is used, at least 75 percent of the tract shall be preserved open space and conveyed to a state, county or local governmental entity for conservation purposes, subject to the ability to utilize the open space for passive recreation, including informational buildings, walkways, trails, observation decks. A copy of the Ordinance is provided below.

PDF: [CLUSTERING ORDINANCE](#)

Habitat Conservation Ordinance

10 Points

Program Summary: The Habitat Conservation Ordinance was adopted by the City Council of the City of Cape May by Ordinance No. 600; amended in its entirety 12-2-2004 by Ordinance No. 10-2004 (Ch. XXXII of the 1997 Revised General Ordinances). These regulations can be found on the City's web site. The regulations are very progressive. In addition to requiring the replacement of removed trees, the applicant is required to replace any trees located within the footprint of the proposed structure if said trees have a trunk at least three inches in diameter measured at three feet above the ground. Therefore, in addition to the requirement to replace removed trees outside the proposed footprint, plus six feet, the applicant shall plant one tree along the side yard and rear yard, which tree shall be of the same size as the replacement tree except that the applicant is permitted to plant two bushes in lieu of a tree if said bushes are a minimum of two feet in diameter and are classified by the Backyard Habitat for Birds, a Guide for Landowners and Communities in New Jersey, published by the New Jersey Audubon Society. This requirement is to make up for the replacement of shrubs and is in addition to the requirement for replacement trees where said trees are to replace removed trees from outside the building envelope. The replacement trees need not be of the same species as the trees removed; however, they shall be of the same height classifications as the tree removed. The guide to height classifications contained in the Backyard Habitat for Birds shall be considered as sufficient evidence of compliance.

PDF: [HABITAT CONSERVATION ORDINANCE](#)

Operations & Maintenance

Recycled Materials & Composting

10 Points

Program Summary: The Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy states that mulch and compost that give preference to those products produced from regionally generated plant debris and/or food and sludge water programs should be utilized. The City owns a chipper and processes Christmas Trees, wood chips, etc. into mulch that is used throughout the City in the parks. The Public Works Director estimates that the City produces and uses 60 yards of mulch annually. The policy further states that hardscapes and landscape structures constructed of recycled content materials is encouraged, that impervious surfaces be limited, and that permeable substitutes are encouraged for walkways, patios and driveways. Robert Smith, the Public Works Director, has implemented these recommendations using the Cape May County MUA compost in various gardens - this material is free of sludge and yard waste. Natural wood chips have been used in the playgrounds. Other options will be considered in the future. The City's Nature Center has sponsored Compost Workshops on an annual basis. This year's Workshop will be held on September 24 at the Nature Center. In addition to teaching traditional composting they have they have taught how to make compost tea - essentially a liquid fertilizer made from compost and water. Worm composting for recycling food waste is presented as well. A flyer promoting their upcoming Workshops is attached.

PDF: [ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE PUR](#)

PDF: [WORKSHOPS IN CAPE MAY](#)

WORD: [CITY'S EFFORTS TO RECYCLE/REUS](#)

Efficient Landscape Design *Retired 12/31/23*

10 Points

Program Summary: The City's Purchasing Policy that was adopted by City Council earlier this year provides policy direction for landscaping Design. All landscapers shall employ sustainable landscape management techniques for design, construction, and maintenance whenever and where possible including integrated pest management, grass recycling, drip irrigation, composting, and procurement of products. Plants should be selected to minimize waste by choosing species for purchase that are appropriate to the microclimate, species that can grow to their natural size in the space allotted to them and perennials rather than annual for color variations should be utilized. Native and drought tolerant plants are preferred. The Public Works Director Bob Smith has implemented many of these policies. An example of this program in action is Fisherman's Park. This park consists entirely of indigenous species that are low water tolerant, but provide a low maintenance, attractive park setting. Pictures of Fisherman's park are provided in File 2. In addition Harbor Lane Park has been designed with indigenous plants as well and the only irrigation provided is drip irrigation.

PDF: [GREEN PURCHASING POLICY](#)

PDF: [PHOTOS OF FISHERMEN'S PARK](#)

Green Grounds & Maintenance Policy

10 Points

Program Summary: The Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy (copy attached) was adopted by resolution of City Council in 2011 and copies were made available to City staff. This Policy includes a guidance for Grounds and Maintenance including: that all landscape renovations shall employ sustainable landscape management techniques for design, construction, and

maintenance whenever & where possible. Including integrated pest management, grass recycling, drip irrigation, composting, and use of natural mulch. Low water plants should be used when possible. Products of recycled content should be used and permeable substitutes for walkways. This policy can be found on the City's web site at <http://www.capemaycity.com/Cit-e-Access/webpage.cfm?TID=103&TPID=10761>

PDF: [ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE PUR](#)

Adopt a Green Purchasing Policy by Resolution *Retired 12/31/23*

5 Points

Program Summary: On July 5, 2011 the Cape May City - City Council adopted the attached resolution supporting a Sustainable Purchasing Policy. A copy of the Policy is attached as well. This policy has been distributed to City staff and will be incorporated into the Employee Handbook. It can be found on the City's web site at <http://www.capemaycity.com/Cit-e-Access/webpage.cfm?TID=103&TPID=10761>

PDF: [SUSTAINABLE PURCHASING POLICY](#)

PDF: [POLICY](#)

Sustainability & Climate Planning

Municipal Carbon Footprint

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: The City of Cape May has completed an Energy Audit of all municipal buildings and a Fleet Inventory. The Local Government Energy Audit was completed in July 2011 by Dome Tech Consultants. In addition a vehicle inventory was completed. All the necessary information needed to complete a Municipal Carbon Footprint were provided by these documents. With this data we calculated direct emissions from stationary combustion of all fuels, from the consumption of purchased electricity and from the City's fleet. With this information, the City is taking steps to reduce energy consumption by installing solar on various City Buildings, making energy efficiency upgrades and considering alternative fuel vehicles.

EXCEL: [CARBON FOOTPRINT](#)

Community Visioning *Retired 12/31/22*

10 Points

Program Summary: The September 2, 2010 Plan Endorsement Assessment Report documents Cape May City's community visioning activities. Resulting planning and documents resulting from

these activities are consistent with and support the State Plan vision. The preparation of this Plan was the culmination of various public forums, workshops, public meetings, and other activities that were advertised and open to the public. It has been a goal for all planning activities to gain a consensus of the public to plan the community's future. Workshops for community visioning and public participation for the preparation of this plan were held at the City of Cape May's City Hall on June 9, 2008; June 16, 2010; August 5, 2010; August 26, 2010; and September 9, 2010. The Visioning Process was paused in 2008 so that the relevant planning activities including the Master Plan Reexamination, Housing Element and Fair Share Plan, COAH Substantive Certification, and Floodplain Management Plan were completed. The Plan Endorsement Assessment Report was endorsed by the City Council on October 5, 2010. Additional visioning meeting have been held and a newspaper article from the May 12, 2011 meeting is attached. The Cape May City Council adopted a resolution authorizing submission of the Vision Statement and supporting materials to the Office of Smart Growth on June 21, 2011.

PDF: [COUNCIL RESOLUTION](#)

PDF: [2011 VISION PLAN](#)

PDF: [COMMUNITY VISIONING MEETING](#)

Waste Management

Construction & Demolition Waste Recycling

10 Points

Program Summary: Excerpts from the City's Construction & Demolition Recycling Ordinance is found in File 1. A new recycling ordinance was introduced by City Council on August 7, 2012 which addresses all the requirements of this action. A copy is attached in File 2. This Ordinance will be enacted at the September 18th Regular Meeting on City Council and will be forwarded to you immediately upon adoption. The Ordinance requires that for all activities that require municipal approval, such as construction, demolition or public event permits, a designated Recyclable Materials Plan shall be filed along with all other required permit conditions. The Plan is fairly simple and well described in the ordinance. The Plan shall include information on the anticipated amount of debris to be generated and recycled and provisions for the recovery of all designated recyclable materials generated during construction, renovation and demolition activities, as well as public events. Those applicants who do not comply with the pre-construction requirement will not be issued a building or demolition removal permit. The applicant is required to submit information at the conclusion of their project documenting the actual amount of waste disposed and recycled.

WORD: [DOCUMENTATION](#)

WORD: [CAPE MAY RECYCLING ORDINANCE](#)

Recycling Depot

10 Points

Program Summary: Conservation and preservation of Energy Resources has been

demonstrated in Cape May City. The Recycling and Solid Waste Element of the Master Plan was updated during the 2009 Reexamination and it is consistent with the State Plan goals. The City strives to comply with the New Jersey Statewide Mandatory Separation and Recycling Act. The recycling plan is also compliant with the County recycling plan. The City maintains a central recycling facility at 830 Canning House Lane to encourage recycling and facilitate higher recycling rates. A photo is provided in File 3. The Central Recycling Station accepts paper products, glass food and beverage containers, plastic bottles and jugs, Christmas trees, leaves, grass clippings, yard waste, white goods, light iron materials, electronic waste and rigid plastic. The ad that is on the City's web site for the Recycling Depot is found in File 2. The City Code Chapter 434-14 is entitled "\"Central Recycling Station\"" and a copy is attached.

PDF: [CENTRAL RECYCLING STATION](#)

PDF: [WEB ADVERTISEMENT FOR RECYCLIN](#)

PDF: [PHOTO](#)

Community Paper Shredding Day

5 Points

Program Summary: Cape May City acquired a high capacity document shredder that can shred a bank box of records in ten minutes. The City Public Works Department informs the public in its recycling advertisements that this service is available to local businesses and residents by appointment every Wednesday. This program has been well received by the public. Documentation of the advertising and results of the Paper Shredding Program is provided in File 1.

PDF: [CAPE MAY CITY PAPER SHREDDING](#)

Backyard Composting Program

5 Points

Program Summary: Cape May City encourages back yard composting in Chapter 434-10 of the City Code, see attached. The Code notes that residents may choose to compost leaves, grass clippings and yard waste generated on their premises and that information on backyard composting may be obtained by calling the City's Department of Public Works. The Cape May City Nature Center which is owned and supported by the City of Cape May. The Center is operated by New Jersey Audubon which provides information on Backyard Habitat (see file below) and have provided Composting Workshops in the past. These workshops cover traditional backyard composting along with worm composting and making compost tea - a liquid fertilizer made from compost and water. The next Composting Workshop is planned for September 24 at the Nature Center in conjunction with the 2011 Chautauqua. A flyer is provided in File 3.

PDF: [BACKYARD COMPOSTING](#)

PDF: [NATURAL CENTER EDUCATION](#)

PDF: [COMPOSTING EDUCATION](#)