



Sustainable Jersey Certification Report

This is the Sustainable Jersey Certification Report of Warren Twp, a Sustainable Jersey silver certified applicant.

Warren Twp was certified on October 13, 2014 with 365 points. Listed below is information regarding Warren Twp’s Sustainable Jersey efforts and materials associated with the applicant’s certified actions.

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable Jersey contact for Warren Twp is:

Name:	LAURA MANDELL
Title/Position:	CHAIR / GREEN TEAM
Address:	46 MOUNTAIN BOULEVARD WARREN, NJ 07059 WARREN, NJ 070592602
Phone:	908-334-9221

Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Warren Twp 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

"Green" Your Green Fair *Retires 12/31/23*

10 Points

Program Summary: The 2014 Warren Green Fair was held outdoors, during the day with a rain date in the event of inclement weather. No electricity for lighting or heating was necessary. The township hosted community groups/vendors that did not require any electricity. With the central focus on waste reduction; citizens were encouraged to bring hard to recycle items keeping them out of landfills. Most of the items collected will be repurposed and reused. 21,000 pounds of electronics were collected for proper recycling. Shoes were sent to those without. 486 pounds of clothes and 1,124 pounds of books were routed to the needy. Used crayons will be melted and remade into new crayons. Bottle caps collected were for artwork and sent to a specialized recycling facility. Styrofoam was collected for recycling. 425 pounds of medicines were kept out of the water system and landfills through the Police Collection. 2075 pounds of paper were shredded. Used eyeglasses will be routed to those in need. A local natural food market handed out tastings with no waste generated. A local spa offered reusable shopping bags. A business offered free home energy audits to attendees. One company sold upcycled sweaters made into pet beds and their own yarn. NJ Clean Energy offered lamps/energy efficient bulb kits for a significant savings. A town camp for disabled individuals featured rain barrels that they make and offer for sale. Signage and tablecloths from previous years was reused and saved for subsequent events. An electric vehicle was featured to encourage citizens to consider this transportation option. Recycling bins and trash cans were available, but there was virtually zero waste. We encouraged vendors/participants to bring nothing that needed to be thrown away. Volunteers carpooled to the event including the High School Environmental Club and many of the Girl Scout troops.

WORD: "GREEN" YOUR GREEN FAIR QUANTITATIVE ASSESSMENT

Create Green Team

10 Points

 Bronze Required

Program Summary: On December 17, 2009 the Warren Township Committee adopted Resolution # 2009-285 to authorize the creation of the Warren Green Team. Led by founding member and Chair, Laura Mandell, the Green Team had their first meeting on October 14, 2010. The mission of the Warren Green Team is to be a resource for the residents and businesses in Warren in communicating sustainable practices and creating programs that enhance quality of life through conservation and environmental management. The Green Team received the Sustainable Jersey bronze certification in 2012 with 225 points. All of the active Green Team members are all volunteers sharing their time and talent to help promote a healthy environment. Four Green Team members also serve on the Warren Environmental Commission and two Green Team members are also volunteers at the Wagner Farm Arboretum. The Green Team collaborates with other groups in town including the Warren Environmental Commission, the Watchung Hills Environmental Club, the girl scouts, the library, and the Warren Recreation Commission. The Green Team has maintained pages on the Warren Township website <http://www.warrennj.org> and a Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/warrengreenteam> since 2011. The Green Team meets monthly and holds an annual green fair. In 2013 the Warren Green Team was awarded a 2013 Environmental Achievement Award for the Low Impact Checklists for Planning and Construction. In 2014 the Warren Green Team received a capacity building grant from Sustainable Jersey through support from PSE&G. As part of this grant new anti-idling signs were installed as well as pesticide free zone signs. Future Green Team activities anticipate more regional collaborations. Areas targeted for the Green Team in the coming year are clean water, pollinators, and regional collaboration. New members and volunteers are always welcome!

PDF: [GREEN TEAM RESOLUTION](#)

PDF: [RESOLUTION NO. 285](#)

PDF: [2014 SPRING SUMMER WARREN NEWSLETTER](#)

PDF: [2014 GREEN TEAM MEMBERS](#)

WORD: [2013 2014 GREEN TEAM ANNUAL REPORT](#)

PDF: [MAYOR'S LETTER](#)

Green Fair

10 Points

Program Summary: The 4th annual Green Fair took place on April 26, 2014 from 10am-1pm on the Municipal Grounds of the township. A generous capacity building grant from Sustainable Jersey through support from PSE&G helped cover the cost of the promotional banner, lawn signs, and paper shredding. We collected items that are difficult to dispose of such as electronics, textiles, books, shoes, eyeglasses, Styrofoam, scrap metal, and bottle caps. The Warren police worked with the Green Team and accepted old medicines. For the first time, local businesses were invited to participate. Twelve companies were represented and all plan to come again. Eleven community groups participated as well including the Girl Scouts, the Warren Library, the high school's environmental club, Lions Club, Garden Club as well as an Interfaith Group. Activities included crafts made from recycle materials, live plantings in plastic bottles, rain barrel demonstrations, crayon recycling, and healthy food & water tastings. Attendees were offered free energy audits, reusable shopping bags, green cosmetics and a look at an electric car. Initially the Green Team met to brainstorm on the plans for the 2014 Fair. It was decided that we would continue with the success we had in offering a place to bring hard to dispose of items. We decided to invite local businesses in addition to the local community groups that have participated in the past. The Green Team circulated the invitation to participate in several local papers. The Fair was promoted via flyers posted in the schools, the local stores and e-blasted via the schools and town recreation department. Lawn signs were posted. A banner was made and hung by the local volunteer fire department in the center of town. The event was promoted via the township's quarterly newsletter, the township television station, on the township's web site, and on <https://www.facebook.com/warrengreenteam>. http://newjerseyhills.com/echoes-sentinel/news/warren-green-fair-takes-place-on-saturday/article_defcf512-cb02-11e3-9f43-001a4bcf887a.html?TNNoMobile - local paper coverage.

PDF: [2014 GREEN FAIR FLYER](#)

WORD: [GREEN FAIR PRESS RELEASE](#)

IMAGE: [WARREN MONTHLY NEWS COVERAGE](#)

IMAGE: [GREEN FAIR ON FACEBOOK](#)

Community Education & Outreach

10 Points

Program Summary: The Warren Township Green Team hosts movies nights for the community. On March 20, 2013 at 7pm King Corn was shown at the Warren Township Courthouse. King Corn is a feature documentary about two friends, one acre of corn, and the subsidized crop that drives our fast-food nation. College friends Ian Cheney and Curt Ellis, from the east coast, move to Iowa to learn where their food's origins. With the help of friendly neighbors, genetically modified seeds, and powerful herbicides, they plant and grow a bumper crop of America's most-productive, most-subsidized grain on one acre. When they try to follow their pile of corn into the food system, what they find raises troubling questions about how we eat—and how we farm. The event was successful and inspired the Watchung Hills High School Environmental Club to partner with the Green Team to show No Impact Man which follows the Manhattan-based Beavan family as they abandon their high consumption 5th Avenue lifestyle and try to live a year while making no net environmental impact. This documentary was shown on April 22, 2013 at the Warren Township Courthouse. The Warren Green Team is partnering with the Watchung Environmental Commission in the showing of Queen of the Sun: What the Bees are Telling Us to be viewed on June 11, 2014 from 7:30 – 9:45pm at Watchung Hills Regional High School in Warren Township. Following the movie we anticipate forming a regional committee focused remedying the collapse of bee colonies and loss of other pollinators. The Warren Township Green Team contributes content for the Warren Township Newsletter and maintains active website pages on the township website and a Facebook page. The Green Team produces brochures on environmentally helpful topics which are available on the website www.warrennj.org, Facebook, and in printed form in the municipal building.

PDF: [QUEEN OF THE SUN: WHAT THE BEES ARE TELLING US FLYER](#)

PDF: [GRASS CUT IT AND LEAVE IT BROCHURE PDF.PDF](#)

PDF: [2014 SPRING SUMMER WARREN TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER](#)

IMAGE: [COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND OUTREACH DOCUMENTATION](#)

IMAGE: [WARREN TOWNSHIP WEBSITE](#)

PDF: [MAY 29, 2014 PURCHASE ORDER TO PRINT BROCHURES AND GREEN TEAM INFORMATION](#)

Food

Community Gardens

10 Points

Program Summary: On May 31, 2001 Warren Township purchased Wagner Farm, a former dairy farm located on Mountain Avenue. In March 2004 the township authorized the formation of a not-for-profit corporation to raise funds to design, construct and operate the arboretum on township-owned land; Wagner Farm Arboretum Foundation, Inc. was incorporated on June 11, 2004. The Community and Giving Gardens were launched in spring 2007. They consist of 78,000 square feet of fenced-in land, divided into two sections. The Community Garden includes 120 10 x 20' plots that are rented out to local residents; all plots are currently rented out and there are 16 people on the waiting list. The other half is devoted to the Giving Garden. Run entirely by volunteers, its goal is to grow nutritious and tasty produce for those in need in the area. Distributing through a network of nine local food banks, the Giving Garden donated nearly 28,000 pounds of fruits and vegetables in 2013. The Giving Garden hosts the township-wide educational program, known as "Growing to Give." Primary school children start seeds in classrooms, then come to the Garden to plant in spring. Older students periodically help with maintenance. Other beds in the garden are tended by volunteers and teams from local corporations and organizations. Labor (plowing, installation of water lines, fence building) is provided by volunteers and the Warren Township Department of Public Works. Local businesses have contributed materials or provided materials at cost. The Community Gardens continue to depend on Warren Township DPW for large-scale maintenance chores, including mowing, the spreading of woodchips, and grading the gravel parking lot. Arboretum and garden activities are active year round and featured on the township's web-site.

PDF: [COMMUNITY GARDENS WARREN NEWSLETTER](#)

PDF: [COMMUNITY GARDENS DOCUMENTATION](#)

WORD: [COMMUNITY GARDENS QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT](#)

Farmers Markets

10 Points

Program Summary: The Wagner Farm Arboretum Farmers' Market opened for business with 10 vendors on June 20, 2013 and continued each Thursday from 3-7 p.m. until the week before Thanksgiving. The 2014 edition features 16 vendors and opens Thursday June 5 from 3-7 p.m. The Market will run weekly until October 9. Vendors are selling locally grown fruits and vegetables, all natural meats, artisan breads, pasta and sauces, gluten-free products, home-cooked Italian specialties to go, award-winning local wines, fresh dried fruits and nuts, baked goods, homemade pickles, salsas, and hot sauces, and local honey. Vendor fees for 2014 are \$20 per week, down from \$25 weekly in 2013. The Wagner Farm Arboretum was established in 2004 on land owned by Warren Township. The Township supports the Farmers' Market through advertising on its web site, the electronic sign in front of town hall, and via township-sponsored e-mail blasts. Warren Township Department of Public Works also provides additional support by mowing the market site and maintaining the parking lot.

PDF: [FARMERS MARKETS DOCUMENTATION 2014 WARREN SPRING SUMMER NEWSLETTER](#)

WORD: [FARMERS MARKETS QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT](#)

PDF: [FARMERS MARKETS DOCUMENTATION](#)

Green Design

Upgrade/Retrofit-Light Pollution

10 Points

Program Summary: Warren Township adopted the Sustainable Land Use Pledge by Resolution 2011-173 and with Resolution No. 2011-225, "Amending & Adopting Sustainable New Jersey Land Use Pledge" Warren adheres to the practice of not installing streetlights on public roads beyond the center of town. There are approximately 125 streetlights on public roads; the majority are located in the center of town. Of these approximately 60 have LED lights and the rest of the light bulbs will be replaced by the end of 2014 to have all the public street lights using LED lights. From Warren's General Ordinances, Exhibit A - Warren Lighting Standards and Regulations Township of Warren (Subsection 15-7.3d) regulates that excess illumination not be placed in Warren is included with this submission.

WORD: [UPGRADE/RETROFIT-LIGHT POLLUTION DOCUMENTATION](#)

Site Plan Green Design Standards

20 Points

Program Summary: Through Resolution 2011-225, Warren Township adopted a "Sustainable Land Use Pledge." The Environmental Assessment Report (EAR) is required for all major development and any application requiring variance in Warren Township. The EAR report is required to address physical and man-made features and conditions at the site. The assessment must address the proposed use and development of the property and the impact upon the physical and man-made conditions. To the extent impacts result, design solutions are required to mitigate impacts. The EAR report is reviewed by the Township Engineer, Township Planner, Township Health Officer, Warren Township Environmental Commission and Warren Township Historic Sites and Preservation Committee. Each entity reports to their respective Board having jurisdiction on the application. The report is made a part of the public hearing process. In Warren Township Ordinance 15-6 STANDARDS FOR COMPLETE APPLICATION AND PLAT DETAILS, item 8.2 requires 4 copies of the Environmental Assessment Report from developers.

WORD: [SITE PLAN GREEN DESIGN STANDARDS DOCUMENTATION](#)

Create a Green Development Checklist

10 Points

Program Summary: Through Resolution 2011-225, Warren Township adopted a "Sustainable Land Use Pledge." In 2013 the Warren Township Green with input from the Warren Environmental Commission, the township planner, engineer and construction office developed two sets of voluntary Low Impact Checklists. The Low Impact Checklist for Planning is given to developers when submitting plans. The Low Impact Checklist for Construction is distributed through the construction office and distributed to residents and builders working on renovation projects. The purpose of the Low Impact lists is to minimize environmental impacts in development and construction projects. The Low Impact Checklists for Planning and Construction won a 2013 ANJEC Environmental Achievement Award. To further Warren's commitment to protecting natural resources a Green Development Practices Checklist is under development and anticipated to be introduced in 2014, which would require developers to fill out an environmental checklist on whether they will implement 14 environmental practices. These practices cover: 1) Indigenous Plant Species; 2) Landscape and Stormwater Maintenance to employ integrated pest management; 3) Drip Irrigation or water sensors to conserve irrigation water use; 4) Design and construct parking lots with pervious pavements; 5) Best Stormwater Management Practices; 6) Stormwater Harvesting Elements; 7) Implement Solar or other Alternative Energy Generation; 8) Implement LED Lighting; 9) Use Site Planning that maximizes Natural Conditions; 10) Encourage Passive Solar Elements; 11) Implement locally sourced materials; 12) Recycle and Salvage Construction Waste Management; 13) Implement Local Art in Landscaping; 14) Reduce Light Pollution. More information to follow.

PDF: [LOW IMPACT CHECKLISTS FOR PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION](#)

WORD: [WARREN DRAFT OF GREEN DEVELOPMENT CHECKLIST](#)

Health & Wellness

Anti-Idling Education & Enforcement Program

10 Points

Program Summary: Locations in Warren identified as the areas where idling most frequently occurs include the schools, coffee shops, banks, library, book drop, strip malls, and the post office. Anti-idling signs have been posted where idling occurs most, at the schools, ball fields, library and municipal grounds locations. The green pins show locations where anti-idling signs have been posted at the schools: <https://maps.google.com/maps/ms?msid=205342021157754056460.0004b23057ec542f7ad6e&msa=0&spn=0.019349,0.042272&dg=feature> Additional signs have been posted on the municipal grounds. Through Sustainable Jersey from grant money from PSE&G, Warren Township received a capacity building grant, which includes funding for 8 additional anti-idling signs to be placed on municipal property 2014. In addition, email blasts were distributed through Warren Recreation, Watchung Hills Regional High School <http://www.wrhhs.org/cms/lib07/NJ01001319/Centricity/Domain/323/The%20Warrior%20Weekly%20Volume%20XLIX.pdf>, Warren Elementary Schools, which included Warren Green Team's anti-idling brochure. New brochures were printed and distributed at the April 26, 2014 Green Fair and are available in the Warren municipal building. The anti-idling brochure is available on the Warren Township website www.warrentnj.org/resources and the Green Team Facebook page www.facebook.com/warrengreenteam. In April of 2014 Watchung Hills Regional High School received the Pediatric/ Adult Asthma Coalition of New Jersey Asthma Friendly School Award, of which one of the criteria is to support the NJ DEP "No Idling Pledge." On June 12, 2014 the Warren Township Committee approved resolution 2014-126, "Authorizing Support of the Vehicle "No Idling" Policy.

IMAGE: [WATCHUNG HILLS REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ASTHMA AWARD](#)

PDF: [ANTI-IDLING EDUCATION & ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM DOCUMENTATION](#)

IMAGE: [NEW ANTI-IDLING EDUCATION & ENFORCEMENT SIGNS PURCHASE ORDER](#)

WORD: [ANTI-IDLING SIGNS](#)

WORD: [ANTI-IDLING EDUCATION & ENFORCEMENT SIGNS](#)

PDF: [ANTI-IDLING EDUCATION & ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM DOCUMENTATION](#)

Innovative Projects

Innovative Community Project 1

10 Points

Program Summary: Warren has an extensive trail system which is a resource for the town. There are 23 trails on 660 acres in Warren Township. Here is a link describing the various trails: <http://warrennj.org/parks-trails-facilities/> The trails are maintained by the Department of Public Works. New trails added in 2014 include the East County Trails in collaboration with Somerset County, between Old Stirling Road and Dubois Road. Additional trails being developed are off Mountain Boulevard near the Municipal Complex. Warren has made a commitment to developing and maintaining recreational trails. A recreation volunteer compelled a listing of the wildflowers found on the Warren Trails.

PDF: [TRAILS SYSTEM IN WARREN TOWNSHIP](#)

PDF: [INNOVATIVE COMMUNITY PROJECT 1 \(FORMERLY OTHER\) DOCUMENTATION](#)

PDF: [EAST COUNTY TRAILS](#)

PDF: [WILDFLOWERS FOUND ON WARREN TRAILS](#)

Innovative Community Project 2

10 Points

Program Summary: Innovative Community Project: Hazard Tracker App The Warren Township Utility Committee (WTUC) was formed in response to the devastating destruction to the utility infrastructure in the wake of Hurricane Sandy, Irene and the October 2012 snowstorm. The winds from the Sandy caused much of the town to be without power for approximately 2 weeks due to downed utility poles and wires with many people out of power for more than 28 days over an 18 month period. In addition there were hazards of blocked roads, due to downed trees and live electrical wires. The WTUC formed a partnership with Dr. Janne Lindqvist at the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Rutgers and developed a mobile application Hazard Tracker. Through volunteer efforts and the collaboration of the Warren Police Department 317 miles of wires and all utility poles in Warren were tracked for hazards and potential hazards during September, 2013. A total of 351 hazards were identified, including 106 wires, 29 poles and 216 trees. See the presentation here: [https://www.dropbox.com/s/1oqmk720ewpaeca/WTUAC Presentation 0414.pdf](https://www.dropbox.com/s/1oqmk720ewpaeca/WTUAC%20Presentation%200414.pdf) The hazards were remedied by PSEG and JCPL through follow up by the Utility Committee and Township staff. Utility Committee Co-Chair, Bob Morrison presented the results to the Township Committee on April 3, 2014. Benefits of this work will help make Warren more a safer, more resilient community in dealing with future storms and save money by handling utility hazards in a proactive manner. By using highly targeted plan of action in pinpointing specific trees at risk in respect to damage to utility poles and wires, from an environmental perspective there is a major benefit in saving trees using the Hazard Tracker app. The benefits of using the Hazard Tracker app can be applied to other municipalities in New Jersey.

IMAGE: [COLLABORATION BETWEEN RUTGERS ENGINEERING AND WARREN UTILITY COMMITTEE](#)

WORD: [NEWSPAPER ARTICLE APRIL 11, 2014 WARREN UTILITY COMMITTEE PRESENTATION](#)

Innovative Community Project 3

10 Points

Program Summary: The Warren Township Sewage Authority does not treat waste with chlorine, as is common practice. A UV filtration process is used which causes less harm to the environment than the traditional chlorine treatments. Transport of hazardous materials and exposure to toxic chemicals is reduced by this more environmentally friendly waste treatment process. This UV treatment process could be used in other sewage treatment programs across the state.

PDF: [WARREN SEWAGE AUTHORITY UV WASTE TREATMENT PROCESS](#)

Land Use & Transportation

Sustainable Land Use Pledge

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: Sustainable Land Use Pledge Warren has a long-standing commitment to retain the rural character of the town as reflected in preserving land as open space. Through the Warren Environmental Commission, Warren Township is a recipient of the 2011 Sustainable Land Use Planning Grant for Municipalities from the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (AJEC) for the purpose of updating the Natural Resource Inventory. To support continued sustainable land use, the Warren Township Committee approved the Sustainable Land Use Pledge. Mal Plager of the Warren Township Committee, the Township Administrator, the Township Planner, and the Green Team Chair drafted this pledge collaboratively. The Land Use Pledge was discussed at the November 11, 2010, April 12, 2011, and October 12, 2011 Green Team meetings. An initial resolution was adopted on July 21, 2011 entitled, "Supporting Sustainable New Jersey Land Use Pledge." To address the topic of mixed use a second resolution was adopted on October 27, 2011, which supersedes the previous resolution. Both resolutions were distributed to the Planning Board, Zoning Board, Warren Township Sewerage Authority, Board of Health, the Environmental Commission, and the Warren Green Team. Warren is a formerly rural community, now a suburban community and situated between route 78 on the north with 4 exits in our borders and route 22 to the south outside our borders. Regarding public transportation, Warren is not located on a railroad line or a bus route. A survey on creating a park and ride was sent to town residents in April of 2009. There was not sufficient response at that time to enable the creation of a park and ride or a bus route. A park and ride is deemed desirable and would be created with partners should the need and funding exist. Somerset County Transportation offers transportation to disabled residents and senior citizens over aged 60. A shuttle bus picks senior citizens and disabled adults and transports them to the grocery store and doctor's appointments. On Wednesdays and Fridays this service brings senior citizens and disabled adults to local malls. Ridewise, which operates in Somerset County has a carpool matching service. Information about Ridewise has been posted on the town website. The nature of our community prevents public transportation from being feasible at this time.

PDF: [RESOLUTION 2011-225](#)

PDF: [WARREN BRIEF ENVIRONMENTAL HIS](#)

PDF: [LAND USE MAP](#)

Natural Resources

Open Space Plans

10 Points

Program Summary: The Warren Township Planning Board with input from other relevant committees such as the Open Space Site Acquisition Advisory Committee, Recreation Committee, Environmental Commission, and Historic Sites Committee analyzes potential development and recommends the purchasing of land to preserve it for public use. In recent years, the Town and/or Somerset County purchased over 400 acres. Most of this space would have been available for residential development. Purchases include Wagner Farm, 90 acres; Meyers Farm; Coddington Farms, 45 acres, Coddington and Linder property in 2008; Michellar property 60 acres; Williams property in 2008, 95 acres; D'Angelo property in 2008, 90 acres. Not all of the open space was at cost to Warren Township or the County. A very large parcel, included a pond, was donated to Warren Township by Atlantic Development and is used as a nature trail and home of our fishing derby. Possibly the most important development regarding Open Space in Warren Township was the adoption of Ordinance 2-35 on 9/12/02. This ordinance titled "Open Space, Recreation, and Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund / Open Site Acquisition Advisory Committee" created a funding method for the purchase of Open Space. In 1997 voters approved special tax rate of one (\$.01) cent per hundred (\$100.00) dollars of the annual assessed valuation of each property was added to the total township tax rate. In 2001 the voters approved an increase to two (\$.02) cents per hundred. Funds collected are deposited into a Trust Fund and must be used only for acquisition of open space, following the guidelines set forth in the ordinance. The Township may use a Green Acres Planning Incentive Grant or a Somerset County Open Space Grant to assist with purchases. The Township Committee reviews the Planning Board's recommendations and makes the final decision to

purchase or not purchase. The Open Space Plans are elements of the Master Plans.

WORD: [WARREN MASTER PLAN](#)

PDF: [OPEN SPACE RESOLUTION](#)

WORD: [OPEN SPACE AMMENDMENT](#)

Environmental Commission

10 Points

Program Summary: The Warren Environmental Commission (WEC) is a research body and a resource to the town in Environmental matters. The WEC reviews development plans and makes recommendations to the Planning Board and the Board of Adjustment on the environmental impact. Originally established by ordinance as the Warren Township Conservation Commission on April 17, 1969, the name was later changed to the Environmental Commission. The primary function of the Environmental Commission is to protect natural resources and encourage their wise use. The commission, by stature, has the power to conduct research into the use and possible use of open land area and coordinate the activities of unofficial bodies organized for similar purposes, advertise, prepare, print, and distribute books, maps, charts, plans and pamphlets which it deems necessary for its purpose. The following list is just a few of the many projects undertaken by the commission since it's inception: Local Stream Water Quality Analysis, Biological Control Study of the Gypsy Moth, Deer Resistant Plant Materials Pamphlet, Dock Watch Green Acres Purchase Study, Greenways Project, Conservation Easement Delineation Post Markers, and Tree Protection Ordinance. In 2011 the Warren Township Environmental Commission received a Sustainable Land Use Planning Grant from the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC). Through this grant and volunteer efforts the WEC has an updated draft version of the town's Natural Resource Inventory Report, which will be completed in 2014.

WORD: [ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION ORDIN](#)

PDF: [ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION RES.](#)

WORD: [ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION DOCUMENTATION](#)

WORD: [ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION 2014 MEETING DATES](#)

WORD: [ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MARCH 5, 2014 WEC MINUTES](#)

PDF: [ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION FEBRUARY 18, 2014 WEC MINUTES](#)

Tree Protection Ordinance

10 Points

Program Summary: Tree Protection Ordinance The amount of Trees in Warren is a valued natural resource and contributes to the rural character of the community. The Warren Tree Ordinance was adopted after numerous complaints were recorded over the number of trees being removed by developers. This ordinance was the result of six years of study and discussion. Very specific guidelines were set regarding the purpose for removal and the number of trees that could be removed. A permit is now required for tree removal. Fines were established and our tree replacement program was enhanced. Ordinance 02-25 was researched and drafted by the Environmental Commission and adopted on June 27, 2002. Attached is the ordinance.

WORD: [TREE ORDINANCE](#)

Operations & Maintenance

Integrated Pest Management *Retires 12/31/23*

10 Points

Program Summary: Integrated Pest Management The Assistant Superintendent of the Department of Public Works oversees the Integrated Pest Management Program (IPM), which has been in effect since 2008. All town owned lands

are maintained with IPM techniques. Various practices used to implement Integrated Pest Management include: adhere to a frequent timely schedule for mowing and grounds maintenance, adhere to a seeding and aeration program in the Spring and Fall, provide timely collection of trash at municipal parks and buildings, keep tree branches and shrubbery well maintained and away from buildings, ensure roofs are repaired in a timely manner as to not attract insects to deteriorating wood. Pesticides are not used as regular practice and have not been used in several years. When a pest problem requires an application of a product, the least toxic product is used. Although all township lands are pesticide free zones, PFZ Signs are being posted in the playground.

PDF: [RESOLUTION NO. 251](#)

WORD: [IPM PROGRAM AND PLAN](#)

PDF: [PESTICIDE BROCHURE](#)

Green Grounds & Maintenance Policy

10 Points

Program Summary: Environmentally Friendly Grounds & Maintenance Policy Warren Township has been implementing Environmentally Friendly Grounds and Maintenance Practices, such as Integrated Pest Management and practicing water conservation by not watering lawns. The Township does not collect leaves. Tree waste is chipped and used for the town trails. This policy formalizes current practices and encourages the best Environmentally Friendly Grounds and Maintenance practices going forward. This policy was forwarded to the department heads in town and posted on the township website.

PDF: [RESOLUTION NO. 250](#)

WORD: [GROUNDS & MAINTENANCE EMAIL](#)

Recycled Materials & Composting

10 Points

Program Summary: Warren Township recycles dead trees from municipal property turning those trees into woodchips for township recreational trails. The excess leaves and brush from municipal property are composted by JH Reid in Middlesex. In addition grass clippings on all municipal lands, except for approx. 1000 square feet of the municipal complex follow the cut it and leave it policy and practice. These practices help reduce waste and save money by not purchasing new woodchips. Recycling landscaping materials reduces waste that would have otherwise been disposed of. Warren Township initiated a recycling program through the Department of Public Works. In lieu of purchasing stone, DPW utilizes recycled wood chips as a base for the Wagner Farm Arboretum and hiking trails. JH REID On Site Recycling provides the recycling services for the trees removed from municipal property and right of ways. The town does not accept leaves and wood from the residents. As of date, 75 yards of wood debris have been recycled and used as native materials for Wagner Farm and among Warren's hiking trails. Warren has reduced its budgetary costs for the purchase of stone by \$2,400 within the past year.

IMAGE: [WOOD CHIPS ON DEALAMAN TRAIL](#)

PDF: [LETTER ON WOOD RECYCLING PROGRAM](#)

PDF: [PAYMENT HISTORY FOR JH REID ON SITE RECYCLING](#)

PDF: [GREEN GROUNDS & MAINTENANCE POLICY](#)

Recycled Copy Paper

10 Points

Program Summary: There have been discussions for several years that Warren Township use recycled paper. There had been concern that recycled copier paper caused jams in the copier systems. For the year 2014 Warren Township will be purchasing 25% of the municipality's copier paper using a minimum of 30% of post-consumer recycled content. In the future, the town would consider purchasing additional recycled copier paper supplies if the price of the recycled paper reaches parity with conventional copier paper. The recycled paper purchasing is anticipated meet the Sustainable Jersey criteria in the fall/winter of 2014. More information to follow.

IMAGE: [RECYCLED PAPER PURCHASE ORDER](#)
WORD: [RECYCLED PAPER DOCUMENTATION](#)
PDF: [RECYCLED PAPER PURCHASE ORDER MAY 2014](#)

Green Cleaning Products & Motorized Cleaning Equipment

10 Points

Program Summary: In March of 2014, Warren Township started using Industrial Strength Vinegar to clean its offices and municipal buildings, including kitchens and bathroom spaces. The industrial strength vinegar is used to clean the kitchen countertops and bathrooms in all of the township buildings. The custodian reports that the vinegar outperforms conventional products previously used. By the end of 2014 30% of Warren's Cleaning purchases will be green products. No training was instituted; the custodian has been cleaning Warren's municipal facilities for a many years.

IMAGE: [GREEN CLEANING PRODUCTS DOCUMENTATION PURCHASE ORDER](#)
IMAGE: [GREEN CLEANING PRODUCTS DOCUMENTATION PURCHASE ORDER APRIL 2014](#)
PDF: [GREEN CLEANING VINEGAR FACT SHEET FROM MANUFACTURER](#)
IMAGE: [PREVIOUS CLEANER \(FANTASTIC ALL PURPOSE\) INGREDIENTS](#)
IMAGE: [INDUSTRIAL STRENGTH CLEANING VINEGAR INGREDIENTS](#)
PDF: [INDUSTRIAL STRENGTH VINEGAR CATALOG SPECS](#)

Sustainability & Climate Planning

Community Asset Mapping

10 Points

Program Summary: Input for the Community Asset Mapping was solicited from the Green Team, Environmental Commission, Recreation, Historic Sites, Open Space Committees as well as the Department of Public Works. Through a work session on November 17, 2011 which included members of the Warren Green Team, the Warren Environmental Commission and the Town Engineer areas of interest were determined. The Historic Sites Committee was reached out to for additional feedback. Through the work of a Green Team volunteer and the Engineering Department and numerous follow-ups some of the areas have been mapped and is on the town website to make this information accessible for all. Areas that have been mapped are: Trails, Recreational Sites, Fire Companies, Schools, Registered Historic Sites, Historical Points of Interest and Farm Markets. Two Community Asset maps were created. Both are posted on the Green Team pages on the Warren Township website. For the interactive Community Asset Map: when the pin on the map is scrolled over, there is a link to the website of the location, where available. There is also the option to get directions to the locations on the map. The additional Community Asset Map offers another visual for the various sites in Warren. The purpose of these maps is for the benefit of town residents to have an immediate accessible way to find the locations in town to use and enjoy. Another benefit of creating these maps is to be able to use this for the Environmental Resource Inventory being compiled by the Warren Environmental Commission through the assistance of an ANJEC (Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions) Grant. There were numerous technical challenges such as getting the colors to match of the pins on the interactive map and the legend to match. The intention is to make the interactive map a living document with periodic updates and additions. Link to interactive map: <http://www.zeemaps.com/map?group=300163> Both community asset maps can be viewed on the town website.

PDF: [COMMUNITY ASSET MAP](#)
WORD: [CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES](#)

Waste Management

Prescription Drug Safety & Disposal

10 Points

🏅 Bronze Priority 🏅 Silver Priority

Program Summary: Warren Township participated in Operation Take-back sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Administration on April 27, 2013; October 29, 2013 and April 26, 2014. Captain Glynn conducted the event in October, and the weight is not available. The weight of medicines collected on April 27, 2013 was 176 pounds at the Police Station and 100 pounds at the back drive-through location. The weight of medicines collected on April 26, 2013 was 201 pounds at the Police Station and 225 pounds at the back drive-through location. The planning involved planning telephone conversations with Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) agents in New Jersey, and with Lieutenant Hentschle of the Warren Township Police Department, Police Captain Leffert of the Warren Township Police Department, and with a Lieutenant at the Somerset County Sheriff's Office. Handouts and posters advertising the events were developed using the following websites and clinical data: 1. The DEA website recommends using the posters they developed to advertise Operation Take-back Day, the National Take-back Day. Using their posters allowed for continuity throughout NJ and the USA. Since the DEA sponsors the cost of radio and television advertising of the National Take-back Day as well as drug disposal costs, it was in our best interest to utilize their posters as a backdrop for our town's specific drop off information. The following DEA website provided necessary information, http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/index.html 2. The New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs sponsors, Project Medicine Drop, a program allowing residents to drop off medications free of charge, 24 hours a day at various police stations throughout the state. The drop box closest to Warren Township is located at the Somerset County Sheriff's Office in Somerville. The Somerset County Police supported the event by manning the drive-through portion of the event. Included in the documentation is a photo of the table at the Green Fair which had information on Prescription Drug safety. When someone would bring their prescriptions they were escorted by a Green Team volunteer who is a pharmacist, a few feet away to the Warren Police station which was the official prescription drug drop off point. Due to the wind and display conditions, you can't see the posters in the photo.

PDF: [MEDICINE TAKE BACK DAY PLANNING REPORT](#)

PDF: [PRESCRIPTION DRUG SAFETY AND DISPOSAL WARREN TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER](#)

: [PRESCRIPTION DRUG SAFETY AND DISPOSAL DOCUMENTATION TOWNSHIP NIXIE](#)

WORD: [PRESCRIPTION DRUG SAFETY AND DISPOSAL DOCUMENTATION](#)

WORD: [PRESCRIPTION DRUG SAFETY AND DISPOSAL DOCUMENTATION](#)

WORD: [PRESCRIPTION DRUG SAFETY AND DISPOSAL TABLE AT APRIL 26, 2014 GREEN FAIR](#)

Commercial & Institutional Recycling

10 Points

Program Summary: Under the direction of Warren's Recycling Coordinator and Supervisor of the Department of Public Works, Warren has a program in place to recycle commercial and institutional materials. A mailing is sent to all town businesses through the Department of Public Works. The latest mailing is included with this documentation for this action. In 2013 20,000 pounds of Commercial & Institutional materials were recycled from this program as per the included tonnage report.

WORD: [COMMERCIAL & INSTITUTIONAL RECYCLING DOCUMENTATION 2013 TONNAGE LETTER](#)

EXCEL: [TONNAGE REPORT](#)

Community Paper Shredding Day

5 Points

Program Summary: Community Paper Shredding Day Advertising for the event was posted on the Township website, in the Township Newsletter, articles in the local newspapers, flyers (on recycled paper) distributed and posted in Town Hall, the library and at local businesses. Community Paper Shredding Day Through the support of a Sustainable Jersey Capacity Building Grant funded by PSE&G, the Warren Township Green held a Safe Shred Event on April 26, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. 4,150 pounds of paper were collected for shredding by Cintas Document Management, which was then brought to Harmon Recycling (a Division of Georgia Pacific). The paper shredding took place in the Municipal Parking at the same time as the Green Fair. There were numerous challenges. The first paper shredding truck had a flat tire and the second truck had technical difficulties and a third truck needed to be brought

in. This caused the line for those waiting to get their papers shredded to back up. Fortunately, all were able to have their papers shredded. Advertising for the event was posted on the Township website, in the Township Newsletter, articles in the local newspapers, flyers (on recycled paper) distributed and posted in Town Hall, the library and at local businesses.

PDF: [COMMUNITY PAPER SHREDDING DAY DOCUMENTATION](#)

WORD: [COMMUNITY PAPER SHREDDING TONNAGE REPORT](#)

IMAGE: [NEWS COVERAGE](#)

PDF: [PAPER SHREDDING PURCHASE ORDER](#)

Non-Mandated Materials Recycling

10 Points

Program Summary: The Warren Township Department of Public works holds collection days for a Mini-Dump on Saturday from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm May 3, 2014 through September 27, 2014 at the Warren Township Public Works Garage at 1 Bardy Road. Items that are recycled are appliances, metals, and tires. The Department of Public Works recycles appliance and metals through Klein's Recycling Center in South Plainfield. Tires are recycled through Absolute Recycling. In addition Somerset County Hazardous Waste Day holds an annual collection day in Warren. This took place on April 26, 2014 at the Warren Township Public Works Garage at 1 Bardy Road from 9:00am to 2:00pm. Please see page 8 of the Township Newsletter. Here is the link listing items collected: http://www.co.somerset.nj.us/CMS/Service/NJSOMER/NJSOMER_68/NJSOMER_68_72528.pdf More information can be provided as needed.

IMAGE: [NON-MANDATED MATERIALS RECYCLING DOCUMENTATION TIRES 201404 RECYCLING](#)

PDF: [NON-MANDATED MATERIALS RECYCLING DOCUMENTATION WARREN NEWSLETTER](#)

Grass - Cut It and Leave It Program

5 Points

Program Summary: Grass Cut It & Leave It Yard clippings make up approximately 20% of materials sent to landfills annually. All of this yard waste can be recycled and be used to contribute to a healthier lawn. The Grass - Cut It and Leave practice has environmental benefits. There is a reduction of the energy expended from carting grass clippings to landfills. As waste decomposes in landfill, methane gas is generated which is a contributor to climate change. Eliminating grass clippings from landfills mitigates these environmental issues. The Warren Township Department of Public Works adheres to a Grass Cut It & Leave It Policy, (with the exception of approx. 1000 square feet surrounding the municipal building, the courthouse and the library). The ball fields, playgrounds, and other municipal owned lands are maintained through the Grass Cut It & Leave It practice. The Warren Green Team put together a Grass Cut It & Leave It brochure which is available on the township website www.warrennj.org, the Green Team Facebook page www.facebook.com/warrengreenteam, and has been sent to town residents through the Recreation Department email blast.

PDF: [GRASS - CUT IT AND LEAVE IT BROCHURE](#)

: [GRASS - CUT IT AND LEAVE IT PROGRAM RECREATION EMAIL](#)