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# Warren Township achieves Sustainable Jersey certification

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Written by Staff Report

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**WARREN** — Township officials received notification that the township has met the rigorous requirements to achieve Sustainable Jersey certification. Warren is one of 33 towns in the state that have attained the bronze level of certification for 2011.

Mayor Carolann Garafola, said, "This recognition demonstrates why, in 2009, Warren Township was designated by Money magazine as the "6th Best Small Town to Live in the United States." In 2009 I recommended that the township committee pursue the Sustainable Jersey certification. I applaud the hard work of the members of the Green Team in achieving the bronze certification and thank them for their hard work and dedication. It is our goal to make Warren a green and friendly community to live and work."

The township committee will be recognizing this achievement at its meeting at 7 p.m. May 3.

To become Sustainable Jersey certified, Warren submitted documentation to show it had completed the required sustainability actions on a point based system. Warren Township met the required 150 action points to be certified at the bronze level, but it's certification came in at 215 points. The Warren Green Team led the certification process as outlined in Resolution #2009-285 adopted on Dec. 17, 2009. Warren completed 18 action items in 9 separate categories. For the Category of Energy Efficiency Warren earned 70 points for the action items of Energy Efficiency of Township Buildings.

The Green Team developed new policies and procedures that help the township to improve air and water quality, as well as attain the sustainable certification. New policies that were adopted to make

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Warren a Greener town include: Anti-Idling, An Environmentally Friendly Grounds & Maintenance Policy, and an Integrated Pest Management Policy for the Department of Public Works.

One action item of interest to town residents is the Community Asset Mapping that is available on the Green Team pages of the township website. Two maps feature areas of interest, such as hiking trails, historical sites and local farms. The interactive map has pins that can be clicked to see descriptions and in some cases contact information and directions to various locations.

The actions completed and documented in this certification submission represent years of careful planning and conservation effort.



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