



Sustainable Jersey Certification Report

This is the Sustainable Jersey Certification Report of Belleville Twp, a Sustainable Jersey bronze certified applicant.

Belleville Twp was certified on October 04, 2022 with 185 points. Listed below is information regarding Belleville Twp's Sustainable Jersey efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable Jersey contact for Belleville Twp is:

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| Name: | GABRIELLE BENNETT |
| Title: | GREEN BELLEVILLE |
| Address: | 162 NEW STREET, BELLEVILLE, NJ BELLEVILLE, NJ 07109 |
| Phone: | 9734775006 |

Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Belleville Twp was approved for in 2022 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.

Animals in the Community

Pledge Supporting NJ Wildlife Action Plan *Retired 12/31/22*

10 Points

Program Summary: The Township of Belleville was recently awarded several NJDEP Stewardship Grants and a Nature Conservancy grant to reestablish native species that will support biodiversity and local wildlife. The Township of Belleville revised its Master Plan a year ago which noted there is a shortage of Open Space and Park areas below the required criteria of open space for the people that live here. The Township plans to balance this by focusing on preserving its township

owned properties and open areas and begin restoring some of them with native plants. The Township is also located along the critical flood plain of the Passaic River which before the Clean Water Act was used as a spillway for industry and storm water runoff for years. The Lower Passaic River has a long history of industrialization, which has resulted in degraded water quality, sediment contamination, loss of wetlands and abandoned or underutilized properties along the shore. The river was last dredged during the Lower River Restoration Project Final Environmental Dredging Pilot Study and available in a 2012 report. The Township of Belleville will highlight the Passaic River and its ecological importance in a mural project that is being designed along the river on a nearby highway embankment. The Township is seeking another source of funding after not qualifying for the latest round of funding through the Sustainable Jersey Grant cycle. The mural will highlight the Passaic River and what local and state biologists have noted; the return of some species of fish and birds to the river. The Township will also continue its plans for the Cherry Blossom Mural project to expand its designation as the Cherry Blossom Capitol as noted throughout Essex County's Branch Brook Park. The Township of Belleville's Town Council adopted the New Jersey Wildlife Action Plan on March 20, 2020. The proactive management actions identified in the Wildlife Action Plan are intended to keep species from becoming threatened or endangered or to aid in the recovery of those that are already listed. New Jersey's Wildlife Action Plan will serve as a blueprint for conserving Belleville's wildlife heritage over the next decade. The Plan identifies priority actions that our community can implement over the next few years to address the myriad threats facing our wildlife populations and their habitats.

PDF: [BELLEVILLE SUPPORTING NJ WILDLIFE ACTION PLAN RESOLUTION](#)

PDF: [MEMO TO PLANNING AND ZONING BOARDS WITH RESOLUTION PLEDGING SUPPORT FOR NJ WILDLIFE ACTION PLAN](#)

Arts & Creative Culture

Establish a Creative Team

10 Points

Program Summary: The Township of Belleville Creative Team was established by municipal resolution on January 14, 2020, which advises the Municipal Green Team about Art, History and Culture of our community. Its role is to foster creativity and excellence in the arts to enrich the quality of life for residents, the business community and visitors to the Township of Belleville. The Team recognizes the special nature of the arts community as fundamental to the identity of our town. The committee takes on special projects as needed. The Creative Team aims to further the reach of our cultural programming and enrich the quality of life by supporting accomplished local and regional artists, exhibitions, classes, art talks, performances and festivals organized through the Essex County Department of Recreation and Cultural Affairs. The Team has named Athena Zhe our Township Artist. She has been collaborating with the Green Team and Creative Team on several projects to bring art installations into our community. The Municipal Green Team and The Creative Team have one large mural project completed during the Summer of 2020 . The mural is reflective of the Township's sense of community pride and highlights Belleville's iconic Cherry Blossom trees which were planted throughout Branch Brook Park and are the street tree for the Township of Belleville. Murals are always beautiful instilling a deeper value in the conversations created around them. The design for our murals provides an intersection of our past to our present. The Creative Team is also has a second mural planned depicting Belleville's history in part of the American Revolutionary War.

PDF: [BELLEVILLE CREATIVE TEAM RESOLUTION](#)

IMAGE: [WELCOME TO BELLEVILLE CHERRY BLOSSOM MURAL](#)

Community Partnership & Outreach

Green Team

10 Points

 Bronze Required

Program Summary: On July 12, 2022, the Mayor and Town Council of Belleville, NJ adopted a resolution reestablishing the Green Team through the designation of Green Belleville organization. The function of the Green Team will be for the purpose of pursuing Sustainable Jersey certification, funding and furthering sustainability in the Township of Belleville. The Green Team was awarded “Sustainable Jersey Bronze Certification in 2020” and through the Mayors Wellness Committee – Quality Care Institute was awarded “Healthy Town to Watch” designation in 2022. The group’s efforts are ongoing through Green Belleville. The Green Team is facilitating a number of city projects that align with Beautification and Sustainable Jersey’s mission. Each project has established teams that are working together to design and implement action plans in order to achieve their mutual goals and objectives. The Team promotes ongoing community outreach in as many sustainable actions as we can, like waste reduction, recycling and solid waste management, energy efficiency, natural resource and water resource management, health, wellness and the environment, healthy lifestyles, arts and culture and other activities and projects that support the sustainable mission. The Green Team is working on actions already in progress and also added new actions including: hosting a green fair, facilitating a reusable bag and zero waste campaign, farmers market, community garden, water conservation and education, complete and green streets and bicycle and pedestrian safety. The residents and businesses of the Township of Belleville have been pleased with the Green Team and the projects we have completed so far... They follow our Facebook page for information on upcoming events and chances to volunteer.

PDF: [2022 GREEN TEAM RESOLUTION.PDF](#)

WORD: [SUSTAINABLE NJ GREEN TEAM GOALS DRAFT.DOCX](#)

WORD: [SUSTAINABLE NJ GREEN TEAM WEB PAGE INFO..DOCX](#)

IMAGE: [2022 THE GREEN TEAM AND VOLUNTEERS.JPEG](#)

IMAGE: [3-IMG_1785 -GREEN TEAM WALKING.JPEG](#)

Community Education & Outreach

15 Points

Program Summary: UPDATED The Township of Belleville with the help of the Municipal Green team and its volunteers continue to remain active in the community hosting events to residents and involving them whenever we can. The Municipal Green Team enjoys collaborating on ideas for additional Educational and Outreach Programs, the team has a strong partnership with the School District Green Team and promotes working together on sustainable initiatives. There are a lot of projects and events that we host that are appropriate to send to schools to see if any families with children want to participate. We have a strong partnership with the High School Science club and those students ask to be included in anything we are doing in the community. We researched new ideas by looking at national celebratory event days. Some of them include, Earth Day, Arbor

Day, National Trails Day, Wetlands month, etc. And another way we came up with ideas was to search what current environmental concerns were right now and not part of another action. All of the programs on the attached In-Person Event sheets were developed and will be continuous. All were advertised through the Township web site, social media and flyers. One event was recorded on the District WBHS Channel. We are submitting Three In-Person Events - we hope to acquire 15 points. -Earth Day Clean Up and Arbor Day tree giveaway with a talk about pollution, littering and conservation. = 5 points -National Trails Day - Community Hike on the Lenape Trail which a portion of it goes through Belleville. = 5 points -Monarch Butterfly tagging program (in response to Monarchs in decline) collecting real scientific data with High School Science Club - a video was made of the pollinator garden and aired on WBHS channel. = 5 points These programs we will continue to develop for years to come and teaching our children and residents about a healthy and sustainable ecosystem.

PDF: [IN-PERSON CHECKLIST - EARTH DAY CLEAN-UP.PDF](#)

PDF: [IN-PERSON CHECKLIST - GUIDED HIKE ON THE LENAPE TRAIL.PDF](#)

PDF: [IN-PERSON CHECKLIST - GREEN TEAM AND STUDENTS TAGGING MONARCH BUTTERFLIES PROGRAM.PDF](#)

Green Fair

10 Points

Program Summary: Revised - The Township of Belleville Municipal Green Team and The School District Green Team partnered hosting the first annual "GREEN FAIR" which was held outdoors at Belleville High School on Saturday, September 18, 2021 from 1-2:00pm. Together we planned the date, organized how many staff and volunteers were needed, costs, put together vendor lists and the set-up and break down for the event. We purchased Green Team t-shirts for all volunteers and vendors. We also purchased Green Team mugs and reusable bags for giveaways for all participants. We wanted to promote the upcoming Bag Ban and other ways for people to be less wasteful. The focus of this event was to provide information to our community about the environment and sustainability. By making a few small changes to the way we go about our daily lives we can have a positive effect on the environment and our ecological footprint. To do this our goal was to educate residents on as many topics as we could, such as, solid waste, recycling, composting, energy saving, water conservation, watersheds, pollution, native plants, pollinators, healthy habits, healthy eating, exercising, etc. We asked all of our vendors to either please provide information, a giveaway or interact with participants through a hands on activity. The event was promoted with flyers, social media posts, and robo calls. The announcement was posted on both the Township and Board of Education Website, Facebook pages and Twitter. Flyers were sent home with all 4,500 students. (flyers are uploaded) We had environmental and educational activities, music, live animals presentations, a magic show, a Multicultural Performance which included storytelling through Native American songs, we had tours and plenty of vendors and exhibitors. Many exhibitors expressed the desire to come to the next Green Fair saying that our event was huge for a first time event and have already committed to our mission! Approximately 3,500 people were in attendance throughout the day.

PDF: [GREEN FAIR PHOTOS](#)

PDF: [ARTICLE 1 BELLEVILLE TIMES](#)

WORD: [BELLEVILLE HOLD A GREEN FAIR QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT](#)

PDF: [ARTICLE 2 OBSERVER](#)

PDF: [FACEBOOK POSTS AND FLYERS FOR ADVERTISING](#)

Food

Community Gardens

15 Points

Program Summary: The Township of Belleville Community Garden is managed by the Community Garden Advisory Board. We have one location called the Fairway Park Community Garden. We received a small grant and used the money for fence, shed and premade planter box kits. The DPW ran water to a spicket for a hose and also brought in fresh topsoil, mulch and stone. We built the planter boxes with the help of Belleville Scout Troop 350. the group came back the following week to help fill the planter boxes with the fresh soil and also mulched around the beds. The Fairway Park Garden opened in Spring 2021 and this is the second year in its operation. All information can be found on the Township website and Facebook pages. There is a green team Facebook page and recently a community garden Facebook page was created to expand communication amongst garden renters, and some members of the community with a gardening interest. The application and rules can be found on the Township website. We routinely meet informally at the garden. Many of the plots are rented by residents, some residents donated their plots back to the Green Team, other renters include scouts, clubs and the life skills class at Belleville high school. The plots that are being maintained by the Green Team are used for donations to the Senior Citizens Club and to the Belleville Farmers Market once a month. The produce is harvested and left in the refrigerator at the senior center. We plan to expand this garden to include a larger plot to farm and provide more donations. We also need to find other locations to serve local neighborhoods throughout Belleville. Belleville has a high population of renters, condominium and townhouse residents. These folks do not have a backyard so providing them a place to garden would be beneficial. We've attached articles and photos of this project.

WORD: [COMMUNITY GARDEN SUBMISSION QUESTIONNAIRE.DOCX](#)

PDF: [FACEBOOK POSTS-PR-PHOTOS.PDF](#)

WORD: [2022 COMMUNITY GARDEN MINUTES .DOCX](#)

IMAGE: [BELLEVILLE COMMUNITY GARDEN TIPS.PNG](#)

PDF: [BELLEVILLE-COMMUNITY-GARDEN-APPLICATION AND RULES.PDF](#)

Health & Wellness

Building Healthier Communities

25 Points

Program Summary: Township of Belleville – Mayors Wellness Committee and Mayors Wellness Campaign information – Mayor Michael Melham took the Mayors Participation Pledge for the Mayors Health and Wellness Campaign on January 15, 2021 – and the Township was awarded the “Healthy Town to Watch” Designation. The MWC meets quarterly, but during the pandemic we met monthly to discuss programming and events that provide information to residents and our schools that include: health education and screenings, exercise opportunities, healthy lifestyle choices, health news and disease prevention. Our goal was to use the Mayors Wellness Campaign

and information provided by the NJ Health Care Quality Institute to improve the quality of life for all individuals in the Township of Belleville. The team also utilizes the Community Health Needs Assessment report 2019 from the CMMC. Through our community partnerships, we support programs and actions dedicated to health, nutrition, recreation and physical activity for all ages. It is important to note that during the pandemic Township of Belleville was affected disproportionately exacerbating societal issues in a community that was already economically challenged. The Township of Belleville has a large amount of low income families and seniors. Belleville also has barriers in the forms of language, culture, transportation and open space or parks. For the Township of Belleville COVID-19 may have highlighted these disparities, but the problems are not new. The lack of community resources in the form of funds, grants or programs are some of the reasons for poverty and food insecurity. (It was notable that if we could have reduced these inequalities in the physical environment or provide access to healthy foods, parks, and transportation we could meet numerous health objectives as outlined in the "Healthy People 2020: Social Determinants of Health". Some of these health objectives were also emphasized in the "CMMC Report from 2019" narrowing a combined list of health issues for Essex County which include: obesity, diabetes and prenatal care making the top three out of the eleven issues which include: obesity, mental health, access to care, geriatric care, diabetes, prenatal care, language, substance abuse, heart disease, transportation and cancer.) This CMMC report is not conclusive for the Township of Belleville and we are seeking Technical Assistance to facilitate our own broader study of a Community Health Assessment. We recently applied for the SJ technical assistance grant and were one of the top three submissions. We are currently collaborating with SJ and another opportunity for assistance through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

WORD: [MAYORS WELLNESS CAMPAIGN APPLICATION COPY](#)

PDF: [MWC - HEALTHY TOWN TO WATCH DESIGNATION](#)

PDF: [MWC PLEDGE OF PARTICIPATION](#)

PDF: [MWC WALK AT WORK DAY](#)

PDF: [MWC COMMUNITY BIKE RIDE](#)

Innovative Projects

Innovative Community Project 1

10 Points

Program Summary: Belleville Streetscape Beautification Project Utilizing Above Ground Landscape Planters Brief Description: The Township of Belleville proposes an above-ground planting project which seeks to add greenery to the Township, improve the aesthetic appearance of heavily trafficked intersections, and foster a collaboration between the Township's new Better Belleville Green Team, High School Environmental Club and local Boy Scouts. The planters will help soften the appearance of the Townships hardscape surfaces, creating brighter, greener, and more welcoming environment for residents and visitors alike. Beautifying these main streets will also invite residents to walk Belleville's streets, which helps reduce the reliance on motorized travel, improve air quality, and increase foot traffic along main roads where Belleville's local businesses are concentrated, thereby stimulating economic development. In these ways, this project bolsters Belleville's environmental and economic sustainability. The planters will be made from repurposed wooden pallets to cut the costs, avoid waste and recycle effectively. We will use native plants for the planters, a couple of species we are considering include: *Prunus serotina* (wild cherry), *Cornus florida* (dogwood), *Cercis Canadensis* (redbud), *Rhododendron maximum* (wild rhododendron), *Callicarpia americana* (American beautyberry), *Campsis radicans* (trumpet

vine), *Rudbeckia fulgida* (black eyed Susan), and *Echinacea purpurea* (coneflower). Signage will explain the types of native plants in the planters and the probable causes for the decline of pollinators such as the use of pesticides. Once the native plants in the planters are established they can be integrated into broader community activities that include projects and programs for children, scouts, families and seniors. This project will also involve educating the public on sustainable practices. Members of the Better Belleville Green Team, High School Environmental Club and the Boy Scouts Troop 350 will repurpose wooden pallets for the planters to cut the costs, avoid waste, and recycle effectively. Once the project is completed, the Township will post pictures on social media along with a short summary of the project and its environmentally conscious elements. Thereafter, all residents and visitors will see better Belleville's sustainable efforts on display every time they travel along the Township's prominent roads.

PDF: [STREETSCAPE ABOVE GROUND PLANTER PROJECT](#)

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

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

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

Land Use & Transportation

Sustainable Land Use Pledge

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: In an effort for the Township of Belleville to become more sustainable and to protect lands and land usage, the township has adopted the Sustainable Land Use Pledge. The Belleville Town Council passed a Sustainable Land Use Pledge resolution on Tuesday, January 28, 2020. A memo was subsequently distributed to members of the planning board and zoning board on February 4, 2020. The resolution came a year after the Township of Belleville's adoption of a new Master Plan for a new vision for our township on January 10, 2019. The Township of Belleville's Master Plan promotes Sustainable Land use development that looks at the bigger picture of how and what we do on the land is connected to everything else in our community. Taking this approach for Sustainable land use makes it possible for our community to grow in ways that will support strong local economies and jobs, create vibrant neighborhoods with a range of housing and transportation options, and achieve healthy communities that provide residents – both human and non-human – with a clean environment. Our Master Plan looks at the following land use: compact development patterns; mixing of commercial and residential land uses, especially in our downtown areas; promoting development or redevelopment where infrastructure already exists; providing a range of housing choices for all incomes and all stages of life; providing safe transportation options that include biking, walking and mass transit; preserving remaining open space, natural beauty and critical environmental areas; and fostering distinctive, attractive communities that stimulate civic pride and offer residents a high quality of life and a strong sense of place. By adding this to our planning and zoning board's rules, it forces residents and builders to conform to what we are trying to achieve and that we believe that this pledge will make our town even more sustainable.

PDF: [SUSTAINABLE LAND USE PLEDGE DOCUMENTATION](#)

PDF: [MEMO TO PLANNING AND ZONING BOARDS](#)

Complete & Green Streets for All Policy

10 Points

Program Summary: The Township of Belleville wants its residents to live in a safe, healthy community. There has been a noticeable shift in the amount of vehicular traffic and the lack of safe walkable areas. The master plan was recently updated to review planning, zoning and connectivity of the town. Neighborhoods across the Township of Belleville are different. There are places that have local stores and shops, parks, schools, transit, a light rail station, etc. The group is looking at ways to safely move people around and balance the needs of all roadway users, such as pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and drivers. Belleville adopted a Complete Streets Resolution and Policy on June 14, 2022 to incorporate changes for our current neighborhoods and new project designs moving forward. We are incorporating these concepts simultaneously in several projects that we have coming up. Earlier this year the township was awarded several grants. 2022 The Together North Jersey's Vibrant Places Program - Belleville worked together with the Voorhees Transportation Center at Rutgers University (RU-VTC) and New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) for the development of a strategic branding plan for the Washington Avenue Commercial District. This included site visits and feedback from public meetings and a survey. This study is applicable for future planning of several other main corridor streets in the township. DRAFT complete and attached. 2022 Safe Routes to Transit Grant to improve the safety of pedestrians walking to the Belleville Silver Lake Light Rail Train Station. 2022 Sustainable Jersey Complete Streets Temporary Demonstration Project Guidance assistance project to provide guidance on the design and installation of pedestrian safety infrastructure and temporary safety measures for a crosswalk enhancement near the Belleville Middle School adjacent to Washington Avenue.

WORD: [BELLEVILLE - ACTION SUBMISSION WORKSHEETS COMPLETE MODEL POLICY ADOPTION FINAL.DOCX](#)

PDF: [BELLEVILLE - COMPLETE STREET RESOLUTION AND POLICY.PDF](#)

WORD: [BELLEVILLE REPORT DRAFT_PROJECTTEAMREVIEW_06202022 \(AUTOSAVED\).DOCX](#)

PDF: [WASHINGTONAVEOUTREACHRESULTSSUMMARY_03222022.PDF](#)

PDF: [BELLEVILLE COMPLETE STREETS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE - TEMPORARY DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.PDF](#)

Natural Resources

Tree Protection Ordinance *Retires 12/31/25*

10 Points

Program Summary: (revised) The Township of Belleville realizes the importance of trees. Belleville is a developed community with a limited amount of Open Space so protecting trees is important. The trees on our streets, parks, playgrounds and backyards create a peaceful, aesthetically pleasing environment. The Township of Belleville has a tree ordinance to regulate various aspects of tree maintenance, removal, and planting in the town, resulting in aesthetic and environmental benefits. The Planning Board and Zoning Board often make recommendations to new developments or existing upgrades to development projects for landscape drawings to

include native trees, shrubs and plants as part of the scope of the project. The Township Engineer and the Code Enforcement Department usually handle written requests for the removal of a tree from a property owner. The most common removal of any tree in recent years has only been due to storm damage or accidents any others are at the discretion of the Code Enforcement Department or Township Engineer and are quickly replaced. Residents can learn about trees and tree protection through the townships tree sapling giveaway. The tree saplings are ordered from the NJ Department of Forestry and are part of their Earth Day/Arbor program. The saplings are distributed at the library for residents to pick up along with information about the benefits of trees. The Township of Belleville receives and sets aside funding each year to replant Cherry Blossom trees along the sidewalks of every street in Belleville. This adds to the array of Cherry Blossom Trees which are an extension of Belleville and Branch Brook Park where you can view an extensive display of them. <https://clerkshq.com/Content/Belleville-nj/books/code/bellevillec34.htm>

PDF: [PRESS RELEASE BELLEVILLE'S CHERRY BLOSSOM TREES](#)

PDF: [TREE PROTECTION ORDINANCE](#)

Public Information & Engagement

Municipal Communications Strategy

10 Points

Program Summary: Revised The Township of Belleville utilizes an integrated communication strategy and plan. The goal is to have all communication channels have clear messages with context and meaning to convey information to the residents of Belleville. The coordination of this is done by the Township Manager, Assistant Township Manager and the Township Clerk through monthly meetings with all Department Directors. The Township utilizes various forms of media outlets to ensure members of the community receive and understand all notifications for the Town. The Township of Belleville distributes information to our residents through the township website, social media-facebook and twitter, press releases, flyers, mailings, you tube, Board of Education WBHS channel 34, swiftreach texting, and reverse 911 calls. The Township also has access to a large electronic bill board visible from Route 21. And two other billboards along Belleville Avenue. The Township Website format provides easy navigation to all Township Departments from the main page. On every department page you can find contact information, meeting information, agendas, minutes and you tube videos; there is also a community calendar with a link to every current and past community event. All information is maintained on a regular basis. The Township manager meets with all departments once a month to make sure the Township of Belleville stays current and residents are informed. All information for emergency services (police, fire, CERT) is also easily accessible and current. The Township of Belleville will continue assessing its integrated communication strategy and plan to make sure the Township is effectively communicating through all forms of media and will continue update and evolve as people in the community desire to be informed.

WORD: [MUNICIPAL_COMM_STRATEGY_CHECKLIST \(BELLEVILLE\).DOC](#)

Waste Management

Prescription Drug Safety & Disposal

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: REVISED The Township of Belleville established a permanent prescription drop off location in the municipal building lobby of the Police Department at 152 Washington Avenue, Belleville, NJ; also advertised on our website at <https://www.bellevillenj.org/Page/prescription-drop-off-location>. Residents wishing to properly dispose of their prescription drugs can walk in anytime and place their unused medication in the drop off box. Additionally, every spring and fall the Police Department participates in "National Take Back Day". The Township of Belleville Police Department advertises its permanent drop off location on the Municipal website and Facebook page and also through the townships mailing of its yearly calendar and quarterly tax bill. There were four reports from drop offs - June 29, 2021, September 29, 2021, March 23, 2022 and June 21, 2022. (see attached) The direct mail, website and social media pages provide information to Belleville residents about National Take Back Day and the benefits of Belleville's permanent drop-off location. The Belleville Police Department follows the Standard Operating Procedures as set forth in the US DEA Official regulations for the safe disposal of unused, unwanted, and expired prescription drugs. The Township of Belleville's permanent drop off is a successful program. Last year was also the first year vaping devices and cartridges were accepted as part of the free and anonymous program. This year we plan to recognize the rising number of vaping-related incidents and the overall growing health concerns. Covanta's New Jersey facilities continue to partner with the New Jersey Department of Consumer Affairs and the, "Project Medicine Drop" program. Covanta destroys the dropped-off medications at no cost to the Belleville tax payer or police department. The Belleville Board of Education provides age appropriate programs to students in the form of assemblies. They have also hosted meetings for parents in the evenings about drug awareness. We are all concerned about substance abuse issues facing our youth and can work for drug-free neighborhoods and promote drug prevention activities. All schools acknowledge Red Ribbon Week in October. Red Ribbon Week is a nationally recognized observance where students participate in anti-drug activities each day of the week; the program is designed to empower young people to engage with their community through drug-free activities and strengthen their anti-drug beliefs.

PDF: [PROJECT DROP OFF QUARTERLY FORMS](#)

WORD: [2022 DROP OFF PROGRAM WEBSITE AND INFO](#)

PDF: [2022 ADVERTISEMENT PRESCRIPTION SAFETY DROP OFF INFO.](#)

IMAGE: [PHOTO OF OFFICERS WITH THE DROP OFF BOX](#)

IMAGE: [PHOTO OF THE DROP OFF BOX IN THE LOBBY OF THE POLICE STATION](#)

Recycling & Waste Reduction Education & Compliance

20 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: The Township of Belleville and its Green Team is committed to raising awareness about Solid Waste and Recycling. All information can be found on the home page and the DPW page <https://www.bellevillenj.org/Departments/public-works>. The Township provides a curbside recycling collection program for residents for basic recyclable items. The curbside recycling program is a simple and efficient way residents can properly dispose of recyclables. Items must be placed at the curbside following preparation instructions and in the appropriate BLUE recycling container. Belleville recently purchased and distributed blue recycling containers and distributed them for free to all homeowners. The DPW was also at the Green Fair on September

18, 2021 handing out free recycling containers. The Township of Belleville mails its yearly Garbage pick-up and Recycling Calendar to all taxpayers. A copy of the calendar is available at Belleville Town Hall or DPW and is also available for download on the Town's website.
https://www.bellevillenj.org/_Content/pdf/Recycling-Garbage-Calendar-Schedule-2021.pdf
https://www.bellevillenj.org/_Content/pdf/Recycling-Garbage-Calendar-Schedule-2022.pdf The Township also distributes an Accepted Materials Flyer with the quarterly tax bills, but also available on the web site. Website and Social Media posts are targeted to educate the public with information. The Township coordinates with Essex County for Hazardous materials disposal and drop off. In coordination with the Belleville Public School System, the Township provides programming to Belleville students (Kindergarten through High School) on Solid Waste and Landfills, Recycling, and Pollution Awareness. The Belleville High School Environmental Club attends a field trip to an environment center and landfill to learn about the issues of Solid Waste. They participate in the annual Township Clean-up and volunteer to educate residents about the importance of reducing waste and recycling. The Township of Belleville has implemented the Recycle Coach App and publicizes this on the website and through social media posts. The information about Recycle Coach is given to residents when they call both the DPW and Health Department. The app includes the garbage pick-up and recycling schedule by zone, brush and bulk garbage pick-up dates and a look up tool about accepted recyclable containers.

PDF: [ORDINANCE - RECYCLING COMPLIANCE.PDF](#)

WORD: [BELLEVILLE RECYCLING WASTE REDUCTION COMPLIANCE STRATEGY.DOCX](#)

PDF: [DPW LETTER AND TONNAGE 2021-22.PDF](#)

PDF: [GOV PILOT AND RECYCLE APP.PDF](#)

PDF: [QUARTERLY MAILERS, FLYERS, WEB SITE POSTS - FACEBOOK POSTS - RECYCLING - REUSING.PDF](#)

PDF: [RECYCLING - REUSING - FACEBOOK POSTS - FLYERS AND THE GREEN TEAM DISPLAY.PDF](#)

Community Paper Shredding Day

5 Points

Program Summary: REVISED Community Paper Shred Day is organized twice annually by the Municipality, DPW and the assistance of the Municipal Green Team. The event was held on September 18, 2021 and April 30, 2022. In conjunction with Confidential Paper Shred Day the Green Team also provides information about recycling and distributes free Reusable Shopping Bags. The Community Paper Shred Day event was advertised on the Township of Belleville's Web Site and Facebook page and screenshots are attached. There were also flyers drafted and distributed to various locations throughout our town; they are attached; and an article in the local newspaper - link to the article <https://patch.com/new-jersey/belleville/belleville-hold-free-community-shred-day-event>. The event was promoted at multiple Open Public Meetings of the governing body where the importance of recycling was discussed. And all of the information advertised was to ensure that the public was aware of the requirements for participation at the drop off. The Township contracted the company "PRO SHRED" for the Paper Shred Day Event. The importance of this event was to recycle confidential items which would otherwise get thrown into the regular municipal solid waste stream and end up in a landfill. At the most recent Shred Day Event there were a total of 105 vehicles. The tonnage report is attached.

PDF: [2021-SHRED DAY FLYER.PDF](#)

PDF: [2022-SHRED-DAY FLYER.PDF](#)

PDF: [PRO SHRED REPORT .PDF](#)

PDF: [SHRED IT DAY POSTS, PICTURES AND ARTICLE ADVERTISING.PDF](#)

Reusable Bag Education Program *Retires 12/31/25*

5 Points

Program Summary: Revised The Belleville Municipal Green Team continues to promote the use of Reusable Bags ahead of the State Legislation for the BAG BAN. We advertised the information with flyers, announcements and handed out free Green Team reusable bags at all events to everyone. The Township of Belleville and the Green Team used social media posts through Facebook and the Mayor announced the upcoming BAG BAN at every Council Meeting, beginning in Spring of 2022. We purchased bags for the Green Fair in 2021 and brought them, along with posters and flyers about the upcoming Bag Ban. We used the information from the Clean Communities Website and copied their BAG BAN slogan and campaign literature which was free to reproduce. The Green Team partnered with the Township DPW, NJ Clean Communities program and Tatiana Gomez, founder of CERES Circular Market to host a free workshop that would educate anyone who wanted to learn about the BAG BAN. Tatiana Gomez is a local resident who promotes a circular economy with little to no waste. Tatiana Gomez discussed why plastic bag bans are important, where plastic comes from, types of plastics, recycling and insight into the circular economy, plus tips for being more sustainable! Our Green Teams table is always full of displays and information with facts about plastics. Conventional plastic and paper bags are not healthy for the environment. The cost of recycling plastic bags is high and many recyclers will not accept them. Plastic bags are commonly discarded into landfills where they barely decompose. The Green Teams "Help Belleville Bag It!" and the Clean Communities "BAG BAN" slogan and campaign promotion will continue whenever we participate at community events with posters, flyers and our free reusable logo shopping bag giveaways. Reusable shopping bags make a lot of environmental and economic sense. Our bags have become very popular with the community and we will continue fundraise for more.

PDF: [REUSABLE BAG WORKSHOP PICTURES](#)

PDF: [GREEN TEAM BAG UP NJ WORKSHOP FLYER](#)

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