



## Sustainable Jersey Certification Report

This is the Sustainable Jersey Certification Report of Harrington Park Boro, a Sustainable Jersey bronze certified applicant.

Harrington Park Boro was certified on October 08, 2012 with 170 points. Listed below is information regarding Harrington Park Boro's Sustainable Jersey efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

### Contact Information

The designated Sustainable Jersey contact for Harrington Park Boro is:

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### Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Harrington Park Boro 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

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##### Green Team

10 Points

 Bronze Required

**Program Summary:** Mission Statement: The Harrington Park Green Team is committed to developing strategies that will reduce our impact on the environment both collectively and individually, so that we might preserve our town's natural resources for the citizens of Harrington Park now and in the future. (10/09) Active since September 2009, the HP Green Team is an

advisory body to the HP Environmental Commission and is composed of borough officials and residents. At bimonthly meetings and through email communication, the Green Team has solicited resident input on areas of their concern to act on, as well as focused on pursuing mandatory and elective actions toward SJ certification. We have had a significant impact visibly and behind the scenes in Harrington Park. 32 blue outdoor recycling containers are in place downtown, at town parks, and by the town school and these are being used. Recycling of paper and plastics at HP school has increased. In 2010 a municipal energy audit was conducted; implementation of improvements through the Direct Install program has resulted in significant savings in gas and electricity. We promote annual Green Pledge measures and host information tables at town events while continuing to work on Sustainable Jersey actions.

**WORD: [GREEN TEAM MUNICIPAL RESOLUTION](#)**

**PDF: [2011 SUMMARY, 2012 MEMBERS AND](#)**

**PDF: [RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FROM HP](#)**

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## Community Education & Outreach

10 Points

**Program Summary:** As the Community Education and Outreach SJ action document emphasizes, education and outreach are essential in any effort to promote change. The Harrington Park Green Team was formed in October 2009 by a small group of community members who wished to promote a “more sustainable future for themselves and their community”. The Green Team recognized the value of social media in reaching out to others and the wordpress blog <http://hpgreenteam.wordpress.com> was created in August 2010. The blog is linked to our town website (<http://www.hpboro.net>). The various postings describe sustainable practices and encourage positive choices; they also highlight Green activities and initiatives at the local K-8 school, regional high school, and municipality. Examples of postings have been uploaded below; please click on the blog link to view more recent posts. During the fall of 2010 there were ~30-40 viewers a month; this has steadily increased and the average for March- May 2012 is 6 visits a day. Most visitors have a US email address, but there have been visitors from 28 other countries in the last quarter. Only a few visitors have left comments, but during town events at which the Green Team and/or EC members are present, community members have commented favorably about the information on the blog site: other comments and questions are sent to the hpgreen team email. AND many visitors follow the links to referenced articles and web sites (the site records links to other sites), with the BCUA- recycling information being the most popular. A “Harrington Park Green Team” Facebook site was created in May 2010 and is currently being developed..

**PDF: [HP TOWN DAY SEPT 2011 POSTING](#)**

**PDF: [CANS & BOTTLES](#)**

**PDF: [ARBOR DAY 2012, REDBUD SAPLING](#)**

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## Green Challenges

10 Points

**Program Summary:** At the beginning of April 2011, the HP Green Team issued the challenge to the citizens of Harrington Park, asking that they pledge to do one or more of six options, sign a form noting their pledges, and note their address. Of the 148 households completing the 2011

Harrington Park Green Pledge: 78% pledged to use reusable shopping bags 61% pledged to use environmentally friendly cleaning products and cloth instead of paper towels 80% pledged to turn off unnecessary lights and to switch to more energy efficient light bulbs 76% pledged to cut down on driving and walk when possible 58% pledged to grow or buy locally produced fruits and vegetables 65% pledged to cancel unwanted catalogs This represents a little over 9% of the total number of households in Harrington Park.

**PDF: [WHAT WE DID - TIME LINE, PROMO](#)**

**PDF: [EXAMPLES OF PUBLICITY FOR THE](#)**

**PDF: [THE 2011 HP GREEN PLEDGE](#)**

## Energy

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### Fleet Inventory

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

**Program Summary:** The Harrington Park Green Team chose 2010 as the baseline year to conduct a fleet audit and collected the data in 2010 and 2011. This proved to be an interesting and valuable exercise and contributed to the purchase of three more fuel-efficient vehicles in 2011. There is no one “fleet” for the Boro of Harrington Park. The Department of Public Works uses and maintains their vehicles (heavy and light trucks and mowers), the Police Department uses and maintains their vehicles (cars and SUVs) and the Fire Department uses and maintains their vehicles (SUVs, fire engines and trucks). A representative from each department assembled the information for the spreadsheet and reviewed the vehicle maintenance practices. Each department was asked to conduct a fleet efficiency audit and to discuss policies to improve efficiency and “green” the fleet. Each department chose their own area of emphasis, which included decreasing idling, focusing on maintenance, and considering flexible fuel and/or hybrid vehicles for new purchases. Please see the narrative reports for each department’s submission, followed by information about the some of the fleet improvements in 2011. The Green Team looks forward to repeating this audit at the end of 2012.

**EXCEL: [GREEN FLEET SPREADSHEET](#)**

**PDF: [NARRATIVE REPORTS AND UPDATE O](#)**

## Food

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### Community Gardens

10 Points

**Program Summary:** The Harrington Park School Garden Project started in the summer of 2009. A committee comprised of two community members (one a founding Green Team member) and two Harrington Park teachers was formed with the support of the Home School Association (HSA)

and the Harrington Park Administration. The project goals were to help students develop gardening skills and to better understand the connections between growing food and the healthfulness of the food that we eat. In July 2009, volunteer community members, teachers and students at HP School assembled, filled, and planted four raised beds. The town supplied the compost and the HSA provided the funding for tools, seeds, wood, and funds for Garden Club advisors. During the school years (09-10, 10-11, and 11-12), the Garden Club planted, maintained, and harvested produce, both in the fall and in the spring. Weekly meetings have been held seasonally for the above purposes. Students particularly enjoyed picking and tasting the vegetables fresh from the garden. Some meetings were also held during the winter to learn more about gardening and composting. This year the club continues as a summer activity. Members of the Green Team are active in the school and the activity of the Garden Club and the gardens is regularly posted on the Green Team blog for community members to read.

<http://hpgreenteam.wordpress.com/?s=school+garden>. This has been an effective way to reach out to the community, as, since 2009, at town events and through email, community members not involved with the school have given positive feedback to Green Team members about the garden. Harrington Park School Garden serves as a living classroom and a source of delicious vegetables for the students, staff and teachers.

**PDF: [QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT](#)**

**PDF: [HP SCHOOL GARDEN](#)**

## Natural Resources

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### Environmental Commission

10 Points

**Program Summary:** Harrington Park has had an Environmental Commission since 1974; in 2010 and 2011 the EC has (1) focused on complementing the efforts of the Green Team to pursue SJ certification, (2) reached out into the community to educate our citizens (ie re recycling options & laws, the new fertilizer law, no idling, etc.)and (3) worked on routine town business (ie new cell tower/impact, collaboration with the planning board, tree damage and new planting, sidewalks, etc.). File 1: This pdf includes a summary of actions taken in 2008 (page 1) and the cod book documentation of establishment of the Environmental Commission in 5/1974 (pages 2-6). File 2: Summary of actions taken in 2009 and 2010. File 3: Summary of actions taken in 2011.

**PDF: [ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION](#)**

**PDF: [ANNUAL REPORTS 2009 & 2010](#)**

**PDF: [ANNUAL REPORT EC 2011](#)**

## Sustainability & Climate Planning

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### Municipal Carbon Footprint

10 Points

**Program Summary:** Municipal Carbon Footprint. The Harrington Park Environmental Commission approved creation of a Green Team to begin the process of identifying and pursuing actions for Sustainable Jersey Certification in September 2009. The first priority action completed was the “Inventory and Audit All Buildings”. The audit, done for the year 2009, revealed areas for significant improvement and subsequent upgrades in HVAC and electricity were accomplished with the help of a Direct Install grant (see the Audit action for details). The Green Team then chose to conduct a fleet audit for the 2010 year. The information collected led to the calculation of numbers for green house gasses produced by the town vehicles. This led to an interest in the municipal carbon footprint and data was collected for lights and for town vehicles for 2009 and added to the previous municipal building audit information to complete the Greenhouse Gas calculations. Harrington Park is a small town located in Northeastern Bergen County. The 2010 census data reports that there were 4,664 people, 1,592 households, and 1,328 families residing in the borough and that the population density was 2,545.9 inhabitants per square mile. The mayor, council members and board members are all volunteers. There are three full and three part time employees in Boro Hall, nine policemen and five on the DPW payroll. The municipal buildings are heated with natural gas; the buildings are all over 30 years old. There are <20 vehicles that belong to the town; most of the trucks are driven only short distances, with the bulk of the mileage from the police vehicles.. (of note- the K-8 school has a separate budget and was not included in these calculations). The results of the Municipal Carbon Footprint are interesting. Of the total 475 metric tons of CO2e: • ~80 tons comes from natural gas (used to heat the buildings) • Buildings generate 145 tons from electricity use • Streetlights are close behind with 115 tons (the town has no say in type or quantity of streetlights and limited discretion in use of extra lights in parks) • Vehicle fuel was responsible for 135 tons. This information will be presented to the town Council and discussed with the Environmental Commission to discuss ideas for improvement. We expect some improvement already as a result of the Direct Install work done in 2010.

**PDF:** [SUMMARY OF TOWN NUMBERS](#)

**EXCEL:** [CARBON FOOTPRINT CALCULATION](#)

## Waste Management

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### Community Paper Shredding Day

5 Points

**Program Summary:** The Borough of Harrington Park participated in a mobile shredding day that was sponsored by the Bergen County Utilities Authority (BCUA) on Saturday, April 28, 2012. The event was held in the Harrington Park Borough Hall parking lot, located at 85 Harriot Ave, Harrington Park, NJ 07640, from the hours of 9am to 1pm. This date was chosen to coincide with the annual Harrington Park Heritage Weekend celebration, as several community organizations have displays and activities at Borough Hall on that Saturday. As this event was sponsored by the BCUA, it was open to all residents of Bergen County who wanted to shred/recycle their personal documents. Approximately 65 residents, mostly from Harrington Park, but some from neighboring communities, participated. 1,600 pounds of paper were collected and shredded. There was no charge from the BCUA to Harrington Park to host the event and Harrington Park did not charge the participants. The BCUA contracted with NexCut and Safeguard to provide the collecting and shredding service. Three community volunteers affiliated with the Green Team helped the

residents unload their documents. Employees of the Harrington Park DPW and Police Department also assisted in setting up and ensuring safe drop-off and exit areas from the parking lot. The HP Green Team, which began in October of 2009, chose early on to focus on recycling, specifically increasing recycling compliance by HP residents. The Green Team became aware of opportunity to have the BCUA provide a truck once a year to our town and brought this to the town council. Then Councilwoman Michelle Ryan took the lead role for Harrington Park to organize the first mobile shredding day, held on October 16, 2010. Continue to file 3 please

**PDF: [PUBLICITY](#)**

**PDF: [TONNAGE FROM 9/11 EVENT; 4/12](#)**

**PDF: [CONT NARRATIVE](#)**

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## Recycling Depot

10 Points

**Program Summary:** The Harrington Park Recycling Center is located at 66 Schraalenburgh Road, Harrington Park, NJ 07640. It is open 6 days a week, Monday 8am - Saturday 4pm, closed Sundays, and staffed by a DPW employee. There are separate bins for collection of: junk mail/magazines, newspaper, cardboard, plastic containers, green glass, clear glass and brown glass, steel (including cans), aluminum cans, aluminum foil and a separate area for collection of used motor oil. Information about the recycling center as well as curbside recycling options is included on the front page of the newsletter (recently again being mailed to every household) and is available on the towns webpage at [www.hpboro.net](http://www.hpboro.net). DPW- Superintendent Mark Kiernan (201-768-0944) estimates that ~half of the ~1580 households in HP use the recycling center and ~half use curbside recycling; many use both. In 2010: The Harrington Park Recycling Center collected: 231.9 tons of paper 85 tons of co-mingled. At curbside municipal waste hauler-Advanced Sanitation- picked up: 212.5 tons of paper 115 tons of co-mingled. (Paper, Cardboard, Junk Mail are collected the 1st and 3rd Thursdays; Cans, Glass, Metal are collected the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at curbside) Garden/yard waste is collected at curbside by the DPW Mondays April-Oct. The official state report for 2010 is attached as file 1; the 2011 official report is not yet final. A copy of our town newsletter from March 2012 is file 2 and photos of the recycling center in the winter of 2010 are in file 3.

**EXCEL: [STATE TONNAGE REPORT 2010](#)**

**PDF: [TOWN NEWSLETTER WITH RECYCLING](#)**

**PDF: [RECYCLING CENTER PHOTOS](#)**

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## Backyard Composting Program

5 Points

**Program Summary:** Harrington Park embraces the benefits of backyard composting! Our current program promoting home composting began in April 2010 when Green Team members set up a demonstration model with a BCUA provided Earth Machine™ composter at our Town Heritage Day. Since then, a model has been demonstrated, with samples of home compost available for inspection, and composters available for purchase, at the three main annual town events- Heritage Day in April, the Library White Elephant fund raiser in June, and Town Day in September. Through these events we have sold over 10 composters and spoken to ~120 families (HP has ~1,500 households) about the benefits of composting. We also handed out literature

about composting basics, options for composting (i.e. in open piles, compost bins or rolling or tumbler units) and information on purchasing the Earth Machine™ bin. Some families were already composting in containers they made or bought elsewhere; others have started composting and came back the next year to talk about their success. The Earth Machine™ composters have been stocked and sold year round for the past two years. The composters (on consignment from the BCUA) are being sold at no profit to the town to increase their affordability. Currently \$53 each, they are available for purchase at Boro Hall. Composting has been an important focus in our Green Team web blog, linked to the town web site, <http://hpboro.net/>. Postings include-how to's, tips and web links to information sites about composting. Composting facts are posted in the town newsletter, mailed to all 1,500 households. The 2012 HP Green Pledge listed backyard composting as one of the six environmentally friendly acts residents could pledge to do. Finally, an Earth Machine™ composter is in use at our K-8 school since 2010; composting is part of their recycling & garden education program.

**PDF: [HP PROMOTIONS FOR COMPOSTING A](#)**

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## **Waste Audit of Municipal Buildings or Schools**

**10 Points**

**Program Summary:** Harrington Park has one K-8 public school attended by ~700 students. There is no kitchen on the premises; lunches are brought in and served daily at the school, which generates a significant amount of recyclable waste. A lunch waste audit was done in September 2011 and the results of this audit suggest improvements in process and practice to reduce waste and improve recycling. Since the fall of 2011 Harrington Park School's waste is disposed of by the municipal hauler and a separate waste management company takes the recycling, thus it is not possible to calculate a financial benefit for increased recycling. However, the Green Team is working on getting tonnage numbers for recycling (the waste numbers are included in town waste) with the plan to focus on increasing this number.

**PDF: [SEPT 2011 LUNCHROOM WASTE AUDI](#)**