



# Sustainable Jersey Certification Report

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

Princeton was certified on September 16, 2024 with 695 points. Listed below is information regarding Princeton's Sustainable Jersey efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

## Contact Information

The designated Sustainable Jersey contact for Princeton is:

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|------------------------|---|
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## Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Princeton was approved for in 2024 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:** Sustainability is now embedded within and across the Municipality of Princeton. The Municipality has several meetings that each act to address sustainable initiatives. The first is the Municipal Infrastructure & Operations Meeting, which is comprised of the Deputy Administrator/Municipal Engineer, Assistant Municipal Engineer, Sewer Operations Manager, the Director of Public Works, the Director of Engineering, three members of Princeton Council, and

Sustainable Princeton's Executive Director and Program Manager. The second is the Fleet Subcommittee which meets monthly to review options to electrify the fleet. This Committee is comprised of the Municipal Deputy Administrator, one member of Princeton Council, the Municipality's Fleet Manager, a representative of the Police Department, and Sustainable Princeton's Program Manager. A third meeting is the Waste Transition Committee, comprised of the Municipal Deputy Administrator, key staff of the Engineering and Public Works Departments, a member of the Princeton Environmental Committee, and staff from Sustainable Princeton. This committee has served to manage Princeton's transition to a semi-automated cart-based system and bulk reservation system, reduce Princeton's leaf pickup schedule, and continue to explore opportunities for an organics collection. Another critical component is a monthly meeting between the Municipal Deputy Administrator and Sustainable Princeton's Executive Director and Program Manager to discuss grant opportunities and funding incentives, to manage Princeton's SJ certification, and to coordinate Sustainable Princeton's fulfillment of its fee-for-service contract with the Municipality. In addition to these largely internal meetings, the Municipality is served by a number of Boards, Committees, and Commissions, that incorporate sustainability into their work. These include the Princeton Environmental Commission, the Princeton Flood & Stormwater Commission, the Pedestrian and Bike Advisory Committee, the Public Transit Advisory Committee, and the Princeton Shade Tree Commission. Each of these BCCs has a council liaison, volunteer committee members from the public, and the public is invited to these meetings. Many of these meetings also have a staff member from the Municipality. Sustainable Princeton attends three of these meetings: the Environmental Commission, Flood & Stormwater Commission, and the Public Transit Advisory Committee. Many committee's also have liaisons from other BCCs. For example, the Princeton Environmental Commission currently has liaisons with the Board of Health, Recreation Commission, Flood & Storm Water Commission, and Planning Board. Each of these regular meetings act to review progress on actions by departments and community groups, discuss sustainability issues and ideas, share information about events and activities, and identify new sustainability actions. See recent agendas for each internal committee. Agendas and minutes for the BCCs can be found here: <https://www.princetonnj.gov/agendacenter> In 2023, the Municipality of Princeton passed a new resolution formally appointing staff members that attend one or more of these meetings to the Municipality's Green Team, including representatives from Sustainable Princeton, who act as contracted sustainability consultants. See attached. The Goal of the Municipal Green Team is to manage the certification process for Sustainable Jersey and work within assigned departments or committees to initiate and manage the Municipality's sustainable goals. Each year, BCCs establish goals for the year, which informs Council's goals. Together they help define the Municipality's targeted initiatives for the year, which SP and the BCCs help to support. To demonstrate the level of sustainability embedded into the Municipality's actions, view the presentation from January 2023, which reviews progress on the Municipality's 2022 goals. The Municipality's 2023 goals were finalized by Council in March and can be viewed at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=23vFj\\_5jJWk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=23vFj_5jJWk)

**PDF: [I & O MEETING AGENDA MAY 2022](#)**

**PDF: [PRINCETON GREEN TEAM RESOLUTION 2023](#)**

**PDF: [FLEET MEETING AGENDA FEBRUARY 2023](#)**

**PDF: [WASTE MEETING AGENDA FEBRUARY 2023](#)**

**PDF: [2022 MUNICIPAL GOALS PRESENTATION](#)**

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## Community Education & Outreach

20 Points

**Program Summary:** Princeton participates in a number of different engagement activities, including a TREEmendous facts series, the Mayor's podcast, last year's inaugural Green House Film Screening and tour of six sustainable homes, a Sustainable Minds lecture series, and a

website featuring a guide for sustainable living. Read on to learn more about each of these activities. Every month, the Princeton Shade Tree Commission and Municipal Arborist release TREEmendous facts and the Tree of the Month. These are hosted on the webpage and pushed out through the weekly Municipal newsletters and social media. Sustainable Princeton, which manages sustainability initiatives for the Municipality, often highlights these messages in their newsletters and social media as well. Check out examples at <https://www.princetonnj.gov/1303/TREE-mendous-Facts>. The Mayor of Princeton, Mark Freda, hosts a podcast that is shared in the Municipality's newsletter and other outreach. The Princeton Podcast features interviews issues notable to Princetonians. Over the years, interviews have been held with several different Municipal staff, Council Members, and representatives from various nonprofits, including those focused on sustainability. Learn more at [princetonpodcast.com/episodes/](http://princetonpodcast.com/episodes/). On September 30, 2023, the Princeton Public Library hosted a Green House Film Screening, organized by the Princeton Environmental Commission and Sustainable Princeton. Four videos, each of which portrayed a different residential property in town, were shown and focused on it's sustainability features. This included solar arrays, heat pumps, home electrification, energy efficiency, sustainable building materials and practices, and sustainable yard concepts (native plants, rain gardens, love your leaves). After the screening, homeowners and representatives were on hand to answer questions about the work featured in the films. Following the screening, tours of six sustainable homes were offered by the Princeton Environmental Commission and Sustainable Princeton throughout the afternoon. The Green House Tours were free but required advanced registration, and most tours filled up quickly. A total of 317 attendees were a part of this popular event, which Princeton hopes to plan and improve in 2024. Sustainable Princeton, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that has a fee-for-service contract with the Municipality of Princeton, releases a Sustainable Minds lecture series every year. Sustainable Minds brings some of the most respected thought and action leaders together to explore a local climate-change issue. The first Sustainable Minds event of 2024 was offered on February 7 at the Princeton Public Library and focused on a progress report on Princeton's Climate Action Plan. All events in the series are free and open to the public. Learn more at <https://www.sustainableprinceton.org/event/sustainable-minds-recap/> Sustainable Princeton also hosts a website that provides a guide to sustainable living for all who live and work in Princeton. The website's Take Action section and blog posts serve as a repository of local sustainable living resources as well as up-to-date articles and profiles of people living sustainably. Sustainable Princeton also sends out content in its popular weekly newsletter and on social media. The Municipality also shares some of this content through its channels.

**PDF: [TREEMENDOUS FACTS CHECKLIST V2](#)**

**PDF: [PRINCETON PODCAST CHECKLIST V2](#)**

**PDF: [GREEN HOUSE FILM SCREENING CHECKLIST V2](#)**

**PDF: [GREEN HOUSE TOUR CHECKLIST V2](#)**

**PDF: [SUSTAINABLE MINDS LECTURE CHECKLIST](#)**

**PDF: [SP WEBSITE CHECKLIST V2](#)**

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## Green Fair

15 Points

**Program Summary:** On Saturday, April 22, Sustainable Princeton (SP), a nonprofit that has a fee-for-service relationship with the municipality, hosted a community green fair, dubbed "Party Like it's Your Earth Day!," at the Morven Museum and Garden. This festive day was a celebration of the Princeton community's commitment to protecting our beautiful planet and offered something for everyone. The event was a joint collaboration between Morven Museum and Garden, Sustainable Princeton, Johnson Park Elementary's Green Team, Princeton Municipality, and the Rutgers Master Gardeners, and attracted 450 residents. All Day events included: Electric

lawn equipment demos, native flower crafts, educational booths about composting, rain gardens and rain barrels, environmental books and repurposed toys to enjoy on the lawn, free bike repairs with the Princeton High School's Bike Club, a flock of composting chickens and a booth about Recycle Coach with the Municipality. Please see the attached document for pre-event promotions, event photos, and post-event reporting. In response to the reviewer's comments, we are including two additional documents to address these questions and ensure we meet the 15-point requirement.

**PDF: [SP NEWSLETTER WITH GREEN FAIR SUSTAINABILITY REMINDERS](#)**

**PDF: [SIGNS FOR RAFFLE PRIZES NOTING LOCAL SPONSORS](#)**

**PDF: [GREEN FAIR ACTION SUBMISSION](#)**

## Diversity & Equity

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### Lead Education & Outreach Programs

15 Points

**Program Summary:** The Princeton Health Department is responsible for Lead Education in the Princeton Community. It works with its regional partners to treat and monitor children who have elevated lead levels in their blood. More importantly, the Department works to prevent lead poisoning, in the first place, by providing education and referrals to make sure parents can protect their families from lead hazards. Recent initiatives from the Princeton Health Department include partnerships with PACE, a Spanish-speaking WhatsApp group, and information in the Mayor's Newsletter. To raise awareness about lead poisoning, the Princeton Health Department partnered with students from Princeton's PACE center to canvas Princeton and offer free blood screenings for vulnerable children and education through flyers and other forms of media. To address specific at-risk populations, a WhatsApp group chat was created to send flyers to Spanish speakers in the area. The Princeton Health Department also sends out information through the Mayor's Newsletter advertising national lead poisoning prevention week and other health education information. These newsletters list the materials that often possess lead, risk factors, and vulnerable populations. Additionally, PHD's flier described the municipality's new and changing ordinance on lead to further educate the public.

**IMAGE: [LEAD CANVASSING IN PRINCETON](#)**

**PDF: [PRINCETON LEAD FLYER - ENGLISH & SPANISH](#)**

**PDF: [CHECKLIST - CANVASSING](#)**

**PDF: [CHECKLIST - WHATS APP GROUP LIST](#)**

**PDF: [CHECKLIST - MAYORS NEWSLETTER](#)**

**PDF: [#KNOWLEAD FLYER - ENGLISH & SPANISH](#)**

## Energy

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### Energy Tracking & Management

20 Points

🏅 Bronze Priority 🏅 Silver Priority

**Program Summary:** Since 2019, when TRC completed Local Government Energy Audits (LGEAs) for all key municipal buildings, set up an ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager (ESPM) account, and entered 14 months of data for all properties, Princeton continues to track energy usage in ESPM. A member of Sustainable Princeton, who has a fee-for-service contract with the Municipality to manage its sustainability initiatives, requests bulk data from PSEG when needed and uploads the data using the “single-meter spreadsheet.” This energy tracking has been used to establish a baseline and track energy & cost savings for the community. Please find the building portfolio and meter entries, as well as the 2023 Statements of Energy Performance uploaded. This documentation submitted qualifies for 20 points. The ESPM properties are also shared with Sustainable Jersey. A Sustainable Princeton member will continue to update the data on an annual basis.

**PDF:** [STATEMENTS OF ENERGY PERFORMANCE - PRINCETON BUILDINGS 2023](#)

**EXCEL:** [BUILDING PORTFOLIO FROM ENERGY STAR PORTFOLIO MANAGER](#)

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## Municipal Onsite Solar System

20 Points

**Program Summary:** In 2017, the Municipality of Princeton contracted with NJR Clean Energy Ventures to develop a 3-megawatt solar array on the closed landfill at 290 River Road. This solar array currently provides 29% of the electricity used by the Stony Brook Regional Sewerage Authority’s River Road wastewater treatment facility. Electricity displacement was calculated as follows: the actual amount of solar-generated electricity for 2020 (3,584,871 kWh) divided by the total amount of electricity used by the wastewater treatment building in 2020 (12,280,880 kWh), which is 29.2%. For more information, see local press stories: --Princeton's landfill solar project underway after more delays, [https://www.nj.com/mercer/2017/06/princeton\\_solar\\_project\\_continues\\_after\\_another\\_de.html](https://www.nj.com/mercer/2017/06/princeton_solar_project_continues_after_another_de.html) -- Solar Array at Old Landfill Is Finally Ready to Open, <http://www.towntopics.com/wordpress/2017/10/11/solar-array-at-old-landfill-is-finally-ready-to-open/> Photo: Princeton solar project complete --Photo: Princeton solar project complete, <https://planetprinceton.com/2017/10/15/photo-princeton-solar-project-complete/>

**IMAGE:** [SOLAR RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY 2017](#)

**EXCEL:** [SOLAR SYSTEM OUTPUT DATA 2017-2021](#)

**EXCEL:** [UTILITY DATA FOR SBRSA 2010-2020](#)

**PDF:** [MAYOR'S LETTER CERTIFYING SOLAR ARRAY](#)

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## Fleet Inventory

10 Points

🏅 Bronze Priority 🏅 Silver Priority

**Program Summary:** Attached is Princeton's 2023 Fleet Inventory and narrative report.

**EXCEL:** [PRINCETON FLEET INVENTORY AS OF DEC 2023 V2](#)

**PDF:** [FLEET INVENTORY NARRATIVE REPORT\\_PRINCETON.PDF](#)

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## Electric Vehicle Community Outreach

10 Points

**Program Summary:** In partnership with NRG Energy, Inc. and with support by the Princeton Municipality, Sustainable Princeton hosted the 3rd annual Ride & Drive event, now titled eCommuter Fest, on Friday, September 30, 2022. This free community festival celebrated the latest in carbon-free commuter technology and featured test drives of some of the latest models of e-bikes and electric vehicles. The festival also featured a community EV showcase where local electric car and bike owners were available to answer questions and talk about what it's like to own and drive an EV in Princeton. An estimated 300 community members joined us to experience the many benefits of going electric by talking to owners, test-driving the latest models of EVs, test-riding e-bikes, and viewing displays of electric motorcycles and low-speed vehicles. Six vehicles were used for test drives while another two vehicles were on display with sales teams. Additionally, two electric motorcycles were also displayed. In coordination with the New Jersey Electric Vehicle Association and National Drive Electric Week, we recruited 25 EV owners to bring their vehicles and share their experience with EV ownership. Princeton Municipality advertised the event on their website and weekly newsletters. In addition to providing the event location, Municipality staff assisted with planning the event's EV test drive route, procuring and setting up equipment and several departments tabled at the event, including Engineering and the Town Master Planning office. In addition to the eCommuter Fest event, a number of publications have been created that highlight electric vehicles. These include the "Go Electric" page on Sustainable Princeton's website (launched January 2020 and updated regularly), highlighting electric vehicles in Sustainable Princeton's March 2022 newsletter as well as in social media posts in September 2022, leading up to the eCommuter Fest.

**PDF:** [EV OUTREACH TASK REPORT](#)

**PDF:** [MAYOR'S NEWSLETTER SEPT 2022 - SEE PAGE 10](#)

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## Public Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

15 Points

**Program Summary:** In 2022, the Municipality of Princeton's Engineering Department, with support of Sustainable Princeton, began a project to install four Level II dual-port EV charging stations in Princeton's Municipal Building Complex and Community Pool Parking Yard at 400 Witherspoon St. The Municipality owns the infrastructure and has pursued grants from the NJ BPU and PSE&G to cover a portion of the cost. The stations were installed in February 2023 and made available to the public in mid-March. At that time, a ribbon-cutting ceremony, news coverage, and registration in various charging location maps occurred (see below). The spaces are designated by a new ordinance (2022-40 Ordinance available at <https://www.princetonnj.gov/DocumentCenter/View/12250/2022-40-Ordinance-PDF>) as charging-only spaces for electric vehicles, and one is ADA accessible. The charging fees are \$2.00/hr for the first four hours, and \$10/hour thereafter, with a four-hour charging limit during the day. Overnight charging is \$1.00/hour. Registrations: --Plug Share: <https://www.plugshare.com/location/499543> --ChargePoint: <https://driver.chargepoint.com/stations/13470691> --ChargeHub: <https://chargehub.com/en/full-details-page.html?locId=127708> News Stories: --If You Have an Electric Vehicle, But No Access to a Charger, Princeton Can Help, March 2023, TapInto Princeton, <https://www.tapinto.net/towns/princeton/sections/green/articles/if-you-have-an-electric-vehicle-but-no-access-to-a-charger-princeton-can-help> --New Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Open To

Public In Princeton, March 2023, Patch, <https://patch.com/new-jersey/princeton/new-electric-vehicle-charging-stations-open-public-princeton>

**IMAGE:** [PHOTO OF THE NEW 400 WITHERSPOON CHARGING STATIONS](#)

**PDF:** [EV CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE LETTER](#)

## Food

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### Community Food Pantry/Bank & Soup Kitchen

10 Points

**Program Summary:** During the COVID pandemic, the Municipality of Princeton developed a Food Insecurity Task Force with members from each of the local food pantries, in an effort to bring coordination and expand services. The Food Insecurity Task Force is chaired by the Municipality's Director of Human Services, and its members include Arm In Arm Princeton, Princeton Kindness Food Project, Jewish Family & Children's Services, Meals on Wheels of Mercer County, Mercer County Nutrition Project for the Elderly, Mr Roger's Neighbors Kindness Project, Princeton Alliance Church, Princeton Farmers Market, Princeton Cornerstone Community Kitchen, Princeton Mobile Food Pantry, Princeton Mutual Aid (PMA), Send Hunger Packing Princeton, and Share My Meals. One goal of the task force has been to develop a list with information about each food pantry and incorporate their hours into the Princeton Food Calendar, which is attached and can be viewed here: <https://princetonnj.gov/344/Human-Services> In 2023, the Princeton Human Services Department also developed a new partnership that allows the Municipality to operate another food assistance program for participants in the Summer Youth Employment Program. The Summer Youth Employment Program provides a gateway for underprivileged youth in Princeton to gain valuable work skills within the Municipality and through local non-profits. With the Municipality's new partnership, the Summer Food Service Program provides free lunch and snacks for participants in the Summer Youth Employment program. Food is delivered to Human Services at One Monument Hall by the Capital Area YMCA. (Please see attached for more information about the Summer Food Service Program.)

**PDF:** [PRINCETON COMMUNITY FOOD ACCESS RESOURCE 2023](#)

**IMAGE:** [SUMMER FOOD SERVICE LETTER TO FAMILIES](#)

**WORD:** [SUMMER FOOD SERVICE APPLICATION](#)

**PDF:** [SUMMER FOOD SERVICE SITE ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION](#)

**PDF:** [SUMMER EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM PRESS RELEASE](#)

**PDF:** [MOU CAPITAL AREA YMCA & PRINCETON SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM](#)

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### Community Gardens

15 Points

**Program Summary:** The Princeton Recreation Department has managed two community gardens for close to 30 years. The John Street Community Garden contains 23 individual plots as well as a perimeter area for shared herbs and produce. The Barbara Smoyer Park Community Garden contains 20 plots. See <https://www.princetonnj.gov/462/Community-Garden-Plots> The



plots are available to residents on a first-come, first-served basis for a small annual fee. In addition to providing the land for the gardens, the municipality contributes labor for annual rototilling and marking out plots and also provides supplies, including compost from the Joseph Maher Joint Ecological Facility run by Princeton and Lawrence Township, straw, hoses, stakes, and string. At the end of the season, staff also assist in cleaning up and composting debris. Water is provided at each site via the park water supply system. The Recreation Department project coordinator has been very committed to making the garden a success by educating and encouraging community gardeners, working with a volunteer committee of gardeners from each site. Garden rules state that no chemical fertilizers, insecticides, or weed repellants are allowed; instead, gardeners are encouraged to pull by hand. Applications for spaces are available at the Princeton Recreation Dept. Attached is a copy of the 2022 application and guidelines. Forms are under revision, but not yet ready for 2023. Residents that are interested in a plot stop by the Recreation Department at the beginning of the growing year and complete the application and receive information about rules and responsibilities. The application and guidelines are available in both English and Spanish.

**PDF:** [COMMUNITY GARDEN SUBMISSION QUESTIONNAIRE](#)

**IMAGE:** [COMMUNITY GARDEN RULES SIGN](#)

**PDF:** [COMMUNITY GARDEN APPLICATION AND RULES](#)

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## Farmers Markets

10 Points

**Program Summary:** The Princeton Farmers' Market has been in operation since 2009. During the Summer Market Season, mid-May to mid-November, the market is located at the Hinds Plaza in the heart of downtown Princeton. The market is open rain or shine and runs from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. every Thursday. During the Winter Market Season, December through April, the market continues to operate on a bi-weekly schedule at a different location. Dates for both seasons are updated via their website. The Princeton Farmers' Market is run by a part-time manager and a full list of market sponsors and current vendors can be viewed on the Farmers' Market website (<http://www.princetonfarmersmarket.com/>). Additional information can be viewed by following their Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/princetonfarmersmarket/?hl=en>) and subscribing to their newsletter via their website. Marketing opportunities are supported by the Municipality, as are operating costs and occasional entertainment at the market. The Princeton Farmers' Market has been extremely successful with more than 20 regular vendors offering vegetables, fruits, grass-fed poultry and meats, eggs, etc. The Farmers' Market has helped expand the sense of community in Princeton to include many local employees in addition to the numerous residents who come to the market each Thursday. Many people walk or bicycle to the market and vehicle parking is available in the adjacent Spring St Garage. Please view the attached documentation for recent promotions/press. The new Market Manager, Natalie Fiorino, reported that the older letter by Max Hoagland wears out-of-date, since it did not reflect the new hours. However, she was unable to send a new letter in time for certification.

**PDF:** [LETTER RE: MUNICIPAL INVOLVEMENT](#)

**PDF:** [PRINCETON FARMERS MARKET - SOCIAL MEDIA, NEWS, NEWSLETTER](#)

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## Making Farmers Markets Accessible

5 Points



**Program Summary:** Princeton Farmers' Market takes place at the Hinds Plaza, adjacent to the Princeton Public Library and 0.1 miles from the "Witherspoon Street at Green Street" bus stop of the Princeton Muni Transit (See <https://www.princetonnj.gov/1212/Princeton-Municipal-Transit-Bus-Schedule> for the Muni Transit schedule). A number of other regional buses service the area as well. The Princeton Farmers' Market is authorized to accept EBT/SNAP. The market has a mobile terminal that can process EBT transactions. Customers then receive SNAP tokens to be used on eligible food items at the market. Customers eligible to utilize our SNAP program receive up to a \$10 match per market day. The market matches up to \$10 per eligible customer, per market day thanks to a grant from the Garden State Good Food Network (<https://www.citygreenonline.org/gsgfn>). See attached advertisement from the Farmers Market newsletter. Various vendors are also authorized to accept WIC and FMNP (Example: Terhune Orchards). The new Market Manager, Natalie Fiorino, reported that there are now other vendors accepting WIC and FMNP, but she was unable to provide a new certification letter by the deadline.

**PDF:** [PRINCETON FARMERS' MARKET VENDOR FMNP LETTER](#)

**IMAGE:** [MAP SHOWING THE DISTANCE FROM THE MARKET TO A BUS STOP](#)

**PDF:** [NEWSLETTER WITH SNAP PROMOTION](#)

## Green Design

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### Create a Green Development Checklist

10 Points

**Program Summary:** Princeton's major site plan and subdivision checklist requirements were amended in 2013 to incorporate a Green Development Information Statement/Checklist. Members of the Princeton Environmental Commission (PEC) now utilize the completed checklist/information statement in their review of major development applications. The current analysis addresses the 33 applications reviewed by the PEC from 2020-2023, Attached is the completed recertification questionnaire captures the results of the PEC's effort. The PEC is in the process of reviewing the Checklist with the goal of making improvements. One identified improvement will be to institute Yes/No checkboxes for each application to make these reviews more efficient. Another will be to remove items that are currently mandated. In the meantime, the current Checklist is available on the PEC's webpage at <https://www.princetonnj.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3091/Green-Building-Checklist-PDF>

**PDF:** [GD CHECKLIST RECERTIFICATION QUESTIONNAIRE](#)

## Health & Wellness

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### Best Practices for Local Boards of Health

10 Points

**Program Summary:** Princeton has an autonomous LBOH. Health Officer Reports to the LBOH regularly. The members of the Board of Health have jurisdiction in all matters of environmental and public health within Princeton, including all public health services. The Board is governed by State Law. The BOH and Health Department work with all municipal departments on HIAP. The LBOH meets monthly and as needed to pass resolutions and keep the community and governments updated and informed. The Health Dept and LBOH have responded to the COVID-19 Pandemic, prepared for future public health emergencies, addressed the most needed social determinants of health, and more. \*\*Note the LEPC Agenda is for LHA \_+ Action plan action, uploaded here due to max uploads \*\*

**WORD:** [2022 BOARD LISTING UPDATED JANUARY.DOC](#)

**PDF:** [JUN 14 BOH](#)

**PDF:** [MAY 10 BOH](#)

**PDF:** [BOH OVERVIEW/TRAINING/ANNUAL INFO SESSION.](#)

**PDF:** [LEPC MEETING AGENDA .PDF](#)

**PDF:** [BOH ORIENTATION TRAINING LETTER.PDF](#)

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## Building Healthier Communities

25 Points

**Program Summary:** In 2023, Princeton announced that the Municipality was recognized with a Healthy Town Up and Coming designation for the second year in a row. The Mayors Wellness Campaign is closely aligned with the Municipality's Health Department, enabling data to be used to determine that one of the highest community needs is addressing the social isolation of residents. In 2021, a Social Isolation initiative was developed and planned, and the program will launch this spring. "Princeton is proud to be recognized by the Quality Institute as a 2021 New Jersey Healthy Town Up and Coming designee. The Princeton Health Department staff worked diligently to develop meaningful programs with lasting impact, and we are looking forward to continuing those efforts. Our social isolation campaign, launched in 2021, continues to help isolated members of our community become more engaged through art and gardening projects. While this specific effort is meaningful any year; it is even more meaningful due to the added isolation from the COVID pandemic. The theme, Look How We Have Grown, encourages these vulnerable individuals to reflect on their personal experiences with optimism and purpose. I'm grateful for the support of the Quality Institute and the opportunity to promote initiatives like this in the future," said Mark Freda. Please see attached 2022 Healthy Town Designation Application for more information. The search bar on the NJHCQI notes that Princeton is a current active participant in the Mayors Wellness Campaign: <https://www.njhcqi.org/mayors-wellness-campaign/> A joint press release regarding the 2022 Wellness Campaign is found here: <https://www.njhcqi.org/mayors-wellness-campaign-press-release-3-15-2022/> Locally, the Princeton Patch picked up the Campaign news on April 6 2023: <https://patch.com/new-jersey/princeton/princeton-designated-healthy-town-2022-quality-institute> In 2022, the Town Topics covered the campaign as well: <https://www.towntopics.com/wordpress/2022/08/31/library-launches-program-promoting-activities-for-mayors-wellness-campaign/>

**PDF:** [2022 HEALTHY TOWN DESIGNATION APPLICATION](#)

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## Integrating Health Into Municipal Decision Making

25 Points

**Program Summary:** HIAP (Health in All Policies) is based on the recognition that our greatest health challenges-for example, chronic illness, health inequities, climate change, and spiraling health care costs-are highly complex and often linked. Promoting healthy communities requires that we address the social determinants of health, such as transportation, education, access to healthy food, economic opportunities, and more. By adopting the HIAP resolution, creating the sub-committee, years of implementation of HIAP, stakeholder HIAP input, and an internal only HIAP checklist, Princeton now has a more unified and comprehensive approach to addressing the social determinants of health within the community. Princeton Health Department utilizes a performance management system that is completely integrated into health department daily practices at all levels. This includes setting organizational objectives across all levels of the department, identifying indicators to measure progress toward achieving objectives on a regular basis, identifying responsibility for monitoring progress and reporting, identifying areas where achieving objectives requires focused quality improvement processes and visible leadership for ongoing performance management. Both our department information systems and public health data support our overarching performance management. The gold star health action items have been entered within our performance management system, which enables all health department staff to contribute to the shared goal while tracking our progress. As part of our 'health in all policies' approach, the health department also created a dashboard in Microsoft Teams that is viewable by all municipal managers in Princeton. The dashboard lays out Mayor/Council/departmental goals that are related to specific Mayor/Council priority areas (identified by them at a planning session in January).

**PDF:** [-HIAP RESOLUTION.PDF - PAGES FROM 2018-08-27 MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF PRINCETON.PDF](#)

**EXCEL:** [MUNICIPAL HIAP CHECKLIST - GOLD STAR. 9-29-22 \(1\).XLSX](#)

**WORD:** [PRINCETON HIAP QAIRE FINAL.DOCX](#)

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## Local Health Assessment & Action Plan

40 Points

**Program Summary:** The Municipality of Princeton had followed Sustainable Jersey's Local Health Assessment and Action Plan process since December of 2021, when the LBOH adopted a resolution of the initial assessment and action plan. This plan was reviewed by SJ staff and returned to Princeton for edits. In pursuit of this certification and the need for revised documentation, the Municipality of Princeton conducted an additional community survey, analysis, and draft of the action plan. Results of this survey informed municipal plans to address the health needs of the community on issues including transportation, food, housing, wellness and recreation, safety and community belonging, public engagement and communication, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Results were shared publically. The action plan was publically commented on and revised as well as revised by a Health Gold/HIAP/LECP task force. Supporting Health assessments, surveys, Action plans, and Resolutions are included below. \*\*\* NOTE DUE TO MAX Document upload, proof of LEPC Gold Star Meeting is under Best Practices for LBOH \*\*\*

**WORD:** [RESOLUTION 2021-05 SUSTAINABLE JERSEY HEALTH ACTION PLAN FINAL.DOC](#)

**PDF:** [RESOLUTION 22-313 SUSTAINABLE JERSEY HEALTH ACTION PLAN.PDF](#)

**PDF:** [LINKS TO SURVEYS DATA.PDF](#)

**PDF:** [LOCAL HEALTH ACTION PLAN WORKSHEET FINAL 8\\_28\\_22 V2](#)

**PDF:** [PRINCETON LH ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET FINAL 8\\_28\\_22 V2](#)

**PDF:** [PROMOTION MATERIAL LINKS.PDF](#)

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## Safe Routes to School

10 Points

**Program Summary:** The Municipality of Princeton received Gold-level recognition from the New Jersey Safe Routes Recognition Program in 2022. The Greater Mercer Transportation Management Association prepared the nomination application. Please see attached certificate for 2022-2024.

**POWERPOINT:** [PRINCETON SRS GOLD CERTIFICATE 2022-2024](#)

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## Tobacco Free Community

10 Points

**Program Summary:** Princeton works to maintain the health of its citizens through no-smoking policies/ordinances, health education campaigns, and smoking cessation services. Ordinances included a tobacco-free workplace internal policy (see attached), the elimination of smoking in public areas (see link below), the restriction of tobacco sales to minors (see link below), the regulation of the sale of electronic cigarettes (see link below), and the total elimination of smoking on all municipal properties (see link below). Education materials include the E-cigarette Fact Sheet (see attached). Youth outreach was achieved through the Mayor's Wellness Campaign, in a flier that specifically addressed the risks of tobacco use in teenagers, and explained that kids are more vulnerable to peer pressure, and poor decision-making (see attached). Additionally, the municipality supports and endorses the work of Corner House. Corner House Behavioral Health works to help vulnerable youth who struggle with addiction and mental health crises within the Princeton community. Through ordinances, outreach, and external programs, tobacco use in the area is limited and thoroughly discouraged. In 2013, the Princeton Board of Health (BOH) passed Ordinance 2013-01 which prohibits smoking on public property and complies with the Smoke Free Air Act of the State of New Jersey.

<https://www.princetonnj.gov/DocumentCenter/View/8666/Board-Of-Health-Ordinance-2013-01-PDF>  
In 2015, the BOH passed Ordinance 2015-01 which prohibits the sale of tobacco and nicotine delivery products to persons under the age of twenty-one.

<https://www.princetonnj.gov/DocumentCenter/View/8672/Board-Of-Health-Ordinance-2015-01-PDF>  
In 2016, the BOH passed Ordinance 2016-02 amended prior code to include regulation and licensing of the sale of electronic smoking devices.

<https://www.princetonnj.gov/DocumentCenter/View/8673/Board-Of-Health-Ordinance-2016-02-PDF>

**PDF:** [MUNICIPAL WORKPLACE NO SMOKING POLICY](#)

**PDF:** [MAYORS WELLNESS CAMPAIGN FLYER](#)

**PDF:** [E-CIGARETTE FACT SHEET AND COMMUNITY HEALTH PROFILE](#)

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## Innovative Projects

### Innovative Community Project 1

## 10 Points

**Program Summary:** On March 9, 2024 from 10 AM to 4 PM, Princeton hosted its first Sustainable Home Expo. The goal of this event was to connect residents with local and vetted sustainable contractors, landscapers, and solar professionals. This event encourages residents to adopt energy-efficient systems, technologies, building materials, and sustainable landscaping practices in their homes. It also provides an educational aspect where people can learn about sustainable home and apartment upgrades that save them money and energy. Attendees could connect with vendors and organizations on the expo floor at tables or during the education sessions during and after presentations. One of the sessions was an induction cooktop demo where attendees got to see how easy it was to make the switch. Another room was the dedicated computer room where our tech volunteers, NJCEP, and PSE&G helped residents find a community solar project or the energy efficiency program they qualified for. There was also a kid's activities room where attendees could leave their children to do energy-related activities like creating a solar s'mores oven out of a pizza box. The Municipality of Princeton met with Sustainable Princeton monthly to discuss the event and which organizations would be best to invite. (Sustainable Princeton is a non-profit that has a fee-for-service contract to manage Princeton's sustainability initiatives.) The Municipality provided the Suzanne Paterson Building for the event and free transportation from the municipal shuttle bus. The Princeton Electrical Subcode Official was a speaker during the EV charging session as well as tabled to answer questions about solar installations and EVs. The Princeton Historic Preservation Commission tabled to share information on sustainable building upgrades and solar in historic districts. The Princeton Environmental Commission tabled to share information on the Green Building Checklist and their Green House Tours event. The Municipality also promoted the event in its newsletter and on social media before, during, and after the event. Council members also showed their support by being present for the event. Approximately 150 people attended this inaugural event. This event webpage describes the participating vendors and organizations as well as the schedule of classes. A flyer and media kit for vendors are also attached. <https://www.sustainableprinceton.org/event/princeton-sustainable-home-expo/>

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## Innovative Community Project 2

### 10 Points

**Program Summary:** More than 3,000 acres (about 25%) of Princeton's land area are open space, approximately half of which are owned or co-owned by the Municipality. Stewardship of natural open space habitats is crucial to restore and maintain their ecological integrity and to provide accessibility via a well-managed trail system. These spaces also offer a great opportunity to engage the public and foster their interest in the natural environment through events such as guided bird walks, wild plant foraging or photo contests. Princeton is fortunate to have close relationships with several organizations working to provide these services: Friends of Princeton Open Space (FOPOS), Friends of Herrontown Woods (FOHW), and The Friends of the Rogers Refuge (FORR). Please see attached for more information.

**PDF:** [INNOVATIVE ACTION: PARTNERSHIPS FOR OPEN SPACE MANAGEMENT](#)

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## Innovative Community Project 3

### 10 Points

**Program Summary:** On June 27, 2022, the Engineering Department proposed the purchase of three battery-electric Parking Enforcement Scooters by Westward Industries for the Police Department. At that meeting, concerns were voiced regarding the price of these vehicles. On August 8, 2022, after reviewing a presentation by the Engineering Department and Sustainable Princeton designed to address these concerns, Council authorized the purchase of the three electric Parking Enforcement Scooters, a move that can reduce the municipality's footprint by 7,305 kg CO2/year. This presentation can be found on pages 680-689 of the agenda packet available online at <https://princetonnj.igmp.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=1&ID=1371&Inline=True> (Due to the size of this packet, a pdf of the slides is also excerpted below.) Approval of the resolution to purchase the vehicles can be found at 2:57:00 of the YouTube recording of this meeting, available at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=A3gzRYTxQx4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A3gzRYTxQx4) After significant delay, the vehicles finally arrived in June 2023, and registration is attached.

**PDF: [REGISTRATION FOR 3 ELECTRIC PARKING ENFORCEMENT SCOOTERS](#)**

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## Land Use & Transportation

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### Bicycle & Pedestrian Audits

10 Points

**Program Summary:** Princeton has a Bicycle Advisory Committee (PBAC) whose goals are to promote and accommodate walking and bicycling as modes of transportation and advise the Mayor and Council regarding the character, safety and location of future pedestrian and bicycle facilities and/or accommodations. It meets monthly and is comprised of 9 members that serve 2-3 year terms, a Council member, and a Staff Liaison. The PBAC has created and maintains an inventory and mapping of all sidewalks, pathways and bike routes in Princeton and the Princeton area. These maps include existing and proposed routes. Progress in this area is summarized below: --In 2015, Princeton commissioned a Bicycle Master Plan Study that included extensive community feedback sessions to capture gaps and barriers in the current infrastructure. Appendix C of the Master Plan includes proposed routes. The Bicycle Master Plan Study and its Appendices can be found at <http://www.princetonnj.gov/masterplan/bicycle-master-plan-final.html>. --In 2020, Princeton earned the Bicycle Friendly Community Silver award from the League of American Bicyclists. --In 2020, Princeton's bike map was updated and can be viewed through the following links: <https://www.princetonnj.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1597/Central-Princeton-Area-Bike-Map-PDF> <https://www.princetonnj.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1598/Greater-Princeton-Area-Bike-Map-PDF> --In 2022, a Princeton Mobility Survey was conducted by the Princeton Public Transit Advisory Committee and the PBAC. The survey was completed by Princeton high school students, and the report is found at this link: <https://www.princetonnj.gov/DocumentCenter/View/10845/Princeton-Mobility-Survey-Report--PDF> The PBAC expects updates to the Complete Streets Policy and the Mobility Element in Princeton's new Master plan when it is completed, as well as improvement projects to detail for the 2024 update.

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### Bicycle and/or Pedestrian Improvement Projects

20 Points

**Program Summary:** Bicycle Boulevards are traffic-calmed streets where bicyclists are afforded an enhanced level of safety and comfort. Princeton's new bicycle boulevards identify and mark low-traffic roadways suitable for cyclists of all ages and abilities and help establish a connected network around our city and to popular destinations, including all the public schools, Princeton University, Princeton Theological Seminary, Institute For Advanced Study, The Hun School, the Governor's Mansion, the Princeton Public Pool, and several public parks.

PDF: [PROJECT SUBMISSION WORKSHEET - BIKE BOULEVARDS](#)

PDF: [MAP - BIKE BOULEVARDS](#)

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## Bicycle and/or Pedestrian Plan

10 Points

**Program Summary:** In 2015 the Municipality began the development of its bicycle master plan with grant funding from the NJDOT, and the consultant services of WSP/Parsons Brinkerhoff. The result was Princeton's Bicycle Mobility Plan, from which the Planning Board included sections in the Circulation Element of the Community Master Plan, adopted in November 2017. The purpose of the Bicycle Master Plan is to provide a framework of bicycle infrastructure improvements in Princeton that create a connected bicycle network within Princeton and to the surrounding communities. It advances Princeton's Complete Streets policy by making more streets safer for users of all ages, modes, and abilities, and it reduces the number of local trips by car. The plan designates the appropriate bicycle treatment for each segment in the network and identifies potential ordinance changes that would be required to achieve such a treatment. The Municipality, following the plan's recommendations, has taken the following steps: --Installation of several bike lanes, widening and rebuilding of sidepaths, increasing bike parking capacity, -- Passage of the municipality's Bicycle Parking Ordinances, #2020-43 and 2021-01 requiring private developers and institutions of higher education to include bicycle parking facilities in their development applications. --Installation of more than 10 miles of Bike Boulevards that create a route connecting the elementary schools, and in the center, the middle and high schools, with the public library, and the central business district, (a Town Topics article) The Municipality is working on other projects currently including a challenging and important east-west corridor to improve pedestrians' and cyclists' safety. It began in 2018 with the Beta Bike Lanes demonstration project, then led to an engineering study of the full corridor to improve safety at several intersections and to establish bike lanes. The Municipality is now pursuing steps to implement the safety improvements and bike lanes recommended for this corridor, a residential street. To further the safety of pedestrians, bicyclists, and other vulnerable road users the Princeton Council passed a Resolution Establishing a Vision Zero Task Force whose objective is to draft a Vision Zero Action Plan and a timeframe to reach those goals. See attachments for links and documentation.

PDF: [NARRATIVE WITH LINKS](#)

PDF: [PRINCETON ORDINANCE 2021-01](#)

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## Green Infrastructure Planning

5 Points

**Program Summary:** In 2020, The Watershed Institute developed an Impervious Cover Assessment Report and Reduction Action Plan for the Municipality of Princeton. (See attached.) These documents have been reviewed by the Engineering Department and Princeton's Flood &



Stormwater Committee. In 2022, Princeton initiated a Stormwater Utility Feasibility Study to evaluate the feasibility of establishing a dedicated revenue stream to fund all elements of the stormwater program. Phase I of Princeton's Stormwater Utility Feasibility Study focused on identifying and documenting the level of effort and funding expended historically for stormwater management activities. Additionally, an understanding of current and future levels of service and operating policies will be considered to support discussions on necessary operational and capital improvements for stormwater services to address the needs of the community and regulatory compliance. We anticipate that both of these actions will work to move Princeton to incorporate more green infrastructure in the future.

**PDF:** [PRINCETON ICA - SITE DESIGNS](#)

**PDF:** [PRINCETON ICA AND REDUCTION ACTION PLAN](#)

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## **Enhanced Stormwater Management Control Ordinance**

**35 Points**

**Program Summary:** By NJDEP regulation, a municipality is permitted to establish stormwater regulations that are more stringent than the state rule. In 2017, Princeton took a very important step forward by creating lower impervious area thresholds for major developments (5,000 square feet instead of a quarter acre) and establishing regulations for residential and non-residential projects that create as little as 400 square feet of new additional impervious surface (minor development). Ordinance No. 2017-30 ordinance placed all of these regulations in the "site plan" section of the municipal code, and applied to all development. In May of 2020, Princeton established a Flood & Stormwater Committee and the Engineering Department and the Flood and Storm Water Committee collaborated over six months to create two ordinances to ensure the existing municipal regulations were in compliance with the NJDEP rule changes. After a presentation by the Engineering Department and The Watershed Institute, two ordinances (#2020-38 and #2020-39) were adopted by Council on December 7, 2020, one under site plan regulations and the other under zoning regulations. As noted in the attached agenda packet (pgs 41-110), these ordinances amended the existing code to meet the NJDEP requirements, but also exceed them, making them particularly unique to Princeton. These changes ensured that increases between 400 and 4,999 square feet of new impervious area (net) on a residential property ("small project") now require storing and managing the new stormwater runoff on the property, using a grass swale, green roof, pervious paving system, small-scale bioretention basin / rain garden, small-scale infiltration basin, small-scale sand filter, or vegetative filter strip. Since our ordinance went into effect, Princeton has approved 24 rain gardens for single-family residential projects. These have resulted in or will result in, capturing more than 115,000 gallons of stormwater runoff, and treating more than 42,000 gallons. The regulations for minor and major site development projects (non-residential) are also being implemented on a number of development projects.

**WORD:** [ENHANCED STORMWATER MANAGEMENT CONTROL ORDINANCE ACTION WORKSHEET](#)

**PDF:** [STORMWATER ORDINANCES AGENDA PACKET - 2020-12-07](#)

**PDF:** [ORDINANCE 2020-38.PDF](#)

**PDF:** [ORDINANCE 2020-39.PDF](#)

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## **Green Building & Environmental Sustainability Element \*Retired 12/31/24\***

**10 Points**

**Program Summary:** In 2017-18, the Princeton Environmental Commission (PEC) drafted the Green Building and Environmental Sustainability Element (GBESE). In 2019, the PEC partnered with Council and the Master Plan Subcommittee of the Planning Board to refine and adopt the draft of the GBESE into the Master Plan. In June 2020, the GBESE was adopted into the Master Plan by the Planning Board. Please see attached GBESE planning board resolution along with the GBESE.

**PDF:** [PRINCETON GREEN BUILDING AND SUSTAINABILITY ELEMENT WITH RESOLUTION TO ADOPT](#)

## Local Economies

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### Green Business Recognition Program

20 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

**Program Summary:** In 2022, the Municipality of Princeton established a Special Improvement District (SID) by Ordinance 2022-03, and Experience Princeton is a nonprofit organization established in 2022 as the Princeton Business Partnership, Inc., a SID dedicated to strengthening and promoting all of Princeton, New Jersey, through placemaking, marketing, and economic development. The Mayor of Princeton and a member of the Council serve on the Board of Experience Princeton, and the SID reports regularly to and has its budget approved by Princeton Council. Experience Princeton hosts a Monthly MeetUp for the public and business community. This Spring, Experience Princeton shared NJ Sustainable Business Registry information (see attached flyer) with businesses during these meetups, invited registered businesses to share their experience, and readily recruited three more businesses to the NJ. We are proud to see The Yedlin Company, Share My Meals, and Marina Rubina Architect join Princeton's expansive list of registered businesses in June 2023. Here are their profiles: <http://registry.njsbdc.com/business-profile/2809/3214/marina-rubina-architect> <http://registry.njsbdc.com/business-profile/2807/3212/yedlin-company> <http://registry.njsbdc.com/business-profile/2810/3215/share-my-meals> Thirteen Princeton businesses were previously registered and are still active in the NJSBR. Here are their profiles: <http://registry.njsbdc.com/business-profile/338/311/joshua-zinder-architecture-design> <http://registry.njsbdc.com/business-profile/294/264/copper-river-salon-and-spa> <http://registry.njsbdc.com/business-profile/279/249/lasley-brahaney-architecture-construction> <http://registry.njsbdc.com/business-profile/447/545/honor-yoga> <http://registry.njsbdc.com/business-profile/295/265/arlees-raw-blends> <http://registry.njsbdc.com/business-profile/431/448/jammin-crepes> <http://registry.njsbdc.com/business-profile/418/425/mccaffreys-princeton> <http://registry.njsbdc.com/business-profile/274/244/whole-earth-center> <http://registry.njsbdc.com/business-profile/513/602/princeton-public-library> <http://registry.njsbdc.com/business-profile/499/576/sustainable-princeton-inc> <http://registry.njsbdc.com/business-profile/285/255/princeton-printer> <http://registry.njsbdc.com/business-profile/286/256/farmhouse-store-princeton> <http://registry.njsbdc.com/business-profile/529/625/patchwork-bear>

**PDF:** [SUSTAINABLE BUSINESSES IN PRINCETON MARCH 2023](#)

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### Buy Local Campaign

## 10 Points

**Program Summary:** Experience Princeton organized and held the Princeton Restaurant Week from March 5-11, 2023. This was an opportunity to highlight restaurants in the Municipality of Princeton during a time of year that typically is slow for restaurants. We gathered prix fixe menus and special deals from 40 restaurants. Menus were then posted to our website and social media channels (see PDF with posters and sample menus). A media sponsorship campaign highlighted the promotion in the Municipality's newsletter (see attached), as well as print ads, digital ads, and sponsored e-newsletters (see PDF of news and promotions). Together these brought over 100,000 interactions on our website at [experienceprinceton.org](https://experienceprinceton.org). Partners included presenting sponsor Citizens Bank; Official sponsors Princeton Shopping Center and MacLean Agency; and Media Sponsors: Town Topics, The Daily Princetonian, The Princeton Packet, edibleJersey, Jersey's Best and NJ.com. Experience Princeton is a nonprofit organization established in 2022 as the Princeton Business Partnership, Inc., a Special Improvement District (SID) dedicated to strengthening and promoting all of Princeton, New Jersey, through placemaking, marketing, and economic development. See <https://www.experienceprinceton.org/>. The SID was established by Ordinance 2022-03 by the Municipality of Princeton and is now a part of Chapter B3 in Princeton municipal code, as found at <https://ecode360.com/36788108>. The SID reports regularly to Princeton Council and Council reviews and approves its budget. For example, Resolution 22-213, "Resolution of the Mayor and Council of Princeton Adopting and Ratifying the Amended 2022-2023 Budget of the Special Improvement District of the Municipality of Princeton - Roll Call" was approved June 27, 2022 and is available here: [https://princetonnj.iqm2.com/Citizens/Detail\\_LegiFile.aspx?ID=7880&highlightTerms=Princeton%20Special%20Improvement%20District](https://princetonnj.iqm2.com/Citizens/Detail_LegiFile.aspx?ID=7880&highlightTerms=Princeton%20Special%20Improvement%20District)

**PDF:** [PRINCETON NEWSLETTER WITH RESTAURANT WEEK NOTICE](#)

**PDF:** [PRINCETON RESTAURANT WEEK - POSTER + SAMPLE MENUS](#)

**PDF:** [PRINCETON RESTAURANT WEEK - NEWS + PROMOTIONS](#)

**WORD:** [SUPPORT LOCAL ECONOMIES QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT](#)

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## Support Local Businesses

### 10 Points

**Program Summary:** In 2022, the Municipality of Princeton established a Special Improvement District (SID) by Ordinance 2022-03, which is now a part of Chapter B3 in the Princeton municipal code, as found at <https://ecode360.com/36788108>. The SID reports regularly to Princeton Council. For example, Council meeting minutes from April 10, 2023 show one of the latest updates from Experience Princeton to the Municipal Government, and are available here <https://princetonnj.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileView.aspx?Type=12&ID=1345> Further collaboration is achieved by having the Mayor and a Council member on the SID Board. The SID Executive Director meets on alternating weeks with the Municipal Administrator, at which time they both bring issues of importance for the business community to the attention of one another. In addition, Princeton Council regularly reviews and approves the SID's budget. For example, Resolution 22-213, "Resolution of the Mayor and Council of Princeton Adopting and Ratifying the Amended 2022-2023 Budget of the Special Improvement District of the Municipality of Princeton - Roll Call" was approved June 27, 2022 and is available here: [https://princetonnj.iqm2.com/Citizens/Detail\\_LegiFile.aspx?ID=7880&highlightTerms=Princeton%20Special%20Improvement%20District](https://princetonnj.iqm2.com/Citizens/Detail_LegiFile.aspx?ID=7880&highlightTerms=Princeton%20Special%20Improvement%20District) Experience Princeton is a nonprofit organization established in 2022 as the Princeton Business Partnership, Inc., a SID dedicated to strengthening and promoting all of Princeton, New Jersey, through placemaking, marketing, and economic development. Experience Princeton hosts an expansive website, [www.experienceprinceton.org](https://www.experienceprinceton.org), a monthly newsletter (see attached), and monthly

Meetups that bring together businesses and people that support them. The SID has many goals, including "to welcome visitors from around the world, to uphold Princeton's reputation for excellence, and to be a responsible, engaged and forward-thinking ambassador for local business." In the next year, the SID will work to improve the retail mix, expand allowable uses, and work to streamline ordinances and approval processes. The highly successful Restaurant Week will be repeated from March 10-27, 2024. A 'shop local' campaign with Yiftee will be launched by the holidays with a dollar-for-dollar match of up to \$25 for gift cards purchased. Following the completion of the Witherspoon Street Phase 1 Streetscape Project, a design is being completed for Nassau Street to receive an upgrade. Investments in plantings and public art throughout Princeton will help to keep the town in its top physical condition.

PDF: [EXPERIENCE PRINCETON NEWSLETTER JUNE 2023](#)

## Natural Resources

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### Municipal Water Story

20 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

**Program Summary:** Princeton was thrilled to have Donna Liu, a Rutgers Environmental Steward and journalist who envisioned, marshaled, and drafted the Princeton Water Story. The printable version is attached, and a narrated video version is available at [bit.ly/PtonWaterStory](https://bit.ly/PtonWaterStory). Princeton's Water Story was designed so that it helps residents understand where our water comes from, what happens to it as it runs through town, and where it goes. Using clear, accessible language the Water Story explains that while precipitation, evaporation, and runoff are important components of the story, we need to also consider the impact of human interventions like streets and buildings, pollution from landscaping and pet waste, stormwater policies, and our lack of awareness about the water. The Water Story was brought to Princeton Environmental Commission (PEC) on September 23, 2020 and October 28, 2020, and to Princeton's Flood & Stormwater Committee (FSW) on April 9, 2021. Feedback from the PEC and FSW committees included highlighting the video on municipal pages and breaking it into chapters for school use, while also including the value of trees and actionable items for the public. In addition, the Water Story was unveiled to the public at Sustainable Princeton's May 5 event, "Climate Action and Local Environmental Health" which was held in partnership with the Princeton Public Library (PPL) over Zoom. The event was advertised by the PPL and through Sustainable Princeton's email and social media channels. A total of 87 people registered for the event, with 45 people attending. Donna was unavailable to act as a panelist for this event; however, Daniel Van Abs, Ph.D., FAICP/PP, Associate Professor of Professional Practice for Water, Society and Environment in the Rutgers-School of Environmental and Biological Sciences stood in and presented the Water Story to the audience. The presentation used during the last two events is attached below. Also in October 2020, the Water Story was mentioned during the Princeton Public Library's screening of "Living River" as part of the Environmental Film Festival and the link was sent to all who registered for this film screening. The links for both the paper and video version are cited on [PrincetonNJ.gov](https://PrincetonNJ.gov) and [SustainablePrinceton.org](https://SustainablePrinceton.org). The Water Story video on our YouTube channel has received 491 views to date. The video was also shared on Sustainable Princeton's social media, reaching 256 people on Facebook, 201 on Instagram, 15 on LinkedIn. Sustainable Princeton is continuing to work on the Water Story, by following the recommendations of the PEC and FSW committees, so that it can become a part of the curriculum for all students in the local public schools.

IMAGE: [CLIMATE ACTION & LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY EVENT WEBPAGE](#)

PDF: [PRINCETON'S WATER STORY - PRINTABLE VERSION](#)

PDF: [AGENDA -- FLOOD & STORMWATER COMMITTEE MEETING 4/9/21](#)

IMAGE: [SP WEBPAGE RE: WATER STORY](#)

POWERPOINT: [WATER STORY PRESENTATION](#)

PDF: [ADDENDUM TO THE WATER STORY](#)

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## Environmental Commission

10 Points

**Program Summary:** The Princeton Environmental Commission (PEC) is comprised of volunteer Princeton residents who are appointed by the Mayor. The commission advises the Mayor, Princeton Administration, Princeton Council, and local officials, including the Planning Board and the Zoning Board regarding environmental issues and actions that may affect the natural resources and inhabitants of the community. The PEC was established to advocate for the protection, development and use of natural resources, including water resources, located within Princeton. The PEC reviews studies, funds research and makes recommendations concerning open space preservation, water resources and storm water management, air pollution control, sustainable building design and practices, alternative transportation, recycling, composting, solid waste management, noise control, soil and landscape protection, environmental appearance, aquatic resources and protection of flora and fauna. A list of current PEC members, 2022 Accomplishments, and the approved ordinance establishing the PEC are attached as uploads.

IMAGE: [PEC MEMBERS AS OF FEBRUARY 2022](#)

PDF: [2022 PEC ACCOMPLISHMENTS](#)

PDF: [ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION ORDINANCE - ADOPTED](#)

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## Environmental Commission Site Plan Review

10 Points

**Program Summary:** The Princeton Environmental Commission (PEC) reviews any application that comes before the Princeton Planning and Zoning Boards and prepares a memo in accordance with its legal authority and responsibility. They review and provide recommendations for civil engineering, architectural, landscape and lighting drawings, engineering reports, environmental statements, parking and traffic analyses, Application for Site Plan Approval Narratives, the required Green Checklist, the Green Building and Sustainability Element, and Stormwater Management Operation and Maintenance Manual. Attached is a list of development applications reviewed by the PEC in 2022 and two examples of site plans reviewed by the PEC.

PDF: [SITE PLAN REVIEW MEMO TO ZONING - EXAMPLE FROM SEPT 2022](#)

PDF: [LIST OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS REVIEWED BY PEC ON PG 9-10](#)

PDF: [SITE PLAN REVIEW MEMO TO PLANNING - EXAMPLE FROM JAN 2022](#)

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## Open Space Plans

10 Points

**Program Summary:** While certain elements of Princeton's Master Plan had been updated in recent decades, the last comprehensive update was in 1996. In April 2022, the Planning Board and staff embarked on a thorough update to guide growth in a responsible, sustainable, and equitable way. The final plan was adopted by the Planning Board on November 30, 2023. Section 6.0 of the new Princeton Master Plan contains the Conservation, Open Space, and Recreation plans. Each of the required elements for this action is addressed as follows: --Executive summary: Section 1.0 of the Master Plan contains an introduction, an overview of public outreach, demographics, vision, assumptions, goals, policies, and standards. --Goals and Policies: Established in Section 1.0 of the Master Plan (page 23) --Inventory: Section 11.8 contains the Recreation and Open Space Inventory (ROSI) --Needs Analysis: Section 6.5 details community recreation needs --Resource Assessment: Section 6.2 depicts Trail and Greenway Opportunities for Princeton --Action Plan: Conservation, Open Space, and Recreation Recommendations are delineated in Section 6.8 --General Open Space System Map: A map of Existing Open Space and Recreation Facilities is in Section 6.1 (p. 157) --Additional Parcel Data Requirements: Existing properties are delineated in Section 11.8, while potential areas are noted in Section 6.2 --Public Participation: Section 6.4 describes the public outreach efforts as per Green Acres guidelines. --Plan Adoption: Section 11.9 provides the resolution of the plan's adoption on November 30, 2023. Princeton's Master Plan, and the Conservation Open Space and Recreation Element, are available online at: <https://www.princetonnj.gov/339/Master-Plan>

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## Wildlife Interaction Plan

10 Points

**Program Summary:** In October 2013, the Mayor and Council adopted Resolution 13-289 endorsing submission of applications to the NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife for a Special Deer Management Area and for a Community-Based Deer Management Plan for 2013-14 (see upload.) Princeton has continued its implementation and execution of the annual Community Based Deer Management Program. This plan includes increased bow hunting access and the use of a hired sharpshooting company to help cull the herd to a goal of 20 deer per square mile. This helps reduce car vs deer collisions on the roadways, forest regeneration, and the spread of Lyme disease. Since the 2017 submission, we have entered into an agreement with a new bowhunting group that has experience in deer population efforts from Duke Farms. They average between 40-70 deer harvested per season. Princeton's Health Officer, Jeffrey Grosser, and the Animal Control Officer helped broker an agreement of the past two seasons to allow hunting on an open piece of property known as "Butler Tract". This property is an epicenter of an unchecked herd that was driving complaints in the neighborhood. In the 2020/2021 season, 60 deer have been harvested with a noticeable positive effect with deer vs car collisions and decreased complaints of property damage. We have also continued to utilize our contractor, White Buffalo Inc., for culling after obtaining a special permit for NJ Fish and Wildlife. This operation produces a harvest from 140 to 250 deer per season. Harvest goals are calculated from population estimates and approved by the state. Princeton's deer control efforts are widely publicized through local media. For example, see <https://centraljersey.com/2021/01/11/deer-management-program/> Princeton has an Animal Control Advisory Board which meets bi-annually. This group of citizen members work with the Animal Control Officer in regards to animal issues in the town of Princeton, including both domestic and wildlife issues or concerns. The committee passes on concerns to the Animal Control Officer and recommends actions and/or best practices to help address issues and concerns in an efficient manner.

**PDF: [RESO 2013-289 - DEER MANAGEMENT PLAN](#)**

**PDF: [COMMUNITY BASED DEER MANAGEMENT PERMIT 2021](#)**

**PDF: [COMMUNITY BASED DEER MANAGEMENT PLAN](#)**

**PDF: [DEER MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL 2020](#)**

PDF: [DEER DISTANCE SAMPLING POPULATION ESTIMATE 2018](#)

PDF: [DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM SUMMARY REPORT 2021](#)

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## Clustering Ordinance

10 Points

**Program Summary:** The former Princeton Township has had a clustering ordinance in place for many years and preserved over 200 acres of land. Over the years the ordinance was amended to provide for density bonuses for developments that provide public access to preserved open space, clusters that preserve at least 50% of the entire tract, and for active recreation areas of at least one-half acre that are dedicated and conveniently accessible to the public. The most recent revision has been to provide a bonus for sites of at least 75 acres that provide at least one acre of land for affordable housing. The current cluster ordinance which contains all of the revisions and bonuses is attached or can be accessed at <https://ecode360.com/36772541> and <https://ecode360.com/36765988#36765988>. The ordinance meets Sustainable Jersey's requirements. It has a title, purpose, definitions, and standards. The ordinance defines the minimum area requirements and the number of units, and requires contiguous clustering. In addition, the ordinance specifies that sensitive environmental features should be avoided, defines critical areas to exclude, provides guidance on design possibilities and on calculating the allowable number of units. The ordinance outlines a process for ensuring the preservation and maintenance of the non-developed lands, describes precisely "who" and "what" the ordinance will govern, defines submittal and fees and penalties. In addition, while preserving a minimum of 50% of the total land area involved with the development as open space is not an explicit condition, applicants are given bonuses for preserving more than 50% of the tract.

PDF: [PRINCETON CLUSTER ORDINANCE RESIDENTIAL - 2021](#)

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## Tree Protection Ordinance \*Retires 12/31/25\*

10 Points

**Program Summary:** Prior to consolidating in 2013, both Princeton Borough and Princeton Township had adopted tree protection ordinances. The Shade Tree Commission is currently working on creating a merged tree ordinance for the consolidated municipality that is expected to be adopted by Fall 2014. Copies of the existing tree ordinances for Princeton Borough and Princeton Township are provided for documentation pending adoption of the merged ordinance. Update: Please see the attachment entitled Tree Protection Ordinance for the final ordinance for the consolidated municipality.

PDF: [PRINCETON BOROUGH TREE ORDINANCE](#)

PDF: [PRINCETON TWP TREE ORDINANCE](#)

PDF: [TREE PROTECTION ORDINANCE DOCUMENTATION](#)

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## Community Forestry Management Plan & NJUCF Accreditation

20 Points



**Program Summary:** Princeton has an approved 2022 status with the NJ Urban and Community Forestry Program and a Community Forestry Plan that has been extended through December 2024. In the 2022 Annual Accomplishment Report, the Princeton Shade Tree Commission and the Municipal Arborist within the Department of Infrastructure and Operations reported on their Arbor Day event and Proclamation, efforts to promote interesting tree facts to the community, the planting of 150 trees, and the development of a tree inventory.

PDF: [PRINCETON COMMUNITY FOREST PLAN 2019](#)

PDF: [CFMP EXPIRATION EXTENSION LETTER 2023](#)

PDF: [NJUCF ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT 2022](#)

PDF: [ARBOR DAY PROCLAMATION](#)

PDF: [NJUCF ACCREDITATION REPORT](#)

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## Tree Hazard Inventory

10 Points

**Program Summary:** Princeton has a single municipal tree inventory. The inventory includes an evaluation of tree condition, ranging from excellent, very good to dead and needs critical attention. Additionally, the risk assessment portion of the inventory includes fields for target impact, size of the defect, probability of failure, and other hazards. Based on these four areas, a numerical hazard rating is assigned to each tree consistent with Matheny and Clark's Evaluation of Hazard Trees in Urban Areas. The computerized tree hazard and health assessment inventory allow the municipality to generate work orders and prioritize work to be completed, such as the removal of dead and critical trees. A sample report from the database including risk assessment and hazard rating is included. Due to multiple issues with this inventory, the Arborist and Shade Tree Commission determined that the inventory needed to be updated. In 2022, Princeton Mayor and Council passed a resolution to hire Davey Resource Group Inc. to develop a Tree Inventory for the Municipality (see [https://princetonnj.ig2.com/Citizens/Detail\\_Legifile.aspx?ID=7810&highlightTerms=tree%20inventory](https://princetonnj.ig2.com/Citizens/Detail_Legifile.aspx?ID=7810&highlightTerms=tree%20inventory) and attached Agreement for Professional Services). Princeton's Tree Inventory was released to the public on April 24 and catalogues Princeton's 19,000 street trees, including size, species, environmental benefits, and location details. The inventory can be viewed at <https://princetonnj.treekeepersoftware.com/index.cfm?deviceWidth=2560>

PDF: [MUNICIPAL NEWSLETTER PROMOTING TREE INVENTORY](#)

PDF: [AGREEMENT WITH DAVEY RESOURCE GROUP](#)

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## Tree Maintenance Programs

10 Points

**Program Summary:** The Princeton Arborist tracks all tree maintenance efforts for the Municipality. As the attached Tree Maintenance Program notes, a 5-person crew works 5-days a week, 52 weeks of the year, to perform routine maintenance and inspections for Princeton's 18,000 street trees. Approximately 700 trees receive work each year by this crew for about \$480,000. In addition, outside firms are hired to remove or prune precarious trees and perform ash tree injections and various plant health care applications. The report notes that public

concerns are logged through the Municipality's SeeClickFix portal and are treated as work orders by the crew.

**PDF:** [TREE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM 2023](#)

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## Tree Planting Programs

10 Points

**Program Summary:** Princeton is a proud recipient of the 2022 Tree City USA award. See <https://www.arborday.org/programs/treecityusa/#recognizedSection> From the Fall of 2018 through the Fall of 2022, the Municipal Arborist planted a total of 785 trees in Princeton. In 2019-2020, about half of all tree planting replaced Ash trees that were removed due to the Emerald Ash Borer. Since that time, the number of new trees planted has grown each season, and averages 75-100 trees per season. Similarly, the Municipality's spending on street trees has also increased over the years, and now averages \$40-50K per year. The Princeton Elm and Red Maple were two of the most commonly planted species during this time, but a diversity of trees were planted throughout the Municipality in the past four years, as shown in the attached report.

**PDF:** [PRINCETON TREE PLANTING REPORT, 2018-2022](#)

## Public Information & Engagement

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### Municipal Communications Strategy

10 Points

**Program Summary:** The town maintains a website, social media channels, and bi-weekly newsletter for most of its communication with the public. Social media includes Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram. The town's social media accounts are monitored by Access Princeton, which engages with the community regularly, with the exception of the Recreation and Police Departments which handle their own social media. To help increase engagement effectiveness, social media analytics are used to determine the best timing of posts and which posts reach the most community members. Council meetings are now held in a hybrid format, in-person and virtually on Zoom and broadcast to YouTube. Nixle is used by the Police Department for emergency and non-emergency alerts and the Engineering Department to provide weekly updates on current infrastructure projects. (Witherspoon Street) In the event a mass notification needs to go out, the town uses Everbridge for mass emergency alerts. Residents can sign up for specific alerts on this platform via the municipal website. Our website also offers text or email notifications for various updates to the website. The town has a mobile app (Access Princeton) through SeeClickFix that is customizable to include municipal links and information. That information is updated as needed and includes road closings and brush/leaf pick-up schedules. The town has a great working relationship with multiple community partners including the Princeton Senior Resource Center, Princeton Public Library, local merchants, and school district, always sharing pertinent information. The website content is updated regularly with up-to-date information.

**PDF:** [PRINCETON COMMUNICATIONS INVENTORY](#)

## Improve Public Engagement in Municipal Government

15 Points

**Program Summary:** The Municipal website offers information on all Council meetings for the year as well as contact information for each Council member and all Boards/Commissions lists. Upcoming meeting agendas are posted on the website and residents can sign up for website updates. Agendas and minutes are posted for Council and Boards as they are approved. Videos from Council, Planning and Zoning meetings are posted within a few days of the meeting to the YouTube channel for viewing. The public can sign up to speak at Council meetings in advance from the agenda software (see link below). The town also uses multiple social media channels to improve engagement. Facebook, Twitter and Instagram are used regularly to post meeting videos and special meetings held by Council or staff. The town also uses SeeClickFix, an online reporting platform that promotes engagement by posting the reported issues on a public forum. This is available on the website or on the web at [https://seeclickfix.com/princeton\\_nj](https://seeclickfix.com/princeton_nj) Prior to the pandemic, printed agendas available at each meeting had this statement: "We welcome public comment as an important part of our meetings and decision making. If you arrive before the meeting starts, please sign your name on the sign up sheet for public comment. Those who have signed up will be called to speak first. When you come to the microphone, please state your name and address for the record, and please keep your comments to three minutes. If you have written remarks and would like them included in the minutes, please email your comments to the clerk's office [clerksoffice@princetonnj.gov](mailto:clerksoffice@princetonnj.gov) or provide a written copy to the clerk at the meeting." Council meetings are now held in a hybrid format. Comments can only be made either in person or during the meeting via Zoom. No written comments are accepted. During the meeting, instructions are provided for participants to comment utilizing Zoom features.

PDF: [IMPROVE PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT CHECKLIST](#)

PDF: [PRINCETON COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA JANUARY 2023](#)

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## Online Municipal Public Service Systems

15 Points

**Program Summary:** Princeton uses Everbridge for reverse emergency notifications. Residents can sign up for this on the website [www.princetonnj.gov](http://www.princetonnj.gov). The Access Princeton mobile app and a widget online are available for citizens to report non-emergency issues 24/7. This is available on our website under the "Report a Concern" button. Requests are routed to the responsible department via email and placed on a public facing platform. This has given the public a way to engage with the Municipality anytime of the day. This also provides a way for citizens to ask questions or get information on Municipal services with the extensive knowledge base. Our website lists all the departments and contact info for each. We also offer options for residents to pay their taxes, sign up for recreation activities, pay motor vehicle violations online and complete various forms online that include payment options. In 2022 we implemented an engagement platform for the Health Department and Planning to solicit feedback and take surveys for the Health Department Sustainable Gold Certification and on the Master Plan. We are also using that same portal to roll out our new trash program and get feedback on bringing back the organics program. This portal is still live and the plan is to use it for more projects in the future. <https://princeton.civilspace.io/en>

## Sustainability & Climate Planning

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### Municipal Carbon Footprint

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

**Program Summary:** Princeton completed its first "Government Track Inventory" as part of a larger greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory effort in 2018. The baseline year established was 2017, and the inventory was prepared in a "Master Google Spreadsheet" and ICLEI's ClearPath. A new municipal operation GHG inventory was prepared for 2020 using Sustainable Jersey's Municipal Carbon Footprint (MCF) methodology and calculator. To prepare the inventory, energy usage was collected from PSEG for all the key buildings & streetlights, and emissions from the fleet were collected from a completed Sustainable Jersey Fleet Inventory Spreadsheet. Based on the calculations in the MCF calculator, the municipal operations emitted 2,498 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e in 2020. Tracking the carbon footprint of the municipal operations will impact the community by providing a clear understanding of GHG emissions and change.

**EXCEL:** [MUNICIPAL CARBON FOOTPRINT CALCULATOR PRINCETON 2020.XLSX](#)

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### Community Carbon Footprint \*Retired 12/31/22\*

10 Points

**Program Summary:** Princeton completed its first "Community-Scale Inventory" as part of a larger greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory effort in 2018. The baseline year established was 2010, and the inventory was prepared in a "Master Google Spreadsheet" and ICLEI's ClearPath. Princeton has data for every year since 2010 and continues to track GHG emissions annually. Data from 2020 was entered into Sustainable Jersey's Community Carbon Footprint (CCF) calculator for this submission. Based on the calculations in the CCF calculator, the community emitted 335,305.38 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e in 2020. Tracking the community's carbon footprint will impact the community by providing a clear understanding of GHG emissions and change.

**EXCEL:** [COMMUNITY CARBON FOOTPRINT CALCULATOR PRINCETON 2020.XLSX](#)

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### Community Energy Plan or Climate Action Plan

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

**Program Summary:** This Climate Action Plan (CAP) provides a roadmap to reduce Princeton's contribution to climate change and to prepare for its effects. Sustainable Princeton, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that works closely with the Municipality of Princeton and the broader Princeton

community in achieving sustainability goals, led the charge in coordinating and completing Princeton's CAP, after a comprehensive GHG Inventory was completed in 2018. The CAP was finalized and adopted by Princeton Council in at the July 22, 2019 Council meeting (see attached minutes). The CAP articulates strategies to reduce carbon emissions and to help the community become more climate-resilient. The plan provides an ambitious, community-based path to reduce emissions 50% (from 2010 levels) by 2030, 65% by 2040, and 80% by 2050. While achieving these goals, the plan strives to promote social equity, foster economic stability, improve the local environmental quality, and enhance public health and safety. Over 4,600 community members engaged with the plan throughout the process. The CAP received formal letters of support from Princeton's Bicycle Advisory Committee, Board of Health, Environmental Commission, Public Transit Advisory Committee, Shade Tree Commission and the Sustainable Princeton Board of Trustees. The CAPERS team supported the CAP with its research and analysis efforts. Princeton's Climate Action Plan (CAP) calls for updating the community-wide production-based GHG inventory every year. The 2019 and 2020 updates are available on our webpage: [www.sustainableprinceton.org/blog/second-annual-ghg-inventory-update/](http://www.sustainableprinceton.org/blog/second-annual-ghg-inventory-update/) and [www.sustainableprinceton.org/blog/first-annual-ghg-inventory-update/](http://www.sustainableprinceton.org/blog/first-annual-ghg-inventory-update/).

**PDF:** [PRINCETON CLIMATE ACTION PLAN 2019](#)

**PDF:** [PRINCETON'S GHG INVENTORY](#)

**PDF:** [PRINCETON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 7/22/2019](#)

**EXCEL:** [COMMUNITY CARBON FOOTPRINT CALCULATOR PRINCETON 2020.XLSX](#)

**EXCEL:** [MUNICIPAL CARBON FOOTPRINT CALCULATOR PRINCETON 2020.XLSX](#)

## Waste Management

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### Prescription Drug Safety & Disposal

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

**Program Summary:** Since 2014, the Princeton Police Department has offered a free collection of unused or expired prescription drugs through Project Medicine. A permanent collection box is located at the 1 Valley Road entrance to the Princeton Police Department and Municipal Building. The collection box and Princeton Police Department is available to all 30,000 Princeton residents 24 hours/day and 365 days/year. Announcements and publicity about drug disposal are located within doctor's offices and provided via the municipal website (<https://www.princetonnj.gov/372/Prescription-Drug-Drop-Box>), local newspapers, and social media (see attached or [https://fb.watch/lpPDn\\_x7HF/?mibextid=l2pjGR](https://fb.watch/lpPDn_x7HF/?mibextid=l2pjGR)). Princeton also hosted National Takeback Initiative on Saturday, April 22, 2023. This initiative aims to offer a twice-a-year collection event in addition to the permanent collection site. As per a phone conversation with Detective Matt Solovay, Princeton police officers log all drugs collected and transport these to Covanta Camden Energy Recovery Center at 600 Morgan St., Camden NJ 08104 for disposal via a waste-to-energy facility. In 2021, the Police Department collected 640 lbs. of prescription drugs for disposal, and in 2022, 600 lbs. were collected. We have updated our documentation to address the reviewer's comments and believe that this action qualifies for 10 points.

**IMAGE:** [PD WEBPAGE WITH PHOTO OF DROP BOX](#)

**IMAGE:** [PRINCETON PD FB POST RE COLLECTION PROGRAMS](#)

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## Community Paper Shredding Day

5 Points

**Program Summary:** The Municipality of Princeton hosts a bi-annual paper shredding and household recycling event for residents only. We schedule the events in the spring and fall. In 2023, our spring event was held on April 15, 2023 at 101 Walnut Lane from 10 am – 2pm, or until the trucks are full. Along with our recycling coordinator, 20 members of our Department of Public Works staffed the event. Sustainable Princeton partnered with the Municipality to accept block polystyrene and batteries. Along with Sustainable Princeton’s website and social media campaign, the municipality promoted our Shredding and Recycling event with flyers, social media, a bi-weekly newsletter and website new flashes. Our spring event was one of our largest events with more than 650 vehicles in attendance. We had two paper shredding trucks and 6 municipal staff assisting with the unloading of confidential documents from resident vehicles.

**PDF:** [TONNAGE AND PROMOTION MATERIALS FOR PRINCETON'S SHREDFEST](#)

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## Backyard Composting Program

5 Points

**Program Summary:** In the Spring of 2023, The Municipality of Princeton offered residents an opportunity to purchase a backyard composter at a bulk, discounted rate to divert food waste and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This community composter sale was offered online to residents prior to the April 15th pickup date. The Municipality purchased composters in bulk and offered a subsidy using the New Jersey Municipal Recycling Tonnage Grant, which allowed Princeton to offer backyard composters and rain barrels at a reduced price to residents. This backyard composter sale was led by the municipal recycling coordinator, the Municipality’s Waste Team staff, the Department of Public Works, along with Sustainable Princeton. We also had the Mayor of Princeton execute a short video on the benefits of composting, which he posted to his social media pages that reaches thousands. The sale was hosted by the vendor, who offered backyard composting demos to residents at the pickup event. The Municipality offered EarthMachine Backyard Composters, rain barrels, and composting accessories as part of the sale. The pick-up date for backyard composters coincided with the Municipality’s community shred and recycling event on Saturday, April 15, 2023. We have added additional links for the Mayor’s video to our attachment in order to meet the Reviewer’s comments, and believe this action qualifies for 5 points.

**PDF:** [BACKYARD COMPOSTING REPORT](#)

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## Pay-As-You-Throw Program

10 Points

**Program Summary:** In February 2023, The Municipality of Princeton transitioned to a cart-based municipal solid waste (MSW) collection and provided one 64-gallon trash cart to every eligible residential household (those with up to 4 dwelling units). Residents now have 64-gallons capacity for weekly collection, and must pay an annual fee for an additional cart; thus, providing an

immediate incentive to reduce their trash. Utilizing uniform trash carts and automated equipment has an array of additional benefits, including more efficient waste service, increased speed of collection, improved safety and cleanliness of residential streets, and safer working conditions for trash collectors. Additionally, the carts have a RFID identification embedded that allows the municipality to track cart pickups and other issues. Residents are required to utilize Princeton trash carts for trash collection; loose or bagged trash not placed in the uniform trash carts is not collected. In the past, the municipality's waste collection allowed each residential unit to dispose up to four trash cans worth of garbage weekly (containing up to 50-pounds each). The new MSW collection and municipal ordinance allows residents to set out a single 32- or 64-gallon trash cart (containing up to 200-pounds) at no cost. Residents that require additional capacity, up to one optional additional 32- or 64-gallon trash cart is available for an annual fee. The annual fee for an additional trash cart accounts for the cost of disposal (tipping fee) and hauling fees. Reduced or waived fees are available for qualifying households who require additional trash carts. In addition to a cart-based pay-as-you-throw program, Princeton offers a wide range of waste reduction and recycling programs available to residents. This includes electronics, battery, and plastic bag recycling deposits at municipal buildings and bi-annual e-waste and recycling events. Informational resources about hard to recycle items, reducing waste, and composting are available from our partner, Sustainable Princeton.

**PDF: [PAY AS YOU THROW REPORT](#)**