



Sustainable Jersey Certification Report

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

Readington Twp was certified on November 05, 2025 with 625 points. Listed below is information regarding Readington Twp's Sustainable Jersey efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable Jersey contact for Readington Twp is:

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Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Readington Twp was approved for in 2025 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.

Arts & Creative Culture

Establish a Creative Team

10 Points

Program Summary: Readington Township has a population of 16,000 in 48 square miles of rural landscape. Residents of Readington are privileged to be in New Jersey with its countless access to more museums, performing arts and venues. Located between New York and Philadelphia, there are many activities to choose from. What makes Readington unique is its mission and culture. The Creative Team continues to provide programs to the community. See File "Report". See file

“Ordinance” which is the enabling action for the Museum Committee (MC). See File “Relationship” which addresses the MC position as being the Creative Team. There are 577 community members who support and receive the Readington Museums quarterly newsletter. In the last twelve months (August 30, 2024 to July 31, 2025, the Readington Museums has had a total of approximately 900 visitors. This includes one homeschool group and 25 public school classes, totalling 434 students and 60 adult staff/parents, and 406 attendees of public programs. We have over 650 Facebook followers and have had 72,200 facebook views from January 1, 2025 to July 27, 2025. We also have almost 1,000 Instagram followers, and almost 1100 views of our virtual tours on our YouTube channel. We have attached the required report See File “Report” as well as sample social media posts (See file “Posts”) advertising the committee's events. In addition, the committee has a listing of upcoming events and programs on its webpage: <https://readingtontwpnj.gov/events-programs>

PDF: [ORDINANCE](#)

PDF: [RELATIONSHIP](#)

WORD: [REPORT](#)

PDF: [POSTS](#)

Brownfields

Brownfields Inventory & Prioritization

10 Points

Program Summary: A search was initiated on the US EPA indication there were no sites in Readington Township. See File "EPA" A search was made on NJ DEP's Dataminer Known and Suspected Sites Report by Municipality. See File "Dataminer". 99 Properties were listed. Of those properties, 17 were indicated as "active" confirmed contamination. (indicated in orange lettering). Of those site, 4 were indicated as "Sites with Immediate Concern (IEC). (indicated with red lettering). Inspection of these sites is in process. See File "IEC" for a sample. The Readington Environmental Commission will begin to review DEP announcements and initiate a mapping plan to examine clustering.

IMAGE: [EPA](#)

EXCEL: [DATAMINER](#)

IMAGE: [IEC](#)

Community Partnership & Outreach

Green Team

10 Points

 Bronze Required

Program Summary: After achieving Silver Level in the 2022 Certification Cycle, the Mayor asked

a small team to review future administration of the Township's support for Sustainable Jersey. As a result, it was recommended to and approved by the Township Committee in 2024 that a Sustainable Action Team (SAT) be established as a subcommittee of the Environmental Commission (EC). See attached file "Resolution". The SAT had the first meeting in December 2024 to provide training on the utilization of the Sustainable Jersey Website and assign action items for submission in 2025. (See file "Minutes"). SAT members are listed in the "Minutes" file and Environmental Commission members can be found on the township Website. <https://www.readingtontwpnj.gov/boards-committees/environmental> See file "Thanks" for EC Chairman message to the Township Committee. After receiving Silver Level in 2022, a public presentation was made to celebrate. Guest speaker was Randall Solomon. (see file Silver Again). In addition the Readington Sustainable Logo is on the Township webpage that when clicked take you to the press release. (see file Posting).

PDF: [RESOLUTION](#)

IMAGE: [MINUTES](#)

WORD: [THANKS](#)

PDF: [SILVER AGAIN](#)

WORD: [POSTING](#)

Community Education & Outreach

15 Points

Program Summary: 1. Summer Spectacular Event. See File Summer Spectacular for description and File Community Education Checklist 2. Green Infrastructure See file 3 Bridges Make sure you watch the video 3. 4th Grade Walk. See Checklist file walk. See file Picture. 4. Pollinator Walk. See Checklist file Pollinator

WORD: [SUMMER SPECTACULAR](#)

WORD: [COMMUNITY EDUCATION CHECKLIST](#)

WORD: [GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE](#)

WORD: [WALK](#)

IMAGE: [PICTURE](#)

WORD: [POLLINATOR](#)

Green Fair

10 Points

Program Summary: The Readington Sustainable Action Team (Green Team) co-sponsored and participated in the October Green Fair. Attachment 1 - Sustainability State and Entry Form Attachment 2 - Action Submission Attachment 3 - Readington Environmental Commission and Sustainable Action Team booth at the fair. Attachment 4 - Vendor Participation Request Note to Reviewer. Attachment 4 was placed on each participating community communications process. In Readington, this included a Facebook and Webpage listing. All participation organizations were acknowledged in the announcement. (There was no food truck at this event). See Attachment 5, 3rd Party from a car club acknowledging the Fair.

WORD: [GREEN FAIR ACTION SUBMISSION](#)

PDF: [GREEN FAIR SUSTAINABILITY STATEMENT AND SIGN-UP](#)

IMAGE: [IMG0353](#)

PDF: [VENDOR PARTICIPATION REQUEST](#)

PDF: [3RD PARTY RECOGNITION](#)

Diversity & Equity

Diversity on Boards & Commissions

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: Under the current township government laws, the township committee remains the backbone of the municipality's government. Voters elect, at-large, the township committee comprising of five members. The elections are partisan and the committee members serve staggered three-year terms. The Township Committee elects the mayor and deputy mayor each January from its members for a one-year term. The Mayor serves as chair of the Township Committee and has the powers vested in the mayor's office by general law. Township Committee selects the heads of Committees and Boards. Members of Committees and Boards are selected by the Chairpersons of the respective group. All residents of the Township are invited to seek appointment by completed the Citizen Leadership and Volunteer Application available on the Township Website. Selections are made based on group openings, interest and expertise of the applicant. Members of the Readington Sustainable Action Team created a Review Committee to evaluate diversity on boards, commissions and committees in the Township. The Review Committee created a survey that was distributed to the members of the various boards/commissions/committees to evaluate how well the existing membership reflects the diversity of Readington Township. More information about the survey can be found in the attached Word document titled Readington Township Survey Report to TC (the "TC Report"). The Review Committee completed a demographic survey of Readington Township, see Readington Township Community "Diversity Profile". The results of the Review Committee survey were then compared with the results of the demographic survey in the TC Report. The Review Committee members reviewed the comparison and came up with some recommendations for the Township Committee, which are presented in the TC Survey Report. A member of the Review Committee presented the survey and recommendations to the Township Committee executive session on July 7, 2025. (see "Agenda" item listed "Personnel, Environmental Commission.) The Township Committee decided to implement one of the Review Committee's recommendations, namely, to include a call for new volunteers in the upcoming edition of the Readington Newsletter, which reaches every household in the Township. The article that was sent for publication is attached as NEWSLETTER-JULY 15-VOLUNTEER. (see file "Newsletter"). The Review Committee members volunteered for the Review Committee and consisted of the Environmental Commission Chair and Environmental Commission Member, who are both members of the Sustainable Action Team, among other boards/commissions/committees for the Township.

PDF: [TC REPORT](#)

PDF: [DIVERSITY PROFILE](#)

PDF: [AGENDA](#)

WORD: [NEWSLETTER](#)

Emergency Management

Extreme Temperature Event Plan

10 Points

Program Summary: The attached plan provides for the details of assistance to the public during unfavorable climate or other emergencies. The Readington office of Emergency Management works closely with the Hunterdon County Emergency Management. In the Fall of 2024 after two weeks of near 100 degree temperatures, an emergency notice as per procedure was sent to the public providing locations for water and temporary facilities to avoid heat. See file "Notice" for sample of public announcement of support sent on Township List Serve and Facebook.

WORD: [PROCEDURE](#)

PDF: [NOTICE](#)

Emergency Communications Planning

15 Points

Program Summary: The Coordinator of Emergency Planning for Readington Township meets monthly with the four fire departments, one rescue squad and Township Chief of Police to review actives. The Emergency Operations Plan covers roles and responsibilities for all affected Township committees. The Coordinator meets quarterly with the Hunterdon County emergency operations organization. 911 response is administered by Hunterdon County. see file "Required Checklist". Aspects of emergency planning have been consider confidential in accordance to national defense policy. See file "Readington 2025 Alert Registration" for sign up process.

WORD: [REQUIRED CHECKLIST](#)

WORD: [READINGTON 2025 REGISTRATION AND ALERT](#)

Vulnerable Populations Identification for Emergencies

10 Points

Program Summary: Hunterdon County Emergency Services is responsible for all 911 and nixie emergency support communications. Readington Township participates in a collective effort to maintain vulnerable persons directory. The New Jersey register ready program funnels input to Hunterdon County who in turn informs Readington Township. Hunterdon County Senior Services and the Hunterdon County Sheriff's Office, and Readington Social Services also collects information. See file "Requests" for public notices. See file "List" for Readington persons. (confidentiality, names are not given.) See required checklist file "Checklist" which has been updated since last submission. UPDATE: We have updated our submission to include information about Readington's Community Outreach Team, which includes Social Services and the Police Department. The Community Outreach Team have been engaged in efforts to seek out vulnerable residents and add them to our list. This outreach includes participating in community events to

reach these populations as well as maintaining regular contact with stakeholders who have access to these populations. (see file "Actions")

PDF: [FILE](#)

WORD: [CHECKLIST](#)

WORD: [REQUESTS](#)

WORD: [ACTIONS](#)

Energy

Energy Tracking & Management

20 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: Readington Township municipal facilities include two buildings: a main municipal building housing offices and the Police Dept and a Dept of Public Works building housing an office area and garage area. The buildings use natural gas and electricity as utilities. Twelve months of utility data was collected beginning in May 2024 and is included in the attached Gas & Electric Report spreadsheet. A Sustainable Action Team volunteer entered the data into Readington's Energy Star Portfolio Manager account and shared the data with Sustainable Jersey. While we understand there are costs and peak demand values missing from our data, we have done our best to collect data representing the energy usage of our township facilities. We look forward to working with our township personnel to increase access to this valuable information and to promote understanding of energy efficiency.

EXCEL: [READINGTON BLDG INVENTORY 2025.XLSX](#)

PDF: [GAS & ELECTRIC REPORT 05.2024-06.2025.PDF](#)

PDF: [SEP-REPORT2025-07-22_READINGTON_MUNIBLDG.PDF](#)

PDF: [SEP-REPORT_21295099_2025-07-29_READINGTON_DPW.PDF](#)

Fleet Inventory

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: Readington Township's municipal fleet consists of 87 vehicles including 15 passenger cars, 40 light duty trucks, 31 heavy duty vehicles, and one electric vehicle as of July 2025. Fuel usage is 65% gasoline, 34% diesel, and 1% electricity. Greenhouse gas emissions are primarily from Readington's light duty trucks (52%) with 31% from passenger cars and 17% from heavy duty trucks. The current municipal fleet is well-established and versatile. Routine maintenance is provided by Department of Public Works (DPW) personnel. Vehicles are inspected per New Jersey emissions and safety requirements. All drivers are trained based on the classification of vehicle used. In 2021, Readington purchased its first electric vehicle which is used by administrative personnel.

EXCEL: [FLEET INVENTORY 2025 SUBMISSION.XLSX](#)

WORD: [FLEET INVENTORY NARRATIVE 2025.DOCX](#)

Food

Farmland Preservation Plans

10 Points

Program Summary: Farmland Preservation efforts in Readington Township: Readington Township was the first local government to hold a referendum asking voters to finance Farmland Preservation efforts, in November of 1978. Readington voters agreed to the expenditure of one million dollars. The Township was also one of the earliest Townships in the State to participate in new Jersey's Farmland Preservation Program, preserving the Wallendjack Farm in 1987. This was the sixth farm in the State preserved pursuant to the Agricultural Development and Retention Act of 1983. Thirty-five years later, in 2022, Readington and its partners have facilitated the preservation of 73 farms within this Township. A variety of programs, funding sources, and methods have been used. These included both State and County Easement Purchase, Municipal and State Fee Simple Purchases, participation in both the Municipal and County PIG Programs, facilitation of charitable donations of easements, The acquisition of agricultural easements because of cluster zoning, and the use of both the State Green Acres Program and and Federal Farmland Preservation funds. As of 2022, 4,910 acres of farmland has been preserved in Readington Township. This amounts to 14% of the 34,979 acres of preserved farmland in Hunterdon County. In 1999, Readington was among the State's first participants in NJ's Planning Incentive Program (PIG). In 2013, the Township received an award from the State for the highest number of farms, a total of 27 farms, under Municipal Planning Incentive Program (PIG). As a requirement of the PIG Program, the Township Planning Board approved Farmland Preservation Plans in 1999 and in 2009. On January 18, 2022, the Board approved an updated version of its Comprehensive Farmland Plan. This Plan was produced in keeping with all current SADC guidelines, and with the participation of the Township's Agricultural Advisory Committee. A URL link to the Plan is attached. The Plan's appendix includes Readington's most recently submitted Project Area Summary Form, which includes a complete list of all Readington's preserved farms and a list of 37 "Targeted Farms". The Agricultural Advisory Board is currently engaged in outreach efforts to the owners of these farm owners, in hopes of encouraging them to consider preservation. (See "Reference Documents" file for operational objectives and accomplishments and 2020 plan link.) (See "announcement" file for acquisition announcement.)

PDF: [ANNOUNCEMENT](#)

WORD: [REFERENCE DOCUMENT](#)

Community Food Pantry/Bank & Soup Kitchen

15 Points

Program Summary: Readington Area Starfish ("Starfish") was founded as a 501(c)(3) in 1987 by representatives of churches in Readington Township. Starfish was founded to address the needs of the community, especially those who fall through the cracks. Each church pledged food and cash to help those in need. Starfish has since grown through the support of the Readington community, Scouts, local schools, generous citizens and the municipality. Starfish has a Facebook page with 388 followers. See attached file "URL List". In order to participate in the Starfish food

pantry, the individual or family must reside, work or worship in Readington. Information regarding Starfish is provided on the Township's Social Services department web page. See attached URL List. Administration of Starfish is provided by Readington's Social Services. The Social Services department phone number is the phone number for Starfish. The Township's Social Services staff provides all participant contact for the Starfish program. This includes intake and certifying participants. Additionally, where participants do not have transportation, Readington's Social Services staff delivers food to the participant's home. Please see attached letter confirming Readington Township's support for Starfish. Additionally, information regarding Starfish, including listing Readington Township Social Services as the contact address and phone number for Starfish, is provided on the Hunterdon County Social Services website's list of county area food pantries. See attached file "URL List". In 2024, Starfish delivered food to 363 families. Of those 363 distributions, 136 were direct deliveries to the family's home. See attached file "letter". Starfish engages the community with requests for support included on the Township Webpage and social media. See file "Request" for example.

WORD: [URL LIST](#)

PDF: [REQUEST](#)

PDF: [LETTER](#)

Community Gardens

15 Points

Program Summary: Proud to be profiled on two whole pages of Michelle Obama's 2012 book *American Grown* (p. 90-91). Share the work, share the harvest! -- since 2009. The Readington Community Garden is a loosely organized collection of nice people who are interested in growing food and community. You can 'belong' to the community garden any time of the year by just showing up, doing some work, and bringing home some good food. There are no obligatory fees, timed work requirements, or forms to fill out. Just stop by, grab a hoe/weed/vegetable, and strike up a conversation. See file attached "Garden Communication 1 and 2" for sample communications "Garden Questionnaire" for required document and "Garden Photo" for what happens on the ground.

WORD: [GARDEN QUESTIONNAIRE](#)

PDF: [GARDEN PHOTO](#)

PDF: [COMMUNICATION 1](#)

WORD: [COMMUNICATION 2](#)

Health & Wellness

Best Practices for Local Boards of Health

10 Points

Program Summary: Readington Township has an autonomous Board of Health which contracts with the Hunterdon County Health Department as its health officials. This seven member board meets monthly to discuss local public and environmental health issues and to review variances for

septic system installations. A list of members and monthly meeting minutes are posted on our website: <https://www.readingtontwpnj.gov/boh-home>. All members have completed NJLBHA training. The Hunterdon County Health Department attended the May 15, 2024, Board of Health meeting to review their annual report highlighting accomplishments and discussing health trends seen over the prior year. Board of Health members had the opportunity to ask questions and bring local community issues to the attention of the county health department.

PDF: [BOH TRAINING LETTER 022025.PDF](#)

PDF: [BOH-MINUTES-051524.PDF](#)

Building Healthier Communities

10 Points

Program Summary: In Readington, the Recreation Department offers programming to all residents to keep the whole person healthy and well. Prior certifications have focused on the extensive array of sports and exercise options for residents which continue to be offered and are listed in the Rec. participation file in the attachments. This round's submission for youth highlights music opportunities offered to students to encourage not only physical but also mental and emotional health. Children in grades 6-9 could participate in music camps which culminated in performances for the community. The All-Star Band Camp was honored to have earned the Excellence in Visual and Cultural Arts award from the NJ Recreation and Parks Association in 2024. The submission for community features opportunities for all ages to get out into the community in ways that enrich the whole person and are free of charge. Scavenger hunts that encourage families to experience our community parks such as a Holiday Hunt have been a hit with families. Our BioBlitz highlighted pollinators in our local parks and got people of all ages out walking and enjoying natural spaces. A free concert by our wonderful local Whitehouse Wind Symphony was offered to the community aimed at encouraging mental and emotional health by enjoying music.

PDF: [REC_PARTICIPATION_2011-2024.PDF](#)

WORD: [REC_COMMUNITY_SUBMISSION_FORM_022025.DOCX](#)

PDF: [RECSUMMERBROCHUREFINAL2024.PDF](#)

WORD: [REC_YOUTH_SUBMISSION_FORM_2-10-25.DOCX](#)

Tobacco Free Community

15 Points

Program Summary: Option 1(a)- Readington has an ordinance that institutes 100% smoke and/or tobacco free outdoor spaces. See Readington Code § 192: Township of Readington, NJ Smoking (See file "Ordinance") We have uploaded acknowledgement from the Director of Public Safety, who was the head of the Readington Township Police Department (See file "Support"). The ordinance is available to the community in the Code Book on the Township webpage and the community was reminded of it via post on the Township's Facebook page. (See file "Announcement"). • Option 1(d)- Readington has promoted state and local cessation resources. We have done so with two different Facebook posts from the Township Facebook page (See File "Facebook"), an article in the Readington Newsletter, which is mailed to every household in the township (see page 8 of the attached PDF (see File "Newsletter")), and on the television that is in the lobby of the municipal building (See File "Support page 3"). Option 2: Readington has adopted a point-of-sale ordinance restricting the sale of tobacco products within the community

(Attachment: Ordinance- Tobacco- Point of Sale). This is a Board of Health ordinance which was drafted and enacted by the Board of Health, which is the governing body with the enforcement responsibility. The new ordinance was advertised via a Facebook post on the Township's Facebook page (See file "Support page 4"), email to the Readington Township Listserv (See file "Listserv"), a press release on the Board of Health's website (BOH-Press-Release-Tobacco-Ordinance.pdf) and a press release in the Hunterdon Chronicle (See file "Press").

PDF: [ORDINANCE](#)

PDF: [NEWSLETTER](#)

PDF: [SUPPORT](#)

PDF: [ANNOUNCEMENT](#)

PDF: [LISTSERVE](#)

PDF: [PRESS](#)

Private Well Outreach & Testing

15 Points

Program Summary: Additional comment for Reviewer found in file "Well Testing" Readington Township has a population of 16,000 in 48 square miles of which 35% is preserved farmland and open space. Over 85% of our homes are on well water. Our Water is important to us. For more than 15 years, Readington Township has been collaborating each Fall with Raritan Headwaters Association (RHA) to plan, promote, and implement a community-wide well water testing event. See file "Summary" for program highlights. See file "Results" for an overview of actions and results from 2024. See file "Presentation" for announcement of public meeting to present results. See File "Posting" for Public notice. Public notice is made via Township Facebook page, email blast and posting on Township website. Readington Volunteers work with the public when samples containers are distributed to explain appropriate test selection. See File "Tests"

PDF: [RESULTS](#)

IMAGE: [PRESENTATION](#)

PDF: [POSTING](#)

WORD: [WELL TESTING](#)

PDF: [TESTS](#)

PDF: [SUMMARY AND REPORT.PDF](#)

Removing Lead in Drinking Water

10 Points

Program Summary: Thank you for your comments. We just want you to know that Readington has been approved for this action the last three cycles. We have over 200 kits passed out each year and are the best performing community in the RHA program the last 10 years. Our volunteers are trained to work with the public on the selection of tests. See file "Tests" for schedule and prices. In the announcements we clearly state "Public water users are encouraged to test for lead, too!" The announcements are posted on the Township Webpage and Facebook page. Readington Township has 16,000 persons living in 48 Square miles in Eastern Hunterdon County, 36% land area is preserved or open space. 78% of the population is on well water and 12% on water supplied by American Water Company (AWC). URL #3. AWC controls lead level. All lines are plastic. Lead pipe homes participate in testing. See file "announcement" of 2024 test

program. See File "Presentation " for public meeting to present results. See URL #2 for information provided regarding lead removal. See URL #4 for Lead in water information. In addition to presentation, results are posted on Township Website. Note: File "URL" contains active links to webpages indicated. See URL #1 for overall look at Readington's commitment to community water quality.

WORD: [URL](#)

PDF: [ANNOUNCEMENT](#)

PDF: [PRESENTATION](#)

PDF: [TESTS](#)

Innovative Projects

Innovative Community Project 1

10 Points

Program Summary: The goal is twofold. First, the strategy is to grow the kestrel population in the Township, especially since the kestrel population in the Northeast is threatened and their numbers have been declining steadily over the past 50 years. Second, the Readington OSAB expects to use this kestrel recovery program as a tool and a new way to engage land owners and help preserve land in the Township.

IMAGE: [KESTREL](#)

PDF: [READINGTON KESTREL RECOVERY PROGRAM OVERVIEW.PDF](#)

Innovative Community Project 2

10 Points

Program Summary: Holland Brook Community Forest. This project was showcased State wide on DEP website: <https://dep.nj.gov/climatechange/mitigation/ncs-grant/#forest-restoration> In 50 years, Readington residents will walk through a naive forest protected from deer browse and experience a world of yesterday. Currently available on a perimeter trail, families can observe this evolution. See file "Overview" for background and be sure to watch the U Tube video by clicking or scanning the URL at the end of the page. This information has been made available by posting on the Township Website and Facebook page and presented at a Township Committee Meeting with public participation. See file "Status" for additional information.

WORD: [OVERVIEW](#)

PDF: [STATUS](#)

Land Use & Transportation

Sustainable Land Use Pledge

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: See attachment "Land Use Pledge" This document was reviewed and supported by the Township Environmental Commission and the Planning Board in June 2025 meetings. The Township Committee Reaffirmed the Land Use Pledge in June 2025. The resolution was submitted to Planning Board, Sustainable Action Team, Environmental Commission and Open Space Advisory Board members via email. See attached file "Notification". In addition the notification was placed on the The Township Facebook page, Webpage. See File "Public Notification".

PDF: [LAND USE PLEDGE](#)

PDF: [NOTIFICATION](#)

IMAGE: [PUBLIC COMMUNICATION](#)

Bicycle & Pedestrian Audits

10 Points

Program Summary: On August 12, 2024, Readington completed a Main Street Walking Audit on Main Street. This was a collaboration between Sustainable Jersey and Voorhees Transportation Center with support from the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority. See file "Readington WCW Report". The Readington Walkable Community Workshop report summarizes the audit findings and recommendations. The Township has already taken action by procuring pedestrian crossing lights. See file "Lights".

PDF: [AUDIT](#)

WORD: [LIGHTS](#)

PDF: [READINGTON-WCW-REPORT-2025_WEB.PDF.PDF](#)

Enhanced Stormwater Management Control Ordinance

20 Points

Program Summary: The Readington Stormwater Control Ordinance was developed in accordance with the model ordinance provided to assist municipalities in revising their municipal stormwater control ordinances to reflect amendments to the Stormwater Management rules provided by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the Watershed Institute. As required, the Readington Ordinance was submitted for Hunterdon County and New Jersey DEP approval which was granted. The Readington Ordinance was updated in May 2024. It can be found here: <https://ecode360.com/8743283>. See files "Requirements" for submission worksheet.

WORD: [ORDINANCE](#)

WORD: [REQUIREMENTS](#)

Green Infrastructure Planning

5 Points

Program Summary: Green Infrastructure planning began in 2015 when the Readington Environmental Commission (EC) worked with Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program to complete an analysis of impervious cover (see file "Impervious Surface). Figure 3 shows the impervious cover in Readington Township based upon NJDEP's 2015 impervious cover layer. An impervious cover analysis was completed for each HUC14 in Readington Township and is presented in Table 2. Scoring less than 10% was comforting but would not detract for the overall goal to continue to improve stream quality and reduce runoff. In addition, flood risk was reviewed and Readington has no critical infrastructure in a flood plain. (See File "Flood Plain" attached.). Our current storm water ordinance and environmental review process assure new development meets sustainable practices. See following link to Storm Water Management Ordinance (<https://ecode360.com/8743263>). Major /Minor developments that require Green Infrastructure greater than \$20,000 are reviewed and approved. Since 2021 all major developments that require green infrastructure solutions are approved by the Environmental Commission and the Planning Board procedures and listed on the Green Infrastructure MS4 Site Management List Map see file "List". Sites on the list are generated by Project Grants, Application Developments that meet the requirements of the storm water regulation. Inspections of sites are recorded. There is no plan to implement any major green infrastructure projects as there is insufficient justification based on flooding experience. However, new development and redevelopment applications meeting storm water ordinance will be vigorously enforced.

WORD: [IMPERVIOUS SURFACE](#)

WORD: [LIST](#)

WORD: [FLOOD PLAIN](#)

Heat Island Assessment & Mitigation Plan

10 Points

Program Summary: Heat Island Report. See file "Heat Island" Report Distribution Notice. See file "Distribution"

PDF: [HEAT ISLAND](#)

PDF: [DISTRIBUTION](#)

Natural Resources

Municipal Water Story

25 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: Readington Township has a population of 16,000 in 48 square miles, 35% of

which in preservation. We take water quality seriously, and have been for over 15 years. Our Water Story officially began in 2020 when the Readington Township Committee challenged its Boards and Committees to obtain C1 statutory status for our major contributing streams in the Township to the Raritan River. (see File "C1"). Recognizing the critical significance of water-based initiatives to every one of Readington's sustainability goals, the Township decided in 2021 to establish a new Advisory Committee focused aggressively and entirely on clean water preservation and related sustainability issues. Named the Readington WaterWatch (RWW), this committee has collected and organized all of Readington's water-related initiatives under one umbrella, relying on active and seamless collaboration with each of the other organizations named in this section. RWW took the lead in preparing this Water Story and hopes to continue providing leadership for Readington's clean water initiatives in years to come. See File "Water Story" We are submitting the Navigation Plan, (See file "Plan"). Recognize that Readington Township has been approved (or submitted) for all Water Gold Star Actions. We also want to acknowledge our shared supporting relationship with the Raritan Headwaters Association. Our residents participate in their well testing, stream cleanup and surface water testing programs. Their guidance and support is fantastic. See file "Public Engagement" for information on communicating the story.

PDF: [C1](#)

PDF: [WATER STORY](#)

WORD: [PLAN](#)

WORD: [PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT](#)

PDF: [NAVIGATIONAL PATH & RESOLUTION.PDF](#)

Natural Resource Inventory

20 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: The Readington Township ERI was prepared in 2002 by the Township's Environmental Commission (EC) and their consultant Princeton Hydro, LLC. Full access is found at the following URL: https://www.readingtontwpnj.gov/images/EC/2002_Readington_Final_ERI.pdf The 2002 ERI represented the first update of the Township's ERI since the late 1980s. For the Environmental Commission (EC) and Township Planning Board the ERI continues to be the baseline infrastructure catalog for on going review and analysis. Over time, various on-line resources have been adopted as aids to planning. See Attachments "NJ GeoWeb", "ChannelJ Webview" and "New Jersey Conservation Blue Print". These sources containing various overlays of streams, vernal pools, animal channels, population centers continue to add substance to the ERI. These tools are used by the Open Space Advisory Board for open space land evaluation and by the EC for site review. See "Master Plan Inclusion" in attached.

IMAGE: [NJ GEOWEB](#)

IMAGE: [CHANNELJ WEBVIEW](#)

IMAGE: [NEW JERSEY CONSERVATION BLUE PRINT](#)

WORD: [MASTER PLAN INCLUSION](#)

Environmental Commission

10 Points

Program Summary: The Ordinance establishing the Environmental Commission (EC) was adopted 9/2/1969 (Chapter 18) and can be found in the Township Code Book at the following URL: <https://www.ecode360.com/8745062> The Environmental Commission continued its core responsibility of reviewing Planning Board and Board of Adjustment applications for items of environmental impact and to suggest consideration of sustainable practices in the design and construction of new projects. It also continued its work in education and awareness campaigns focusing on single stream recycling, water quality (including private well testing) and sustainability actions on lawn care (leave the clipping and the new NJ fertilizer laws) and recycling throughout the Township departments. It continued to partner with the Raritan Headwaters Association in Stream Monitoring, Stream Cleaning and Community Well Testing Programs. It participated in the School District Green Team and continued to contribute to the Township Green Team. The EC meets monthly and has a website (<https://www.readingtontwpnj.gov/boards-committees/environmental>) where access to meetings agendas and minutes are posted in addition to timely information. File "2024 Annual Report" is attached.

WORD: [2024 ANNUAL REPORT](#)

Environmental Commission Site Plan Review

10 Points

Program Summary: Site plan reviews are conducted in coordination with the Township Planning Board. The Site Plan Review procedure and documentation can be found in the Township Code Book at the following URL: <https://www.ecode360.com/8741373> A Sample of a checklist as part of the site plan review in attachment below "Environmental Checklist." Approvals of the Planning/Zoning Board sent to Environmental Commission for review in the last 24 months: Redcom Design, Tannery Road - no findings The Ridge at Readington - no findings Stanton Ridge Golf and County Club - no findings Camelot at Readington (Kaplan) - no findings Apartments at Three Bridges Holdings (Conifer) - no findings Hayden House - Recommendations (see file Hayden House) See file "Hayden" for comments to the Board of Adjustment. Two members of the EC are on the Planning Board. One member serves on the Technical Review Committee. Procedure: 1. Planning Clerk place project on Environmental Commission agenda along with a link to all the documents included in the review. 2. The conclusion of the Environmental Commission are recorded in the minutes and return to the Planning Board Clerk when no action required. A notice is sent to the Planning Board Clerk when a recommendation is made. 3. Planning board approves plan with resolution.

WORD: [ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST](#)

PDF: [HAYDEN HOUSE](#)

Open Space Plans

10 Points

Program Summary: In 2018, the Open Space Component of the Township Master Plan was adopted and can be found on the Township Website: <https://www.readingtontwpnj.gov/images/PB/master-plan/2018-Amended-Final-Open-Space-Plan.pdf> Detail analysis and references to the Master Plan are contained in the attached "Detailed Submission Document". Acceptance by Planning Board in attached "Master Plan Approval" Public Participation. The Open Space Advisory Board agenda and minutes are public record making

meetings available to interested parties. During the time the Board developed and reviewed the document, input were obtained. In addition, the Plan was present to the Township Committee for public comment prior to approval by the Planning Board.

PDF: [DETAILED SUBMISSION DOCUMENT](#)

PDF: [MASTER PLAN APPROVAL](#)

Wildlife Interaction Plan

10 Points

Program Summary: Readington Township covers over 48 square miles of which 35% is preserved open space and woodlands. A major threat to the Township is the high deer population. A previous study indicated 130 deer per square mile, far in excess of the 10 deer per square mile sustainable standard. In 2024 -2025, the managed deer hunting program continued its success. Collectively, this was our best season yet, and not by a small margin either. In total, we harvested 479 deer between the individual hunting program and the club leases. That's a 55% increase over the previous season's total! More importantly, we all hunted safely and had zero incidents related to our program. Maintaining a high level of safety, courtesy towards others in the community and being moral and ethical hunters is what keeps this program going year over year. Our community in Readington acknowledges this and appreciates that we can all share these open spaces together. We donated 65 deer as part of the program to Hunters Helping the Hungry. Each year the Environmental Commission reviews the Deer Management subcommittee recommendations which is presented to the Township Committee at a public hearing for approval. In addition the program details are available on the Environmental Commission Webpage. See file "Webpage" for links which also has links to other open space concerns. Prior to the start of season, notices of the hunting season are sent to the public via Township Facebook page and Webpage. See file "Announcement." Readington has always had a shared policy utilizing its open space. Joint projects by the Environmental Commission and Open Space Board are initiated. For example, two bat houses were installed, and recently over 30 kestrel boxes have been installed. See file "Kestrel".

IMAGE: [ANNOUNCEMENT](#)

IMAGE: [KESTREL](#)

WORD: [WEBPAGE](#)

Winter Best Practices to Reduce Road Salt Impacts

15 Points

Program Summary: See file "Ordinance". Complies with MS4 Requirement. The Readington Public Works Department has established practices and procedures to minimize road salt. Readington Environmental Commission members participate in "Salt Watch" a national program to monitor salt levels in streams through Isak Walton program administered by the Watershed Institute in Pennington. Data is submitted into the system database supplied by the Watershed Institute. Readington has more than three participants at multiple sites. See file "Action" that replaces the spreadsheet tab. Contact Erin Stretz for support of Readington participation. See file "Data". The information shows that Readington rates "low" as indicated by the Orange dots. See file "Salt" for required excel file. Please note for tab "Salt Watch" see file "Action" and the State database file "State". It was redundant to transfer data since it is already in an actionable

database. See file "State" to acknowledge Readington participation.

PDF: [ORDINANCE](#)

WORD: [DATA](#)

WORD: [ACTION](#)

EXCEL: [SALT](#)

EXCEL: [STATE](#)

Easement Inventory & Outreach

10 Points

Program Summary: An easement is a legal right that allows someone to use another person's land for a specific purpose, even though they don't own it. It's a non-possessory interest, meaning the easement holder doesn't own the land but has the right to use it in a certain way. Such arrangements are legal agreements between the Township and property owner. Documentation to the owner is clear as to their responsibilities. New property owners are advised of the terms of easements at time of sale through legal review. Many of Readington easements are agricultural. Readington is clearly one of the leaders in the State in Open Space (Green Acres) preservation and Farmland preservation. The public is notified when such actions are taken in posts to Facebook and Listserve announcements. Listings are also available on the Township Open Space Page. <https://www.readingtontwpnj.gov/open-space-updates> See file "Notifications" of samples of private party agreements page 3,4,5 and public announcements page 1 and 2. In this action, we have provided a listing of properties, the management process for creating easements, open space and farmland preservation, and property owner and publication communications. See file "Worksheet" and related input and attached files.

WORD: [WORKSHEET](#)

EXCEL: [VALUED LANDS](#)

PDF: [RESPONSIBLE](#)

PDF: [NOTIFICATIONS](#)

PDF: [ANNOUNCEMENT](#)

Clustering Ordinance

10 Points

Program Summary: Readington Township was a pioneer in its requirement for mandatory clustering in its rural residential zones, variations of which have been in place since 1988. The Township's current ordinances, last updated in June of 2009 and attached along with the minutes, mandate clustering of varying densities in residential zones as defined in Section 148 of the Land Development Ordinance. Each cluster has specific set asides for open space. The zoning in Readington's Special Resource Residential Zone (SRR), and in its Agricultural Residential Zone (AR), which collectively cover approximately 70% of Readington Townships 48 square miles, requires an 80% set aside of preserved open space, at a 10 acre and 8 acre residential gross density respectively. The Rural Residential zone, which makes up another 10% of Readington, mandates a 60% open space set-aside with a 5-acre residential gross density. The preserved open space that results from these residential clusters must be deed restricted to conservation and fenced from neighboring residential lands. Environmentally sensitive areas, such as wetlands and stream corridors, must be marked with signage informing residents that there shall be no

disturbance of these lands. Specifications for each zone are outlined in the Township ordinances.

PDF: [ORDINANCE #19-2009](#)

PDF: [MINUTES ADOPTING ORD #19-2009](#)

Environmental Assessment Ordinance

10 Points

Program Summary: Readington Township requires that applicants seeking a major subdivision or a variance or, in some instances a minor subdivision or improvements, to complete an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The analysis contained in this EIS includes an assessment of the specific property in question as well as specific features on adjoining properties which could be adversely affected by development. This Environmental Assessment is addressed in Section 148-102C(1)(e) of the Township's Land Development Ordinance.

PDF: [ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT](#)

PDF: [INITIAL EIS ORDINANCE & AMENDM](#)

PDF: [TWP CODE-LAND USE, EIS SECTION](#)

Tree Protection & Replacement Ordinance

20 Points

Program Summary: See file "Checklist" as required. Readington Township was one of the early adaptors of this ordinance. See file "Notice" for information sent to all homeowner regarding this ordinance. At the time of development under the auspices of the Readington Environmental Commission, meets were open to the public as was the enactment by the Township Committee per process and procedure. All calls to the township regarding potential tree removal are reviewed by a certified arborist. Diseased trees (like ash) are exempt and other trees qualifying as exempt do not require a permit.

WORD: [NOTICE](#)

WORD: [CHECKLIST](#)

Community Forestry Management Plan & NJUCF Accreditation

20 Points

Program Summary: Readington Township continues its active participation in the New Jersey Community Forestry program. See File "Forestry Acc". Other activities: Township continues to treat 150 ash trees. Provides 2500 trees to residents every year. Planted in 2024, 280 trees on Township Trails. Major effort included an inventory of 15 forest stand properties covering 2000 acres with trees stewardship recommendations. See File "Inventory" Community Forestry Management Plan Completed. See file "Plan"

PDF: [INVENTORY](#)

PDF: [READINGTON 2014 COMMUNITY FORESTRY MANAGEMENT PLAN.PDF](#)

PDF: [PLAN](#)

PDF: [READINGTON 2024_ACCREDITATION_STATUS_REPORT.PDF](#)

Tree Planting *New 2026*

10 Points

Program Summary: Tree Planting Programs Readington continues an active commitment to tree planting. The township is accredited in the New Jersey Community Forestry program with three members of the Environmental Commission certified. Tree planting programs are of two types. Our Continuous Program supports the New Jersey Forestry nursery seedling program. For the last 10 years, 2500 bare root plants are received each year and prepared to 1.) give 2100 to the public. See File "Giveaway" for view of handing out to public. 2.) 300 to all third-grade students (See File Third Graders) and 3.) 100 to stock the Township nursery. The nurse stock is allowed to grow for a few years and are then planted by the public on trail heads, along trails and riparian areas. (See file "Continuous Program" for small planting location and maintenacne schedule.) The Continuous Program and nursery are supported by volunteers organized by the Open Space Advisory Board and requires no funding. See File "Announcement" for request to participate. In 2024, 218 trees were planted at trail heads and along trails. See file "Participation" illustrating volunteer support. The second type of planting is a Planned Project. In 2024 on the Chambers Brook, 614 trees and 260 shrubs were planted. All Planned Project sites over the years are maintained on a natural assets map. (Copy and paste URL to Browser) arcgis.com/apps/mapviewer/index.html?webmap=968a3630ec0b4039b3a24e335e2aad25 Site provides history and inspection reports. (see file "Inspection" for a report on the Chambers Brook Site. Readington is a NJUCF accredited in 2024 and completed CFMP.

PDF: [THIRD GRADERS](#)

PDF: [INSPECTION](#)

WORD: [CONTINUOUS PROGRAM](#)

IMAGE: [GIVEAWAY](#)

PDF: [ANNOUNCEMENT](#)

IMAGE: [PARTICIPATION](#)

Public Information & Engagement

Municipal Communications Strategy

10 Points

Program Summary: Readington Township population 16,000 residing in 48 square miles in Eastern Hunterdon County. In 2024, the Township Committee in collaboration with their communications consultant standardized the media to be used to inform the public based on cost and demographic data. The Township website is the number one source. Township's official Facebook page and list serve system provide alerts that contain information. See file "Checklist" for overall approach. These methods are working. See file "Airport" to show over 250 residents participated in a presentation. See file "Planning Board" to show turnout at a meeting. See file

"FB" for a sample Facebook post and file "Listserv" for a sample. In addition, the Township established a quarterly multipage Newsletter. See file "Newsletter".

WORD: CHECKLIST

IMAGE: FB

PDF: LISTSERV

IMAGE: AIRPORT

IMAGE: PLANING BOARD

PDF: NEWSLETTER

Improve Public Engagement in Planning and Zoning

10 Points

Program Summary: The Township continues to provide information to enhance resident knowledge of the Master Plan and activities of the Planning Board and Board of Adjustment. There is no better result than the active public participation at a recent zoning change ordinance. See file "Route 22 Zoning. See file "Checklist" for required documentation. See file "Agenda" for example of Planning Board meeting agenda.

IMAGE: ROUTE 22 ZONING

WORD: CHECKLIST UPDATED

WORD: AGENDA

Online Municipal Public Service Systems

10 Points

Program Summary: Readington Township has a population of 16,000 in 48 square miles in eastern Hunterdon County. The recommended landing point on the site is the site map available on the Home Page: <https://www.readingtontwpnj.gov> The Township does not have an internal information technology department so digital and online services are selected to support major and critical need. Although online access is preferred, residents still use the general phone number for information. This robust webpage provides the public access to all departments to request for service, provide comments. See Checklist File

WORD: CHECKLIST

Digitizing Public Information

10 Points

Program Summary: See Checklist.

WORD: CHECKLIST

Sustainability & Climate Planning

Municipal Carbon Footprint

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: Readington Township has a population of 16,200 in 48 square miles. We are rural/suburban. Our carbon footprint is small, but does provide a metric to guide actions. In 2024, the Readington Environmental Commission established a commitment to focus on energy. Obtaining a PSE&G Energy Planning Grant as a start, and updating information to support this action provides a baseline to measure future program impact. In file "Footprint" where data is not complete, was a result of our Sustainable Action Team decision that the element was insignificant as a cost driver or value contributed was not worth getting the information or was not available.

EXCEL: [FOOTPRINT](#)

Community Asset Mapping

10 Points

Program Summary: Attention: Select File "URL" for active connection to websites mentioned. Readington Township has a population of 16,000 in 48 Square Miles and seeks to establish and maintain a sustainable township and community for the benefit of our residents. Readington has been an active proponent for Open Space and Farmland preservation in the State of NJ since the 1970s. Readington seeks to continue that role as a model for other semi-rural / suburban NJ townships that were historically rural and farming communities. Starting in 2022 and leading to 2050, the vision and goals are to actively manage and maintain a semi-rural environment with sustainable practices to protect the traditional nature of the township, expand the preserved farming community and provide a natural environment with protection for our forests, meadows, and streams. In order to visualize the impact of Open Space management the map (URL #1) is presented. Our greatest sustainable assets, open space, making up 36% of our total area. But on that space lies the critical elements of our activities and heritage. See File "Sustainable Assets Map". Review the legend on the right side of the map. This list contains what is relevant to our mission. Historic Sites, Managed Fields, Parks, Streams, Trail Heads and Tree Planting Sites. Next, click on the (URL #2) and enjoy a journey thru the Value of Readingto with a visit to our Sustainable Map. From the legend box, uncheck "Toggle All" and then click the box of interest. Only those sites will indicate on the map. Now click on one of the dots. As you hover over the dot, an name will appear. When clicked, an information box will appear. When available, click the information box which will then direct you to more information, much of which is hosted on the Township Website. (URL #3)

WORD: [URL](#)

IMAGE: [SUSTAINABLE ASSETS MAP](#)

WORD: [MAP HISTORY](#)

Waste Management

Prescription Drug Safety & Disposal

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: In 2016 Readington Township Police Department permanently installed a prescription drug collection and disposal drop box with 24/7 access at the entrance to the Police Department at the Township offices on Route 523 in Whitehouse Station. Update 2025: Readington participates with Hunterdon County Sheriff's office in this program. Containers from Readington are transferred to the County which then transfers to the United States Drug Enforcement agency. This program is on-going with Readington collecting 30 lbs/mo on average. See file "Drug Drop Box" for message sent on community bulletin Facebook pages. See file "Drug Drop Box 1" for Township website post on Township Facebook page. See file "Drug Drop Box 2" for sample report of Sheriff Department collection. The information is also posted on our website: <https://readingtontwpnj.gov/community-programs/prescription-drug-drop-off>

PDF: [DRUG DROP BOX](#)

WORD: [DRUG DROP BOX 1](#)

PDF: [DRUG DROP BOX 2](#)

Community Paper Shredding Day

5 Points

Program Summary: Readington Township shares many actions with Hunterdon County. We know via verbal contacts that Readington residents participate. Residents drop off material at the County Annex administrated by the shredding contractor. Readington Township Residents participate in the Hunterdon County IDENT-A-SHRED program. See attached announcement "Announcement". Posting is made to the Township Website and Facebook page and County Website and email blast announcing dates. Hunterdon County hosted four dates in 2024 and collected over 25 tons. The County does not record participant municipal affiliation. See File "Notice" for posting on Township Website listing times and information.

PDF: [ANNOUNCEMENT](#)

WORD: [NOTICE](#)

Household Hazardous Waste

10 Points

Program Summary: Hunterdon County coordinates waste practices through the Solid Waste Advisory Commission composed of members appointed from each municipality. The primary source for hazardous collection is the County 4 collections every year. Municipalities can supplement and collect as an option. See File "County" for collection requirements. Readington

does not collect hazardous materials other than those listed in File "Readington". Readington posts on its website, email and Facebook page announcements of the County schedule. See File "Announcement". This has been the practice for over 30 years and is supported by the residents and required by the County. Notices are also posted on the Township Website. See file "Website Post" See file "Tonnage Report"

PDF: [COUNTY](#)

PDF: [READINGTON](#)

PDF: [ANNOUNCEMENT](#)

WORD: [WEBSITE POST](#)

PDF: [TONNAGE REPORT](#)

Non-Mandated Materials Recycling

45 Points

Program Summary: We are pleased that all non-mandated materials can be collected safely in Readington Township. LMR (since purchased by Casella), the recycling and waste contractor will collect all materials on the list except cooking oil. Usually bulky items will incur an extra charged. See file "LMR" for information on the company that began service in 2024. See file "Checklist" as required. The "Checklist" provides many links to disposal sources. Note also that the Township recycle depot collects cooking oil. See file "Website" for all services from the Township. The Township continues to support the Trex plastic film program indicated in checklist. There are no textile drop boxes controlled by the Township. We will not compete with other organizations who benefit from these arrangements. We do support them and encourage public use. See file "Textile". A Facebook post is made reminding the public where to go with materials. See file "Announcement". The Township works closely with Hunterdon County . These joint sources can be found on the Waste Guide available on the Township website. Our Township Public Works department phone is available and a great staff assists our public and business on disposal questions. The Township Recycle Center also collects reusable grocery bags and provides them to the Flemington Food Pantry. Does Readington Township provide the public information on how to dispose of all materials (mandated or non-mandated)? Yes! See file "Tonnage Report"

PDF: [WEBSITE](#)

PDF: [LMR](#)

PDF: [TEXTILE](#)

PDF: [TONNAGE](#)

WORD: [CHECKLIST](#)

WORD: [ANNOUNCEMENT](#)

Recycling Depot

10 Points

Program Summary: Readington Township Recycle Depot continues to service the community with capability and information. See File "Website See File "County" Link provided on Readington Site See File "Yard" Check out the website for all the good information:
<https://www.readingtontwpnj.gov/public-works-facility>

PDF: [WEBSITE](#)

PDF: YARD

PDF: COUNTY