



Sustainable Jersey Certification Report

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

Voorhees Twp was certified on December 12, 2019 with 350 points. Listed below is information regarding Voorhees Twp's Sustainable Jersey efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable Jersey contact for Voorhees Twp is:

Name:	EDWARD HALE
Title/Position:	CO-CHAIRMAN SUSTAINABLE VOORHEES / VOORHEES TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Address:	2400 VOORHEES TOWN CENTER VOORHEES, NJ 08043
Phone:	609-707-7976

Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Voorhees Twp was approved for in 2019 appears below. Note: Standards for the actions below may have changed and the documentation listed may no longer satisfy requirements for that action. Additionally, points associated with actions prior to 2013 certifications may not be accurate.

Animals in the Community

Companion Animal Management Pledge *Retired 12/31/22*

5 Points

Program Summary: Resolution 90-13, supporting Responsible Pet Ownership Programs in the Community, was adopted by Voorhees Township Committee on March 11, 2013. A copy of the resolution was subsequently distributed to all municipal employees, elected officials, appointed board and commission members, and the Township Animal Control Officer. While there has been

no progress in the completion of the Companion Animal Management Plan action due to a lack of time and resources, the township took actions consistent with the Companion Animal Management Pledge. The township continued to hold its yearly free rabies clinic on May 4, 2019. See attached Mayor's Column from April 24, 2019 containing information about the clinic (third paragraph from the bottom). Voorhees residents are also able to obtain pet licenses at the clinic. The municipality is continuing to pick up and impound all stray animals consistent with our existing ordinance (see § 92-24, § 92-25 and § 92-26). The township is continuing to require cat licensing (in addition to state-mandated dog licensing) and to conduct a yearly dog and cat census in order to increase licensing compliance under our local ordinance (see § 92-02 and § 92-20). The township continues to promote responsible pet ownership. As part of these efforts, the township makes an educational brochure available to its residents. See attached PDF of the Cats, Birds, and You brochure. Township police K-9 units regularly participate in educational programs. See attached picture from a National Night Out. Our impoundment facility, Animal Orphanage, is in the middle of a capital campaign raising money for a new building, which will be twice the size of the current building and have many improvements. They have broken ground and the Mayor attended the event. See attached screenshot of a Facebook post.

PDF: [RESOLUTION 90-13](#)

PDF: [RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY MEMO](#)

PDF: [RABIES CLINIC](#)

PDF: [ORDINANCE](#)

PDF: [CATS BIRDS AND YOU BROCHURE](#)

PDF: [K9 AND AO GROUNDBREAKING](#)

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

10 Points

Program Summary: Resolution 89-13, supporting New Jersey's Wildlife Action Plan, was adopted by Voorhees Township Committee on March 11, 2013. The resolution was subsequently distributed to all municipal employees, elected officials, appointed board and commission members, and the Township Animal Control Officer. While our Wildlife Interaction Plan has not yet been completed due to a lack of time and resources, the Township has taken actions consistent with the Pledge. Laurel Lakes and surrounding area in Voorhees, NJ is a publicly accessible area owned by the Echelon Common Facilities Association. The area is home to many different native wild animals including ducks, geese, turtles, deer, squirrels, songbirds, and more. The lakes and surrounding area were inundated with trash so a local resident raised the matter with the township committee. The committee worked with the private management company responsible for the area to clean up the lakes and to implement more regular clean ups going forward. As a result, the area is much cleaner and the habitat is improved for the resident wildlife. Voorhees Sun article attached. The North Branch Conservation Area in Voorhees Township is 234 acres of municipally preserved open space serving as habitat for a wide variety of NJ native vegetation and wildlife species. Over time natural drainage swales have clogged. Resulting flooding and stagnant water degraded the habitat. In the spring of 2019, the township began work to open the Woodland Glen Basin outfall swale. The land would not allow the use of heavy equipment, so work was done by hand. This allowed the Public Works Department, our Municipal Engineers, and contractors to access the area in August and complete the return of the drainage outfalls to their original condition protecting the quality of this habitat for native vegetation and wildlife. One invoice and images attached.

PDF: [RESOLUTION 89-13](#)

PDF: [MUNICIPAL SUPPORT FOR NEW JERSEY'S WILDLIFE ACTION PLAN MEMO](#)

PDF: [LAUREL LAKE CLEANUP VOORHEES SUN ARTICLE](#)

PDF: [SPRING INVOICE FOR NORTH BRANCH CONSERVATION AREA CLEANUP](#)

Arts & Creative Culture

Establish a Creative Team

10 Points

Program Summary: In March of 2016, Sustainable Voorhees formed a creative team that met monthly and developed art programs and special events based on the feedback received from community surveys. The team was comprised of the following: An elected or appointed official from the municipality (Larry Spellman, Voorhees Township Administrator), a Visual Artist (Marianne Leone, Creative Team Chair and professional landscape wildlife photographer), a Performing Artist (Kristin Titus, professional opera singer), a Business Leader (Emily Morgan, owner of Delegate Solutions), a Representative from the Educational Community (Ryk Lewis, Artistic Director of the Fusion Performing Arts Center), and a Member from the Green Team (Ed Hale, Sustainable Voorhees Green Team Chair). In November of 2017, as approved by the Green Team, we officially formed the Voorhees Arts Council (VAC). The council was comprised of the Creative Team members (above) and we added approximately 6 local Voorhees artists. In January 2018, we had a 4-hour planning session that plotted out three different types of activities for the Arts in Voorhees. 1) the continuation of the already successful Arts on the Boulevard program. This is an Art Exhibit displayed in vacant storefronts inside the Voorhees Town Center Mall and on the Voorhees Town Center Boulevard. We developed that program further and consistently have 25 to 30 local artists participating. The exhibit rotates every 3 months and has a monthly reception coordinated. 2) We also discussed holding VAC Special Events such as the holiday art & craft show, considering a train show, and an art activity at Connolly Park. 3) Monthly Programs rotating different topics such as photography, monotype printing, rock painting, grow and glow and more. Following that January planning meeting, by April, we were recognized we needed a space and a face to the organization. With the financial and organizational support and coordination of the Township, and under the guidance of the 501c-3 nonprofit Voorhees Citizens Events Foundation, the VAC moved into an actual store space within the mall in June and had a grand opening for the Voorhees Art Center & Gallery on June 29th 2018. Since then all activity by the Voorhees Arts Council, which includes the creative team, is driven by the programs on the center side of the space and 30 artists are residence of the actual gallery, which has been at 100% occupancy consistently for this past year. VAC programming has expanded tremendously as we now have a place to offer these art classes, workshops, activities to the community. The Voorhees Arts Council consistently meets monthly at the gallery to oversee the management and activities of the Voorhees Arts Center & Gallery as well as outside collaborations for Special Events offsite. The artist come from towns other than Voorhees, it is truly county wide and beyond representation of South Jersey artists participating in the Gallery and Exhibits. The current roster of Voorhees Arts Council Members, a mix of muni, business, and artists, is: Amy Bodofsky Bonnie Rovere Charles "Bud" Lamielle Jack McGovern Kim Clay Kristin Titus Larry Spellman Marianne Leone Natalie Sutherland Polly Katz Rita Karpo Sachi Wohlrab Suzy Sherbine Tejal Shah Val Brown

PDF: [VAC EVENT PLANNING 2019 THRU JUNE](#)

PDF: [SV MINUTES THAT ESTABLISHES CREATIVE TEAM IN 2016](#)

PDF: [CREATIVE TEAM REPORT- EXAMPLE](#)

Creative Assets Inventory

10 Points

Program Summary: In April 2016, the Sustainable Voorhees Creative Team met to discuss plans for creating a local Creative Assets Inventory. It was decided at that time to construct a web-based arts and culture survey and list the results in a format established by the Kentucky Arts Council. The Kentucky Arts Council provides an outline for establishing a creative arts and cultural guide based on a listing of local artisans, performing groups, artisan/regional foods, events, recreational activities, cultural organizations, civic organizations, meeting/small event/workshop/exhibition spaces, lodging, restaurants, transportation and parking, parks, and diverse cultures. Since that time, the Inventory has been modified on a continuous, as-needed basis by individual Creative Team members. It was determined that this approach, as compared to updating the listing at periodic formal meetings, would establish a living document that was more responsive to the changing talents and abilities of our community. Assisting in this effort are the Voorhees Township Office of Economic Development, Voorhees Business Association, and Voorhees Arts Council (see attached memo).

PDF: [CREATIVE ASSETS INVENTORY MEMO](#)

WORD: [2019 CREATIVE ASSETS INVENTORY](#)

Municipal Commitments to Support Arts and Creative Culture

5 Points

Program Summary: Voorhees Township has welcomed the activities of the Creative Team from the beginning (2016) and continues to encourage the implementation of ideas by the Voorhees Arts Council. The mayor has reported about our activities in the local newspaper, the Voorhees Sun, and has supported resolutions and letters of support for grant funding and sponsorship. He announces the art programs at the monthly Voorhees Business Association luncheon and the Twp staff brings the VAC in for collaboration with the Voorhees Town Center Mall in activities such as the Halloween & Fall festival, where the VAC artists providing face painting and pumpkin decorating for over 1000 kids in Oct 2018. The Town in fact has the Voorhees Arts Council as part of the Voorhees Citizens Event Foundation and has covered the cost of rent and insurance for the VAC to have space in the VTC Mall, named Voorhees Arts Center & Gallery, where in 2019 alone over 60 activities were provided to the community, serving over 700 people. The Township Administrator has served since the beginning on our Creative Team that evolved to our Voorhees Arts Council and he is engaged and involved in our progress and stands for our success.

PDF: [MAYORS COLUMN IN VOORHEES SUN NEWSPAPER MAY 2018](#)

PDF: [MAYORS LETTER OF SUPPORT](#)

PDF: [RESOLUTION TWP SUPPORT MARCH 2018](#)

Brownfields

Brownfields Inventory & Prioritization

15 Points

Program Summary: To initiate this action, a list of potential brownfield sites was compiled from the New Jersey DEP DataMiner website, the New Jersey Brownfields SiteMart, and the Voorhees Township Department of Business Development by members of Sustainable Voorhees and the Township's Director of Community & Economic Development. Verification of the list began with the exclusion of all residential properties and commercial properties remediated as evidenced by closure documents. The remaining commercial properties were visited by Sustainable Voorhees members who evaluated each potential site as to its occupancy, current utilization, and overall appearance. Sites appearing to meet the criteria of N.J.S.A. 58:10B-23.d, which defines a brownfield as, "any former or current commercial or industrial site that is currently vacant or underutilized and on which there has been, or there is suspected to have been, a discharge of a contaminant," were compiled to form the final brownfield inventory. Once the inventory was completed, criteria were established to prioritize the municipal brownfield sites based on public health risk, blight reduction potential, development potential, and site ownership. The scoring scale is 1 to 5, with 1 representing the lowest value and 5 the highest. Individual raw scores for each prioritization factor were then multiplied by weighting factors of community importance. Totaling these weighted scores produced a final priority ranking. This ranking was completed with the assistance of Consulting & Municipal Engineer Associates (CME). As established by municipal policy, the identification and prioritization of brownfield sites will be repeated on a five-year (minimum) basis by Sustainable Voorhees and the Township's Environmental Commission. Copies of the Township's 2019 Brownfields Inventory and Prioritization, Brownfields Inventory and Prioritization Checklist, and Brownfields Priority Ranking Policy are attached.

PDF: [BROWNFIELDS PRIORITY RANKING POLICY](#)

EXCEL: [BROWNFIELD INVENTORY \(SHEET 1\) AND PRIORITIZATION \(SHEET 2\)](#)

PDF: [BROWNFIELDS INVENTORY AND PRIORITIZATION CHECKLIST](#)

Community Partnership & Outreach

Green Team

10 Points

 Bronze Required

Program Summary: On March 28, 2011, Voorhees Township Committee issued a Proclamation establishing a Green Team for the purpose of achieving Sustainable Jersey Certification. The Green Team was made a subcommittee of the Voorhees Township Environmental Commission on January 8, 2013 and subsequently reconstituted. Township Committee passed an additional resolution (92-13) on March 11, 2013, reaffirming its support of participation in the Sustainable Jersey program and naming the Township Administrator as the municipal agent for the certification process. Since then, supplementary memos listing the current Green Team Members and their affiliations have been issued to the Administrator as required to reflect changes in leadership and/or composition. Please see the attached Progress Report for a summary of the group's activities.

PDF: [2019 SV GREEN TEAM](#)

PDF: [RESOLUTION 92-13](#)

PDF: [GREEN TEAM LETTER OF SUPPORT](#)

Community Education & Outreach

20 Points

Program Summary: Sustainable Voorhees and Sustainable Gibbsboro partnered to conduct four events planned around World Migratory Bird Day, May 11, 2019. The goal of these events was to engage members of the community, to underscore the importance of sustainability, to raise awareness about native plants and animals, and to provide information about steps that individuals can take to support native species. All events were organized and promoted by volunteers of the Gibbsboro and Voorhees Green Teams. The effort was led and coordinated by Natalie Sutherland. Two bird-watching nature walks were held in the Blueberry Hill Conservation Area on April 27 and May 25, 2019. The walks were led by local nature and birding expert Stacie Cantu. See attached BirdwalkChecklist.doc, and birdwalk.pdf for flyer advertising both walks and four follow-up facebook posts. On May 11, 2019, we organized a screening of The Messenger, a documentary that explores our connection to birds, human-made perils that have caused a decline in songbird populations, and how to help. The screening was held in the Voorhees Arts Center & Gallery and was followed by a discussion led by Linda Cherkassky, an expert on anthropogenic causes of wild bird mortality. See attached MessengerChecklist.doc, and messenger.pdf for flyer advertising the screening, related images, and a handout. On May 18, 2019, we held an educational lecture and discussion on two native species – the Ruby-throated Hummingbird and the Eastern Bluebird. The hummingbird portion was presented by Lisa Herman, a wild bird expert and owner of Wild Birds Unlimited (Cherry Hill). The bluebird portion was presented by Lisa as well because Chuck Kanupke, Camden County Coordinator for the NJ Bluebird Society, had to cancel at the last minute. See LectureChecklist.doc, and lecture.pdf for flyer advertising the event (a single flyer was created for 5/11 and 5/18 events) and pictures from the event.

PDF: [BIRDWALK CHECKLIST](#)

PDF: [MESSENGER CHECKLIST](#)

PDF: [LECTURE CHECKLIST](#)

PDF: [MESSENGER FLYER](#)

PDF: [LECTURE FLYER](#)

PDF: [BIRDWALK FLYER](#)

Green Fair

10 Points

Program Summary: -----
----- NOTE: This action has been revised to comply with the reviewer's feedback of 9/24/2019. A Qualitative Assessment has been completed and uploaded and the narrative has been updated to focus more on the submitted event. -----
----- On October 7, 2018, Voorhees Township held its second annual Green Fair at the Voorhees Town Center. Planning for the celebration took approximately nine months and was completed by Voorhees Township Administration, Sustainable Voorhees, representatives of the Voorhees Town Center, and various municipal agencies including the Department of Public Works and Police Department. The Fair itself was

preceded by a lead-in movie series held over the course of four weeks at the Camden County Library. Movie content was chosen so as to increase interest in the Fair and sustainability in general. Among the Green Fair exhibits were informational displays from Sustainable Voorhees, the Voorhees Township Environmental Commission, Cross County Connection TMA, New Jersey Master Gardeners, the Freedom Center for Wildlife, and Sustainable Gibbsboro. The Voorhees Township Department of Public Works displayed a compressed natural gas (CNG) refuse collection vehicle while distributing updated instructions for recycling and the South Jersey Electric Vehicle Club exhibited several of their member's automobiles. In addition, a number of participatory demonstrations were held showcasing sustainable practices. These included the reuse of used materials to make items such as bird feeders and cloth shopping bags. Other activities included rock painting and face painting, a performance by the Voorhees Theater Company, and an aerobic "Art Walk" where participants engaged in a 20-minute walk while visiting the show pieces of local artists. Donations from local businesses and residents were given out as prizes to those attending (see attached documents for additional information).

PDF: [2018 GREEN FAIR FLYER](#)

PDF: [2018 LEAD-IN MOVIE SERIES](#)

PDF: [2018 GREEN FAIR PARTNERS](#)

PDF: [2018 GREEN FAIR SAMPLE PROMOTION](#)

PDF: [MUNICIPAL CNG TRUCK](#)

PDF: [QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT 2018 GREEN FAIR](#)

Green Design

Green Building Policy/Resolution

5 Points

Program Summary: Resolution 146-15, endorsing the adoption of Green Building Practices for municipal, commercial, and residential buildings, was adopted by Voorhees Township Committee on July 13, 2015. A copy of the resolution was redistributed to all municipal employees, elected officials, and appointed board and commission members on March 20, 2019.

PDF: [RESOLUTION 146-15](#)

PDF: [GREEN BUILDING RESOLUTION MEMO](#)

PDF: [RESOLUTION 146-15 SCREENSHOT](#)

Create a Green Development Checklist

10 Points

Program Summary: Voorhees Township Ordinance 277-16, incorporating a Sustainable Development Statement (Green Development Checklist) into land use submission requirements, was adopted by Township Committee on March 28, 2016. The statement is now distributed with all major subdivision and minor and major site plan applications through the Township's Construction Office. Completion of the statement is mandatory. Compliance with its provisions, although encouraged, is not a condition of approval. The Sustainable Development Statement was

developed by Sustainable Voorhees through research of model green building checklists and standards, review of existing municipal checklists and ordinances, and discussions with the Voorhees Township Environmental Commission. The draft statement was reviewed by the Township Solicitor working in concert with the Township's Planning Board Attorney. Their suggested revisions were incorporated into the statement's final iteration. Given its recent date of adoption and a dwindling number of major subdivision and minor and major site plan applications, the Sustainable Development Statement is still awaiting its initial use.

PDF: [SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STATEMENT](#)

PDF: [ORDINANCE 277-16](#)

Health & Wellness

Safe Routes to School

10 Points

Program Summary: Voorhees School District and governing body are committed to health and safety of students and are strong supporters of SRTS non-infrastructure initiatives. Township Committee re-adopted SRTS Resolution of Support May 13, 2019 (Resolution of Support). Personnel from Township administration, police department, school district and schools continue work together (SRTS Team). School District partners with Voorhees Police (VPD) to administer SRTS non-infrastructure initiatives throughout the school year: • School Resource Officer Daddario conducted Bicycle Safety Assembly in Middle School (6-8 grades) April 17, 2019. Assembly addressed safe bicycling habits, rules of road and importance of properly fitted helmets (Bicycle Safety Assembly). • VPD educates parents regarding safe bicycling habits for children. March 2019, bicycle safety memo sent to parents and posted social media, school and police websites. The memo stressed importance of children riding their bikes safely by obeying bicycling rules of the road and directs parents to NJDOT's website page on bicycle safety regulations (Bike Safety Memo). • VPD participates in national Adopt-A-Cop program by adopting third grade students at each elementary school. This program is performed by patrol officers who administer the program throughout the school year. Each officer visits their school on a monthly basis and discusses various safety topics with the students. During October, coinciding with Halloween, officers instructed students on safe walking habits, such as how to be seen in the dark; looking ahead instead of down at cell phones; crossing at corners and within crosswalks (Adopt A Cop). • VPD provides mandatory training for school crossing guards annually. The training follows NJ Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund, SRTS, and NJ Safety Institute guidelines and is administered by a VPD Lieutenant certified through the Train-the-Trainer Program of Rutgers. Mandatory training for all School Crossing Guards was held on 8/20/18 and on 4/2/19 for a new Crossing Guard (Voorhees Police School Training).

PDF: [BIKE SAFETY MEMO FROM POLICE DEPT TO PARENTS](#)

PDF: [SRTS RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT](#)

PDF: [VOORHEES POLICE SCHOOL CROSS GUARD TRAINING](#)

PDF: [BICYCLE SAFETY ASSEMBLY 2018-2019](#)

PDF: [SRTS TEAM](#)

PDF: [VOORHEES ADOPT A COP-BIKE/PED SAFETY](#)

Smoke-Free and Tobacco-Free Public Places

10 Points

Program Summary: Voorhees Township enacted a smoke-free and tobacco-free public places ordinance in 2002. This ordinance prohibits the smoking of tobacco and tobacco-like substances within the boundaries of Township owned land, or any property which is maintained or in the possession of the township, including, but not limited to all parks, playgrounds, active and passive recreational facilities, the Municipal Complex (including the Police Department) and the Department of Public Works. The ordinance (Title XIII, Chapter 130, Section 130.89), evidence supporting implementation of the ordinance, and public outreach materials are attached.

PDF: [SMOKE-FREE AND TOBACCO-FREE PUBLIC PLACES IMPLEMENTATION](#)

PDF: [SMOKE-FREE AND TOBACCO-FREE PUBLIC PLACES OUTREACH](#)

PDF: [TITLE XIII, CHAPTER 130, SECTION 130.89](#)

Land Use & Transportation

Sustainable Land Use Pledge

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: -----
----- NOTE: This action has been revised to comply with the reviewer's feedback of 7/6/2019. A certified copy of the resolution adopting the Sustainable Land Use Pledge, completed within 2.5 years of the June submission deadline, and documentation that the resolution has been circulated to the Planning Board, Zoning Board, Environmental Commission and other municipal boards and commissions have been uploaded. -----

----- Resolution 290-19, supporting Sustainable Land Use, was adopted by Voorhees Township Committee on July 25, 2019. A copy of the resolution was subsequently distributed to all municipal employees, elected officials, and appointed board and commission members (see attached memo).

PDF: [MUNICIPAL SUPPORT FOR SUSTAINABLE LAND USE MEMO](#)

PDF: [RESOLUTION 290-19](#)

Bicycle & Pedestrian Audits

5 Points

Program Summary: Although many roads in Voorhees Township include bikeways and pedestrian access, they tend to be clustered within discrete east and west sections of the municipality. In 2013, the Township received a DVRPC TCDI grant to conduct a bicycle/pedestrian

study focused on improving interconnectivity between these clusters. The main purpose of the study, entitled “Voorhees Township DVRPC-Funded East-West Bikeway Connection Planning Study & Final Recommendations Report”, was to prepare recommendations for a new bicycle/pedestrian facility connecting existing bikeways of the Township's Bicycle Network using the Voorhees Environmental Park and the newly renovated Voorhees Town Center as eastern and western hubs, respectively. The firm of CME Associates conducted the planning and engineering study. A Steering Committee including members of the Voorhees Environmental and Cultural Education Foundation, Sustainable Voorhees, the Voorhees Environmental Commission, The Voorhees Bicycle-Pedestrian Committee, Cross-County Connection, Rutgers Center for Urban Environmental Sustainability, and the Township of Voorhees participated in a bike/pedestrian audit of the study area to assess opportunities and constraints. Township residents provided feedback through public information sessions and a public mapping website. The finalized report was presented to the Township on May 15, 2014 (see attached Memorandum of Completion). A technical report details improvements recommended by the project team. Audit results are detailed in the final report and identify priority locations for improvements. These improvements enable the Township to more fully develop its bicycle/pedestrian network, working towards the vision outlined in the Township's Bicycle Element and the 2012 Master Plan Re-Examination. The recommendations support the Township's vision for a comprehensive bicycle/pedestrian network, facilitating a comfortable, accessible, and convenient east-west connector between existing bicycle facilities. Although the full report is too large to upload, pertinent excerpts are included to demonstrate the extent of work completed.

PDF: [MEMORANDUM OF COMPLETION AND TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

PDF: [IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX](#)

PDF: [EXISTING CONDITIONS](#)

PDF: [STUDY CORRIDOR ENGINEERING & RECOMMENDATIONS](#)

PDF: [PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT](#)

PDF: [CRASH ANALYSIS](#)

Complete & Green Streets for All Policy

10 Points

Program Summary: Resolution 90-16, establishing a municipal Complete Streets Policy, was adopted by Voorhees Township Committee on April 11, 2016. A copy of the resolution was subsequently distributed to all municipal employees, elected officials, appointed board and commission members and consultants. The Township's Complete Streets Policy recognizes the importance of ensuring that all users of the Township's transportation network have access to that network. The policy also acknowledges the important link between complete streets and physical and mental health. The newly adopted policy applies to all aspects of a project, including design, construction, maintenance and operations. Although Voorhees Township has been practicing the concepts of complete streets planning for some time, the recently adopted resolution actually formalizes these actions by requiring complete streets consideration to be part of the planning, review and approval process. All current and future projects are now evaluated by a newly formed Complete Streets Technical Advisory Committee consisting of representatives from the Township's departments of Administration, including elected officials, engineering and planning, police and project consultants. The Technical Advisory Committee uses a checklist to ensure all projects are evaluated equally and all concepts of complete streets are included in the proposal, where applicable. A thorough review of proposed projects by Township professionals ensures the needs of all users are met during the planning stages and carried into implementation. This results in a more active, vibrant and healthy community. Additionally, Voorhees coordinates closely with Camden County regarding Complete Streets on county roads as Camden County has also adopted a Complete Streets resolution.

PDF: [COMPLETE STREETS POLICY MEMO](#)

PDF: [RESOLUTION 90-16](#)

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

10 Points

Program Summary: In 2012, CME Associates conducted a Master Plan review for Voorhees Township. The resulting Master Plan Re-examination Report of August 2012, including its GBESE appendix, was adopted by the Voorhees Township Planning Board on August 22, 2012 (Resolution 12-020).

PDF: [GREEN BUILDING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ELEMENT OF THE MASTER PLAN](#)

PDF: [PLANNING BOARD RESOLUTION 12-020](#)

Local Economies

Buy Local Campaign

10 Points

Program Summary: Voorhees Township, in partnership with the Voorhees Business Association, has been involved in a “Live Voorhees, Shop Voorhees” campaign for several years. In 2012, the Voorhees Township Economic Development Committee began investigating the possibility of extending this effort by establishing a property tax rebate system tied to support for local business. Township Committee cleared the path to establishing such a program through Resolution 81-13, which supports “a property tax rewards program to be implemented as part of the ‘Buy Voorhees/Shop Local’ campaign.” In 2013, Voorhees Township contracted with Fincredit Inc. to operate a Property Tax Reward Program (PTRP) within the municipality. Under the PTRP, homeowners shopping at local participating merchants receive rebates on sales and services in the form of property tax credits. Since its inception, the Live Voorhees, Shop Voorhees program has generated over \$1.9 million in local sales revenue and \$118,000 in property tax credits. In calendar year 2018 alone, \$130,368 in sales and \$8,804 in tax credits were reported. 2019 totals are not yet available.

PDF: [LIVE VOORHEES SHOP VOORHEES PROMOTION](#)

PDF: [RESOLUTION 81-13](#)

Support Local Businesses

10 Points

Program Summary: Voorhees Township engages in a number of diverse business promotion

and development activities. The Township maintains a Business Development Department and employs a full-time Director of Community and Business Development. In addition, the Township has a standing Business Development Committee (to analyze, advertise, and assist in the development of the Township's economic assets) and maintains strong ties to the local business community through close collaboration with the Voorhees Business Association. (See the attached Memo for more detailed information)

PDF: [2019 SLB QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT](#)

PDF: [SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES MEMO](#)

PDF: [VOORHEES TOWNSHIP ECONOMIC WEBSITES](#)

PDF: [2019 ECONOMIC COMMITTEE MEMBERS](#)

Natural Resources

Natural Resource Inventory

20 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: The Voorhees Township Natural Resource Inventory (entitled Natural Resource Inventory, Voorhees Township, Camden County, New Jersey, and Map Graphics for Natural Resource Inventory, Voorhees Township, Camden County, New Jersey) was completed in May 2013 by the firm of CME Associates. Township Committee committed to a regular review of the NRI on August 19, 2013 (Resolution 171-13). The NRI was adopted as part of the Township's Master Plan by the Voorhees Township Planning Board on September 11, 2013 in a joint resolution with the Township's OSRP (Resolution 13-026). -----

----- NOTE: Voorhees Township Committee Resolution 171-13 and Voorhees Township Planning Board Resolution 13-026 have been attached. The section noting the name of the NRI in Resolution 13-026 has been highlighted.

PDF: [2013 NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY](#)

PDF: [2013 NRI MAPS - 1](#)

PDF: [2013 NRI MAPS - 2](#)

PDF: [2013 NRI MAPS - 3](#)

PDF: [RESOLUTION 171-13](#)

PDF: [RESOLUTION 13-026 \(NRI\)](#)

Environmental Commission

10 Points

Program Summary: The Voorhees Township Environmental Commission has been in existence since 2000. The signed Ordinance from 1999 (957-99) establishing the Commission is attached, as are the complete text of the ordinance (Title III Chapter 32), the 2018 EC Summary Report, and the 2018 EC Agendas and Meeting Minutes.

PDF: [2018 EC AGENDAS AND MEETING MINUTES](#)

PDF: [2018 EC SUMMARY REPORT](#)

PDF: [TITLE III CHAPTER 32 \(TEXT\)](#)

PDF: [ORDINANCE 957-99](#)

Environmental Commission Site Plan Review

10 Points

Program Summary: By ordinance, the Voorhees Township Planning and Zoning Boards submit copies of preliminary major site plan and preliminary major subdivision applications to the Township's Environmental Commission for review. The application review consists of a site visit, examination of required environmental reports, project evaluation by the Commission's professional Consultant, and a public hearing regarding the proposal. During this hearing the Commission gathers facts regarding the site's historic, present, and proposed land uses; existing environmental features, critical areas, and other characteristics; existing environmental resources; and proposed nonstructural storm water management, site preparation, and construction phasing. At the conclusion of the review process, the Commission considers the possible impact(s) of the application and makes a Finding of Fact as required. The Commission then submits a letter in the form of a Recommendation Memo to the respective submission board either advising that no Finding of Fact has been made or outlining proposals for mitigating the project's impact(s) as determined by a valid Finding of Fact. Further progress of the application is followed by an assigned Commission member as it proceeds through subsequent board hearings. The enabling Ordinance (Title III, Chapter 32, Sections 32.043(A) & (B)), a list of development applications sent to the Environmental Commission for review in 2018, and a Finding of Fact and Recommendations Memo for one project (Voorhees Animal Orphanage) are attached.

PDF: [TITLE III 32.043](#)

PDF: [2018 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS](#)

PDF: [VOORHEES ANIMAL ORPHANAGE](#)

Clustering Ordinance

10 Points

Program Summary: Voorhees Township enacted a Clustering Ordinance in 1999. The purpose and intent of the CR - Cluster Residential Zone is to provide residential housing in environmentally sensitive areas while preserving a special resource for the benefit of the public good. The Ordinance (Chapter 152, CR-Cluster Residential Zone), Clustering Ordinance Standards, and Submission Requirements Checklist A (Ordinance 158.02) are attached.

PDF: [CLUSTER RESIDENTIAL ORDINANCE 152](#)

PDF: [CLUSTERING ORDINANCE STANDARDS](#)

PDF: [SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST A](#)

Environmental Assessment Ordinance

10 Points

Program Summary: Since 2001, Voorhees Township has required an Environmental Impact Report as part of any land development application involving properties of five acres or more, or of parcels located in an environmentally sensitive area. This report is first reviewed by the Environmental Commission at a public hearing. The Commission's findings and recommendations concerning the EIR are then forwarded to the Planning Board. At the subsequent Planning Board hearing(s), these findings must be addressed by the developer and are taken under advisement by the Board in its decision making process. The Ordinance (158.04), Environmental Assessment Ordinance Standards, and Submission Requirements Checklist A (Ordinance 158.02) are attached.

PDF: [ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT ORDINANCE 158.04](#)

PDF: [ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ORDINANCE STANDARDS](#)

PDF: [SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST A](#)

Tree Protection Ordinance *Retires 12/31/25*

10 Points

Program Summary: Voorhees Township enacted a Tree Protection Ordinance in 1999. The intent of this ordinance is to reduce tree loss during development and provide for the replacement of trees whose loss is unavoidable. The Ordinance (154.006(E)), Tree Protection Ordinance Standards, and Submission Requirements Checklist A (Ordinance 158.02) are attached.

PDF: [COMPENSATORY PLANTING ORDINANCE 154.006\(E\)](#)

PDF: [TREE PROTECTION ORDINANCE STANDARDS](#)

PDF: [SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST A](#)

Operations & Maintenance

Adopt a Green Purchasing Policy by Resolution *Retired 12/31/23*

5 Points

Program Summary: Resolution 76-16, implementing an Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy (Green Purchasing Policy), was adopted by Voorhees Township Committee on March 14, 2016. Copies of the Resolution and the Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy were redistributed to all municipal employees, elected officials, and appointed board and commission members on March 13, 2019. In addition, the Policy is posted on a municipal website in its entirety.

PDF: [ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE PURCHASING POLICY](#)

PDF: [GREEN PURCHASING POLICY MEMO](#)

PDF: [RESOLUTION 76-16](#)

PDF: [ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE PURCHASING POLICY SCREENSHOT](#)

PDF: [RESOLUTION 76-16 SCREENSHOT](#)

Green Grounds & Maintenance Policy

10 Points

Program Summary:

----- NOTE: This action has been revised to comply with the reviewer's feedback of 6/25/2019. Screenshots of the municipal website's link to the policy have been uploaded. As further suggested, descriptive titles will be added to the resources available on the Sustainable Voorhees website to ease confusion. -----

----- Resolution 91-13, adopting a Green Grounds and Maintenance Policy, was passed by Voorhees Township Committee on March 11, 2013. A copy of the policy, along with its approved Green Grounds and Maintenance Practices, was redistributed to all municipal employees, elected officials, and appointed board and commission members on March 21, 2019. In addition, the Policy is posted on a municipal website in its entirety (see attached screenshots of municipal homepage link to <http://www.sustainablevoorhees.org/resources>).

PDF: [GREEN GROUNDS AND MAINTENANCE POLICY](#)

PDF: [RESOLUTION 91-13](#)

PDF: [GREEN GROUNDS AND MAINTENANCE POLICY MEMO](#)

PDF: [RESOLUTION 91-13 SCREENSHOT](#)

PDF: [GREEN GROUNDS AND MAINTENANCE POLICY SCREENSHOT](#)

PDF: [MUNICIPAL HOMEPAGE LINK SCREENSHOTS](#)

Recycled Materials & Composting

10 Points

Program Summary: Voorhees Township has for many years collected leaves, tree limbs, and grass clippings as a service to its residents. In the early 1980s, however, the Township recognized two important facts: first, that increased dumping fees were beginning to make this practice cost prohibitive, and second, that a potentially valuable resource was being wasted. Since then the Township has worked hard to establish a very successful Vegetation Waste Recycling Program. An example of this is the municipality's chipper service. In 2018, 3,475 tons of brush and tree parts were collected from residential and municipal sources. A portion of this total was recycled by the Township into over 1,800 cubic yards of finish-grade mulch using a municipally-owned and operated tub grinder. The mulch, valued at over \$90,000 (\$50 per cu yd), was stockpiled and used to landscape the Township's parks, playgrounds, trails, and other facilities. Aside from beautification, benefits of the chipper service include a reduced need for irrigation through prevention of rapid soil drying and the elimination of chemical herbicide applications through moderation of weed growth. (See the attached Memo for more detailed information)

EXCEL: [2018 RECYCLING TONNAGE REPORT](#)

PDF: [RECYCLED MATERIALS AND COMPOSTING MEMO](#)

PDF: [2018 RECYCLING TONNAGE REPORT SUMMARY](#)

Public Information & Engagement

Municipal Communications Strategy

10 Points

Program Summary: -----

----- NOTE: This action has been revised to comply with the reviewer's feedback of 7/3/2019. Email addresses on the municipal website have been updated and the role of the Citizens Cultural and Diversity Advisory Committee has been highlighted. -----

----- Documentation of the Voorhees Township Municipal Communication Strategy began with reviews of existing municipal websites followed by discussions with the Township Administrator to uncover any supplementary methods of public communication. Results included social media channels (Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram), municipally-controlled mailing and email lists, push text notifications (Nixle), and the Voorhees O-N-E mobile application. Evidence of recent municipal use is attached. The Township's website contains a wide array of information about the township, municipal services, and services provided by affiliated organizations. In addition, it is regularly updated with current news and announcements of community importance. The framework of the website was constructed and is maintained by a private digital marketing and design firm. The Township Clerk is charged with maintaining the accuracy of the website's information as well as posting new notifications on a day-to-day basis. The Voorhees O-N-E mobile application provides users quick access to key categories: News, Events, Merchants, Notify, and Saves Lives (a link to free Uber service from local participating bars and restaurants). Registered users receive updates and alerts for municipal news and upcoming events as well as report non-emergency incidents or concerns to the Township's Public Works Department.

PDF: [MAYOR'S COLUMN DIVERSITY](#)

PDF: [SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS](#)

PDF: [PUSH TEXT NOTIFICATIONS](#)

PDF: [MUNICIPAL COMMUNICATION STRATEGY CHECKLIST](#)

PDF: [MUNICIPAL WEBSITE](#)

PDF: [NIXLE DIVERSITY DAY PUSH](#)

Online Municipal Public Service Systems

10 Points

Program Summary: -----

----- NOTE: This action has been revised to comply with the reviewer's feedback of 7/1/2019. Further information has been added to clarify the role of the Voorhees O-N-E mobile application as a digital system for submitting requests. -----

----- In 2016, Voorhees Township contracted with the digital marketing and design firm of Commexis to create a modern and user-friendly new website. The result was a responsive, easy to navigate site that interacts with both desktop and mobile devices. The new website is organized by specific departments so that visitors can access each branch of the local government quickly and efficiently to find the forms and information they require without visiting Town Hall. Additionally, the Township stressed a need to focus on social media interaction, so feeds from those channels are prominently displayed on the site's home page. In that same year, the Township unveiled its new Voorhees O-N-E mobile application. Designed by O-N-E Site LLC, the app is available for both Android and iOS devices and provides

quick access to information about upcoming events, merchants participating in the Shop Voorhees Program, and Township news. As information is updated it is processed as an alert by the mobile device. In addition, registered users can access two service portals. The first, Voorhees Saves Lives, is a free Uber-based designated driver service for inebriated residents requiring transportation from local restaurants and bars (see attached flyer). The second, Notify, allows residents to electronically report non-emergency incidents or concerns directly to the Township. Users simply enter a brief description of the problem, its location, and send. Digital reports are immediately received by the Department of Public Works then tracked as to status and disposition on a twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week basis (see attached screenshots).

PDF: [VOORHEES TOWNSHIP HOME PAGE](#)

PDF: [VOORHEES O-N-E APP PAGE](#)

PDF: [VOORHEES O-N-E APP STORE PREVIEW](#)

PDF: [STAY ALIVE FLYER](#)

PDF: [ONLINE MUNICIPAL PUBLIC SERVICE SYSTEMS CHECKLIST](#)

PDF: [NOTIFY SCREENSHOTS](#)

Waste Management

Prescription Drug Safety & Disposal

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: Voorhees Township has maintained a Project Medicine Drop collection box in the lobby of the municipality's Police Department since late 2013. The department is located at 1180 White Horse Rd., Voorhees, NJ, 08043. Normal collection hours are 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday, with after hours drop off available by appointment. In 2018, 538 lbs of unused prescription medications were collected and destroyed as part of the Medicine Drop program. An additional 107 lbs was processed in the first quarter of 2019. Disposal was performed in a manner consistent with U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration guidelines. For security reasons, disposal specifics are not available to the public. Additional information concerning this action including detailed collection results, website postings, and educational materials can be found in the attached Extended Narrative and related documents.

PDF: [PDSD EXTENDED NARRATIVE](#)

PDF: [VTPD WEBSITE INFORMATION](#)

PDF: [PMD PHARMACY FLYER](#)

PDF: [RX DROP CONTAINER](#)

PDF: [PMD TRIFOLD PAMPHLET](#)

Community Paper Shredding Day

5 Points

Program Summary: On May 11, 2019, Voorhees Township partnered with the Voorhees Swim Club and Sustainable Voorhees to hold a Community Paper Shredding Event. Sustainable

Voorhees provided labor for the event; helping to unload and carry materials to be shredded as well as maintaining a steady flow of vehicles into and out of the collection site. The cost of the shredding itself was donated by The Tab Group Inc. Paper materials collected were placed in lockable bins and securely transported to the Tab facility for shredding in their HIPAA, Gramm-Leach-Bliley, and EPA compliant industrial shredder. A flyer designed to promote the event was posted on the websites and Facebook pages of the Township, the Swim Club, and Sustainable Voorhees (see attached flyer). In addition, the event was promoted through the Township's Nixle information system and local newspaper (Voorhees Sun). An estimated 75 residents participated in the event at which fourteen bins holding 2.8 tons of paper were collected.

PDF: [SOCIAL MEDIA SHREDDING EVENT](#)

PDF: [PICTURES SHREDDING EVENT](#)

PDF: [CPSE FLYER](#)

PDF: [VOORHEES SUN SHREDDING EVENT](#)

Construction & Demolition Waste Recycling

5 Points

Program Summary: Resolution 77-16, establishing a municipal Construction Waste Policy, was adopted by Voorhees Township Committee on March 14, 2016. This policy remains in effect, as stated in the Construction and Demolition Waste Recycling Policy Memo.

NOTE: ACTION TO BE COMPLETED. The proposed C&D Recycling Ordinance and Debris Management Report are in the process of being passed by Township Committee.

PDF: [RESOLUTION 77-16](#)

WORD: [PROPOSED C&D RECYCLING ORDINANCE](#)

WORD: [PROPOSED C&D DEBRIS MANAGEMENT REPORT](#)

PDF: [CONSTRUCTION WASTE RECYCLING MEMO](#)

Grass - Cut It and Leave It Program

5 Points

Program Summary: In 2015, Sustainable Voorhees partnered with the Township to develop a "Cut It and Leave It" grass recycling program to reduce the volume of municipal yard waste collected as well as decrease lawn irrigation and fertilization. To promote these efforts, Sustainable Voorhees developed a Cut It and Leave It brochure outlining the benefits of leaving grass clippings on the lawn, how to properly grass recycle, and why thatch should not be a problem. In addition to its availability on a municipal website, this informational flyer is distributed at Town Hall, the Department of Public Works, and Sustainable Voorhees outreach events. This program remains currently active (see attached Memo).

PDF: [CUT IT AND LEAVE IT BROCHURE SCREENSHOT](#)

PDF: [CUT IT AND LEAVE IT BROCHURE](#)

PDF: [CUT IT AND LEAVE IT MEMO](#)