

*A Better Tomorrow,  
One Community at a Time*

**SUSTAINABLE  
JERSEY®**

• **CERTIFIED** •

[www.sustainablejersey.com](http://www.sustainablejersey.com)

# ACTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

To become Sustainable Jersey Certified, municipalities must complete and document actions from this list.



Mandatory **Green Team**  
**2 out of 15 PRIORITY ACTIONS\***  
 150 points across 6 of 17 categories.



Mandatory **Green Team**  
**3 out of 15 PRIORITY ACTIONS\***  
 350 points across 8 of 17 categories.



⚡❤️💧 **Certified communities can earn stars for high levels of achievement in Energy, Health and Water. The icons identify which actions can contribute towards earning a star.**

Action	Stars	Points
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## ARTS & CREATIVE CULTURE

Establish a Creative Team		10
Creative Assets Inventory		10
Creative Placemaking Plan		10
Municipal Commitments to Support Arts & Creative Culture	❤️	5 to 25
Utilizing Your Creative Assets		10 to 30

## BROWNFIELDS

Brownfields Inventory & Prioritization	❤️	10 to 15
Brownfields Reuse Planning	❤️	5 to 15
Brownfields Marketing		10
Brownfields Assessment & Investigation	❤️	5 to 30

## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP & OUTREACH

<b>Green Team - MANDATORY</b>		10 to 15
Community Education & Outreach		5 to 20
Green Challenges		10
Green Fair		10 to 15

## DIVERSITY & EQUITY

<b>Community Equity &amp; Diversity Profile*</b>	❤️	10 to 15
<b>Diversity on Boards &amp; Commissions*</b>	❤️	10
Environmental Justice in Planning & Zoning	❤️	10
Lead Education & Outreach Programs	❤️	5 to 15

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Extreme Temperature Event Plan	❤️	10
Community Wildfire Protection Plans		10
Firewise Community		5 to 15
Ready Set GO! Fire Company		5 to 15
Wildfire Safety Council		10
Emergency Communications Planning	❤️	15
Vulnerable Populations Identification for Emergencies	❤️	10

## ENERGY

<b>Energy Efficiency for Municipal Facilities*</b>		5 to 50
<b>Energy Tracking &amp; Management*</b>		10 to 20
Buy Electricity from a Renewable Source		10
Municipal Onsite Solar System		5 to 45
Municipal Geothermal Energy System		10
Municipal Wind Energy System		10
Renewable Government Energy Aggregation	⚡	5 to 50
Commercial Energy Efficiency Outreach	⚡	10 to 20
Energy Assistance Outreach	⚡❤️	10 to 20
Residential Energy Efficiency Outreach	⚡❤️	10 to 20
Make Your Town Solar Friendly	⚡	15 to 30
Municipally Supported Community Solar	⚡	15 to 25
Solar Outreach	⚡	10 to 15
Wind Ordinance		10
<b>Fleet Inventory*</b>		10
Electric Vehicle Community Outreach	⚡	10 to 15
Meet Target for Green Fleets	❤️	30
Purchase Alternative Fuel Vehicles		5 to 15
Make Your Town Electric Vehicle Friendly	⚡❤️	15
Public Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure	⚡❤️	15

## FOOD

Farmland Preservation Plans	❤️	10
Community Food Pantry/Bank & Soup Kitchen	❤️	10 to 15
Community Gardens	❤️	10 to 20
Expanded Supplemental Food Programs	❤️	10 to 20
Promoting Safe Food Donation for Food Security	❤️	10
Buy Fresh By Local Programs	❤️	10
Farmers Markets	❤️	5 to 35

## GREEN DESIGN

Green Building Policy/Resolution		5
Green Building Education		5
Green Building Training		5
Green Development Checklist		10
New Construction		20
Upgrade/Retrofit-Light Pollution		10
Upgrade/Retrofit-Water Conservation		10

## HEALTH & WELLNESS

Anti-Idling Education & Enforcement Program	❤️	10
Best Practices for Local Boards of Health	❤️	5 to 10
Building Healthier Communities	❤️	5 to 25
Integrating Health Into Municipal Decision Making	❤️	10 to 25
Local Health Assessment & Action Plan	❤️	25 to 40
Safe Routes to School	❤️	10
Tobacco Free Community	❤️	5 to 25
Town-Wide Gas Leaf Blower Restrictions	❤️	5 to 25

To learn more visit [www.sustainablejersey.com](http://www.sustainablejersey.com)

Comprehensive Lead Strategy	♥	10 to 15
Healthy Homes Inspection & Training	♥	5 to 30
Lead & Housing Hazard Data-Sharing	♥	10
Lead Blood Screening Campaign	♥	5 to 20
Private Well Outreach & Testing	♥💧	10 to 25
Removing Lead in Drinking Water	♥💧	10 to 40

## INNOVATIVE PROJECTS

Innovative Community Projects (up to 3)	♥💧	10 to 30
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## LAND USE & TRANSPORTATION

<b>Comprehensive Climate Change-Related Hazard Vulnerability Assessment*</b>		25
<b>Sustainable Land Use Pledge*</b>		10
Bicycle & Pedestrian Audits		5 to 10
Bicycle and/or Pedestrian Improvement Projects	♥	10 to 35
Bicycle and/or Pedestrian Plan	♥	10
Community Design for All Ages	♥	5 to 25
Complete & Green Streets for All Policy	♥	10 to 30
Effective Parking Management		10
Enhanced Stormwater Management Control Ordinance	♥💧	5 to 35
Green Infrastructure Planning	♥💧	5 to 20
Green Infrastructure Implementation	♥💧	10 to 20
Heat Island Assessment & Mitigation Plan	♥	5 to 20
Smart Workplaces		5 to 10
Transit-Oriented Development Supportive Zoning	♥	20

## LOCAL ECONOMIES

<b>Green Business Recognition Program*</b>		10 to 20
Green Jobs/Economic Development	♥	10
Buy Local Campaign		10
Support Local Businesses		10

## NATURAL RESOURCES

<b>Municipal Water Story*</b>	💧	20 to 25
<b>Natural Resource Inventory*</b>	💧	20
<b>Water Conservation Ordinance*</b>	💧	20
Environmental Commission		10
Environmental Commission Site Plan Review		10
Open Space Plans	♥💧	10
Water Conservation Education Program	💧	10
Wildlife Interaction Plan		10
Winter Best Practices to Reduce Salt Impacts	💧	5 to 15
Easement Inventory & Outreach		10
Easement Inspections & Evaluations		15
Clustering Ordinance		10
Environmental Assessment Ordinance		10
Habitat Conservation Ordinance		10
Tree Protection Ordinance		10
Community Forestry Management Plan & NJUCF Accreditation	♥💧	10 to 20
Tree Hazard Inventory		10

Tree Maintenance Programs		10
Tree Planting Programs		10

## OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

Green Grounds & Maintenance Policy		5 to 15
Green Purchasing Policy		5 to 10
Green Cleaning Products & Motorized Cleaning Equipment		5 to 15
Green Maintenance Equipment & Materials		10
Recycled Copy Paper		5 to 15
Recycled Office & Restroom Paper Supplies		5 to 15
Recycled Recreation & Transportation Equipment & Materials		5 to 15

## PUBLIC INFORMATION & ENGAGEMENT

Municipal Communications Strategy		10
Improve Public Engagement in Municipal Government	♥	10 to 15
Improve Public Engagement in Planning & Zoning	♥	10 to 15
Online Municipal Public Service Systems	♥	10 to 15
Digitizing Public Information		10
Open Data Inventory & Management		10 to 15

## SUSTAINABILITY & CLIMATE PLANNING

<b>Municipal Carbon Footprint*</b>		10
<b>Community Energy Plan or Climate Action Plan*</b>		10 to 15
Community Asset Mapping		10
Community Sustainability Plan		10 to 25

## WASTE MANAGEMENT

<b>Prescription Drug Safety &amp; Disposal*</b>		10
<b>Recycling &amp; Waste Reduction Education &amp; Compliance*</b>		15 to 20
Litter Prevention Education & Compliance		15 to 20
Commercial & Institutional Recycling		10
Community Paper Shredding Day		5
Construction & Demolition Waste Recycling		5 to 15
Food Waste		10
Household Hazardous Waste	♥	5 to 15
Non-Mandated Materials Recycling		5 to 60
Recycling Depot		10
Backyard Composting Program		5
Grass - Cut It and Leave It Program		5
Materials Reuse Program		10
Pay-As-You-Throw Program		10
Waste Audit of Municipal Buildings or Schools		10

Please note: Sustainable Jersey actions and points may be subject to change. For the most recent official list of actions and points please visit the website at [www.sustainablejersey.com](http://www.sustainablejersey.com).



Sustainable Jersey is a FREE certification program for municipalities that want to go green, save money and take steps to sustain their quality of life over the long term. As New Jersey faces issues such as the climate crisis, a growing equity divide, and environmental pollution, municipalities want to be a part of the solution to these challenges.

## BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION

Sustainable Jersey certification is a prestigious designation for municipal governments in New Jersey.

Registered communities:

- Work towards completing program actions to address sustainability issues and become certified
- Receive guidance, tools and free training to enable progress
- Are eligible to apply for Sustainable Jersey grants
- Create a better future in New Jersey—one that secures economic, environmental and societal well-being



## GETTING STARTED

To start the program, a municipality adopts a resolution of participation and then registers on the website: [www.sustainablejersey.com](http://www.sustainablejersey.com).

## ABOUT SUSTAINABLE JERSEY

Sustainable Jersey is a nonprofit organization dedicated to assisting local governments and public schools pursue sustainability initiatives. Participation is voluntary. Certification actions are developed through an ongoing process of discussion and research that includes the participation of over 150 New Jersey leaders and experts from federal and state agencies, universities, nonprofit organizations and the business sector. Sustainable Jersey is a movement of people who are living today as if the future matters. For more information on Sustainable Jersey for Schools, the free certification program for New Jersey public schools, visit [www.sustainablejerseyschools.com](http://www.sustainablejerseyschools.com).

For more information or to join the Sustainable Jersey mailing list contact [info@sustainablejersey.com](mailto:info@sustainablejersey.com).

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## PROGRAM FUNDERS

Thank you to all of our program Underwriters & Sponsors

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