



Sustainable Jersey Certification Report

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

Oakland Boro was certified on October 10, 2014 with 155 points. Listed below is information regarding Oakland Boro's Sustainable Jersey efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

Contact Information

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Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Oakland Boro was approved for in 2014 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

Pledge Supporting NJ Wildlife Action Plan

10 Points

Program Summary: On August 10, 2011 the Borough Council adopted resolution 11-152 in support of the New Jersey Wildlife Action Plan. This action and the important reasons for it was communicated to staff by the Borough Administrator at the following Department Head Meeting. Most importantly, the Department of Public Works, Planning Office and Code Enforcement Department were briefed on the goals of the action plan.

Community Partnership & Outreach

Create Green Team

10 Points

 Bronze Required

Program Summary: The Borough of Oakland formally established its Green Team on May 27, 2009 when the Governing Body unanimously adopted resolution 09-132. New members were appointed by Mayor Schwager to the Green Team in January 2014 (see membership roster attached) and new resolution 14-30 attached. Members have met generally once per month to discuss sustainability matters and plan projects. Subcommittees have been established as needed to work on specific categories of actions, such as Community Gardens and a Health and an Anti-Idling Program. The Green Team reaches out to the Community to promote sustainable practices and to generate interest amongst the community including local businesses. These efforts include a presentation on May 6 at an Oakland Community of Commerce meeting. The meeting topic was "Build Your Business and Our Community" and the Presentation was entitled, "Going Green can save you Green!" (see attached word document. A table was also set up at a Commerce of Community networking event with Green Team and Environmental Commission information (see picture).

WORD: [COMMUNITY OF COMMERCE](#)

WORD: [GREEN TEAM MEMBERSHIP](#)

IMAGE: [COMMUNITY OF COMMERCE TABLE](#)

IMAGE: [RESOLUTION 14-30 PAGE 1](#)

IMAGE: [RESOLUTION 14-30 PAGE 2](#)

Community Education and Outreach

10 Points

Program Summary: Through the efforts of the Public Events Committee a town carnival is planned for 6/25-6/29. The Environmental Commission, Green Team and Shade Tree Commission will share a booth and provide information to residents: recycling, trees, cut it and leave it, 2014 Household Hazardous Waste Days, Natural Resource Inventory, etc. There will also be interactive demonstrations on composting and rain barrels. We will have a game themed for Cutting your Carbon Footprint too. An article was run in the town quarterly newsletter discussing recent environmental initiatives including the recent opening and dedication on May 10th of the new park, Stewart Woods in town. This included a guided nature walk. We partnered with surrounding towns to have a Green Film Festival and Green Video Awards. We have developed a program with the local Shop Rite of Oakland grocery store, the largest plastic bag retailer, and created an incentive program to enhance their own incentive program to help to reduce the use of plastic and paper bags and encourage the use of reusable bags. Some 1200 cards are sold to local families each year as a fundraiser for the BOE. This year, in order to qualify for the deal, purchasers must use their reusable bags for every purchase at the store (\$5.00 off \$100.00). This is the first step to introduce, at a large scale, reusable bags. Additionally, in cooperation with the Oakland Community of Commerce and

Shop Rite of Oakland, 400 reusable shopping bags will be given away, free of charge, to over 300 families in town courtesy of the Oakland Community of Commerce during the annual Oakland Recreation Baseball/Softball Parade/Event. The Environmental Commission will be delivering information in each of the bags to educate the young baseball and softball players on the benefits of using reusable shopping bags and promoting the no idling law that currently regulates vehicle idling in the Borough. We are also developing an educational effort to promote the installation of solar panels for existing and new construction. Amberjack Solar, a local manufacturer and installer in Oakland is teaming up with the Oakland Community of Commerce and the Environmental Commission to provide educational seminars

PDF: [GREEN VIDEO AWARDS](#)

PDF: [GREEN FILM FESTIVAL](#)

PDF: [COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND OUTREACH DOCUMENTATION](#)

Green Design

Green Building Policy/Resolution

5 Points

Program Summary: On April 13, 2011 the Governing Body passed resolution 11-91, adopting a Green Building Policy in accordance with Sustainable Jersey's requirements. A copy of the resolution is attached. The resolution is published on our website and can be accessed by going to: <http://www.oakland-nj.org/resolutions/Resolution%2011-91%20Adopt%20Green%20Building%20Policy.pdf>. The policy and goals were communicated to Department Heads by Richard Kunze, Borough Administrator, at a staff meeting held on April 14, 2011 and subsequently distributed to members of the Planning and Zoning Boards.

PDF: [GREEN BUILDING POLICY/RESOLUTION DOCUMENTATION](#)

Health & Wellness

Building Healthier Communities

20 Points

Program Summary: The Borough of Oakland is dedicated to all four strategy areas of the Mayors' Wellness Campaign. Mayor Linda H. Schwager signed the Mayors' Wellness Campaign Pledge of Participation. Moreover, in regard to the Youth in Action strategy area, each year Oakland hosts Safety Town, an early childhood education program designed to introduce children to various safety conditions. It is a two week program that teaches children safe behavior through their own participation in simulations. Oakland is committed to keeping its seniors in motion through the Oakland Senior Center that hosts aerobics classes each week for seniors which include Yoga, Fit 4 Life Aerobics, Stretch and Flex, and Tai Chi classes. In February, Mayor Schwager hosted a Heart

Health Awareness Campaign for employees. She gave out brochures and reading materials around town and at council meetings to teach people about heart health. She also collected donations and gave pins to those who donated. Finally, Oakland is dedicated to getting its community in motion through Oakland's Weight Loss Challenge which began April 5th at Oakland's gym, Do Well Be Well; it runs for 12 weeks and requires participants to weigh in a total of six times. The Oakland community was challenged to lose weight in a healthy way through exercising, establishing healthy eating habits, and attending lecture workshops. Other sponsors for this event included ShopRite, which hosted free nutritional services, seminars, and cooking demonstrations, GNC (General Nutrition Corporation), a store that provides vitamins and nutritional supplements, and Muscle Maker Grill, a restaurant serving healthy meals. This program is still in progress, but has been successful thus far. Overall, the Borough of Oakland is grateful for the Mayors' Wellness Campaign and hopes to make all efforts sustainable for the future.

PDF: [MAYORS' WELLNESS CAMPAIGN PLEDGE](#)

PDF: [OAKLAND WEIGHT LOSS CHALLENGE](#)

PDF: [OAKLAND'S SAFETY TOWN APPLICATION 2014](#)

PDF: [OAKLAND SENIOR CENTER - SENIORS IN MOTION](#)

PDF: [OAKLAND WEIGHT LOSS CHALLENGE 2](#)

Land Use & Transportation

Sustainable Land Use Pledge

10 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: The Oakland Green Team began discussing the Sustainable Land Use Pledge late in 2010. Mayor Szabo first researched the resolution and advised the Green Team on the benefits to be gained by adopting it. In particular, elements of the policy fit well with our status as a Highlands community and our current land use goals of open space preservation and downtown redevelopment. The Green Team subsequently decided to recommend adoption of the pledge to the full Governing Body. The Borough Council discussed the topic at a work session in March 2011 and the pledge was adopted on April 13, 2011 by passage of resolution 11-92. Richard Kunze, Borough Administrator, discussed the pledge with staff members on April 14, 2011 and copies were distributed to the Planning Board, Zoning Board and Environmental Commission. A copy of the resolution is attached.

PDF: [SUSTAINABLE LAND USE PLEDGE](#)

PDF: [CERTIFICATION OF DISTRIBUTION](#)

Local Economies

Buy Local Campaign

10 Points

Program Summary: In 2013, the Oakland Community of Commerce was created to encourage all residents to shop in Oakland and to help make Oakland more prosperous. The new executive board is available to the community in whatever capacity they are needed; to protect, to encourage, and to preserve our recreational life-style and our environment. MISSION STATEMENT "The Oakland Community of Commerce is organized to achieve the objectives of: Promoting business and community growth and development by: promoting economic programs designed to strengthen and expand the income potential of all business within the trade area; promoting programs of a civic, social and cultural nature which are designed to increase the functional and aesthetic values of the community; and discovering and correcting abuses which prevent the promoting of business expansion and community growth." As the newest business development and advocacy organization for businesses in Oakland, they are committed to creating a healthy and vibrant local economy while protecting and advancing the interest of our members and the community as a whole. They are dedicated to working with Oakland residents, businesses, educational and governmental partners to provide a positive business environment and improve the quality of life in Oakland. The group has grown to 76 members since its inception. A large variety of businesses are represented in the group. A Borough council liaison position is being developed to create a seamless transfer of information between the business community and the local government. We will develop a new Oakland specific logo that we will use to promote on the Borough Website and the Oakland Community of Commerce Website. We will incorporate the logo onto current window clings that promote membership in the Oakland Community of Commerce. We will continue to build the membership and continue to hold regular monthly meetings. PSA advertising will be posted on Oakland-NJ.org and aired Oakland TV for general viewing. The Oakland CofC also produced and displayed at all their retail locations the attached window clings to help to promote the shop local buy local campaign.

PDF: [BUY LOCAL CAMPAIGN DOCUMENTATION](#)

IMAGE: [BUY LOCAL CAMPAIGN DOCUMENTATION](#)

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IMAGE: [BUY LOCAL CAMPAIGN DOCUMENTATION](#)

PDF: [BUY LOCAL CAMPAIGN DOCUMENTATION](#)

Natural Resources

Environmental Commission



10 Points

Program Summary: Ordinance 2-7.3 created the Oakland Environmental Commission. This Commission is funded by the Borough's annual budget. In addition the Commission seeks grants from the state and other sources to fund specific projects. The Environmental Commission was created to: Help protect and develop our natural resources Encourage the acquisition of open space and green acres Raise the consciousness and to educate all residents in daily conservation practices Protect water resource management, to study and make recommendations concerning air pollution control, solid waste management, noise control, soil and landscape protection, environmental appearance to protect the flora and fauna of Oakland. The Environmental Commission provides valuable input to the Oakland Planning Board and Oakland Zoning Board of Adjustment regarding commercial and residential developments. A copy of the Commissions' 2013 annual report and a copy of the relevant code section are attached.

PDF: [BOROUGH CODE SECTION](#)

Natural Resource Inventory

20 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: In July 2012, the Environmental Commission hired Kratzer Environmental Services to complete the Oakland Natural Resource Inventory (NRI). The NRI is being funded by the 2012 Sustainable Land Use Planning Grant being awarded to the Borough by the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (AJEC) and the Oakland Municipal Budget. We were awarded \$8000 for the matching grant. Since July 2012 we have met with Ms. Kratzer several times to provide data for the report. We held a public comment period last summer and are in the final review stages of the Natural Resource Inventory. A link to the draft report is provided here: http://www.oakland-nj.org/PDF/Oakland_NRI_FinalDraft_April_2014.pdf At the Environmental Commission meeting on August 5, 2014 an update schedule for the NRI was approved (see meeting minutes). The NRI was presented to the Planning Board on 9/11/14 for inclusion in the Master Plan (see email).

PDF: [NRI UPDATE](#)

PDF: [NRI ADOPTION](#)

PDF: [NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY DOCUMENTATION](#)

Tree Protection Ordinance

10 Points

Program Summary: For several years Oakland has actively maintained a strong Tree Protection Ordinance. Oakland's Shade Tree Commission carries out the ongoing review process, inspections and enforcement duties of this ordinance. They actively visit residential properties to review their applications for tree trimming and tree removal. The STC also monitors tree trimming, removal and planting requirements of the town along streets, schools, other public properties and on commercial properties.

WORD: [TREE PROTECTION CODE](#)

Waste Management

Backyard Composting Program

5 Points

Program Summary: We have used various literature and promotional pieces from ANJEC and BCUA. At the three day town carnival, the Green Team and Environmental Commission displayed information for composting (information attached). In addition, we will be sponsoring a composting

workshop on Saturday September 20th at Riverside Nursery, and they will be selling (at cost for Oakland residents) composting bins for folks to use.

PDF: [BACKYARD COMPOSTING BROCHURE PROVIDED TO RESIDENTS](#)

IMAGE: [CARNIVAL PIC 2014](#)

Grass - Cut It and Leave It Program

5 Points

Program Summary: The Oakland Department Public Works is continuing its “Cut It & Leave It” program for all municipal properties. The Director of Oakland’s DPW educated town and Board of Education staff on the environmental and cost savings benefits of this program. Copies of the “Keep Oakland Greener and Cleaner Cut It & Leave It” brochure were made available at Oakland Town Hall for residents to pick-up, distributed at town sports events, available in the Oakland Public Library, distributed to the town’s retail landscaping and nurseries and distributed to the public at civic events (including our town carnival Green Team Booth). PSA advertising will be posted on Oakland-NJ.org and aired Oakland TV for general viewing. We will be adding pictures from the carnival showing our display of literature for our residents.

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