

WEST WINDSOR GREEN TEAM TO SEEK SUSTAINABLE JERSEY RE-CERTIFICATION

West Windsor Township Council announces the re-affirmed tasking of the West Windsor Green Team to prepare and submit an application for re-certification under the Sustainable Jersey Program in 2025.

<https://www.sustainablejersey.com/>

West Windsor Township has been Silver Certified under the Sustainable Jersey Program since its inception in 2009. Under the guidance of Sustainable Jersey, the West Windsor Township Green Team, led by the West Windsor Environmental Commission, has created, coordinated, guided, and documented numerous and broad actions, implemented by a wide range of volunteers, municipal staff, and elected officials making West Windsor a more sustainable community.

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.

WEST WINDSOR IS GREEN & SILVER

West Windsor has specifically been recognized for actions and initiatives under the following issues and categories:

- + Green Fair
- + Buy Local Campaign
- + Diversity on Boards & Commissions
- + Energy Efficient Municipal Facilities
- + Electric from Renewable Source
- + On-Site Solar
- + Farm Preservation
- + Community Gardens
- + Farm Market
- + Green Building
- + Anti-Idling Education & Enforcement
- + Smoke Free Places

+ Sustainable Land Use + Rain Gardens + Native Gardens + Natural Resource Inventory
+ Transit Oriented Development + Environmental Commission + Open Space Plans
+ Cluster Zoning + Tree Protection + Community Forestry Management + Tree Planting
+ Rx Drug Safety + Paper Shredding + Recycling + Reusable Bags

Some specific highlights of sustainable community actions are:

- Creation of several rain and pollinator gardens in community parks
- Promotion of EV vehicles at various events including Community Day
- Implementation of many energy efficiency measures at Municipal buildings
- Clustering of apartment housing near the Train Station
- Establishment of an award-winning Farmers Market
- Creation of a highly successful Community Garden
- Decades of sustainable land use planning including an elaborate Greenbelt, extensive Farmland and Open Space preservation, and Green Building

Many of these actions have been the subject of posts on the Township web page demonstrating details and promoting participation and prompting others to follow with similar actions.

West Windsor is very proud of these initiatives, conceived and implemented by many, many resident volunteers over the last 50 years, that most importantly make West Windsor a more healthy and environmentally friendly place to live and raise a family.

WEST WINDSOR'S FUTURE

The Green Team welcomes members of the community to join them in the planned future endeavors such as:

- Expansion of EV charging and green fleets
- Promotion of more sustainable land use and green building
- Examination of air/noise pollution associated with maintenance equipment
- Encouraging renewable energy production
- Expanded recycling initiatives
- Promotion of sustainable garden and landscape design
- Nurturing the next generation with passion for more sustainable choices

The Environmental Commission and Green Team meet every 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm. Meetings are currently held via the Zoom platform. Agenda and instructions can be found at <https://westwindsornj.org/ec-agendas-minutes>

More about Sustainable Jersey:

Vision

To achieve a sustainable New Jersey, one community at a time.

Mission

Empower New Jersey communities to build a better world for future generations with the tools, training and financial incentives necessary to pursue critical sustainability initiatives.

Overview

Sustainable Jersey is a network and movement of municipalities, schools and school districts working collectively to bring about a sustainable New Jersey. Acting with state agencies, non-profit organizations, foundations, academia and industry, Sustainable Jersey researches best practices for what communities could and should do to contribute to a sustainable future. The program culminates in a prestigious certification award to municipalities and schools that have documented meeting a set of rigorous standards. Since the launch of the Sustainable Jersey municipal program in 2009 and the Sustainable Jersey for Schools program in 2013, participants have successfully implemented and documented over 9,000 discrete actions from our list of best practices. Over five-million dollars in grants have been awarded to municipalities, schools and school districts in the program. Sustainable Jersey provides tools, training and financial incentives to support communities as they pursue sustainability programs. By supporting efforts to reduce waste, cut greenhouse gas emissions, educate for sustainability, stimulate local economies, increase resiliency and progress toward an equitable society, Sustainable Jersey is empowering communities to build a better world for future generations.

WEST WINDSOR
TOWNSHIP



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OPEN SPACE

