



Sustainable Jersey Community Certification Report

This is the Sustainable Jersey Certification Report of Franklin Lakes Boro (Bergen), a Sustainable Jersey bronze certified applicant.

Franklin Lakes Boro (Bergen) was certified on October 10, 2016 with 180 points. Listed below is information regarding Franklin Lakes Boro (Bergen)'s Sustainable Jersey efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable Jersey contact for Franklin Lakes Boro (Bergen) is:

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Sustainability Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Franklin Lakes Boro (Bergen) was approved for in 2016 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

5 Points

Program Summary:

Franklin Lakes is a community that is fond of companion animals. There are more than 1200 dogs and 200 plus cats registered and licensed in the Borough. In addition, our residents are active participants in providing help for the local shelter in Oakland, the Ramapo Bergen Animal Refuge. It is a no-kill shelter and its volunteer personnel are at events in Franklin Lakes to make the community aware of shelter animals. They were a very visible exhibit at the Green Fair held in Franklin Lakes with the cooperation of the Wyckoff, Oakland and Franklin Lakes Environmental Commissions on March 7, 2015. In order to learn more about the condition of companion animals in the Borough a group of volunteers working with the Environmental Commission visited the shelter, several vets both in and out of town and held lengthy discussions with Tyco Animal Control Services which works for Franklin Lakes when problems arise. From these discussions we were able to document the need for education of residents if we are to make the lives of companion animals better and cut down on the number of animals euthanized or neglected. We also see the need to help residents who can no longer afford to feed or keep their animals and to eliminate the hasty and thoughtless relinquishment of companion animals. I have uploaded a copy of the Pledge and also the email that was sent to all municipal officials: the Planning Board, Parks and Recreation, Health Department, Police Department, Emergency Management, Borough Administrator and Tyco Animal Control Services.

-  [Companion Animal Management Pledge Documentation](#)
-  [Companion Animal Management Pledge Documentation](#)
-  [Companion Animal Management Pledge Resolution](#)
-  [Companion Animal Management Pledge Statement](#)
-  [Resolution Distribution Email](#)

Community Partnership & Outreach

Create Green Team

10 Points

Bronze Mandatory

Program Summary:

The Franklin Lakes Green Team - Updated 5/15/15 with new resolution. The Mayor and Council of Franklin Lakes designated the Environmental Commission to be the Borough's official Green Team on July 7th 2010. The resolution was renewed in May, 2015. The current Green Team consists of a range of talents in the community. There is a pastor of a Baptist church, a former recycling coordinator, an environmental studies graduate, an energy specialist and a retiree looking to help the environment. With their help, the borough earned its bronze level certification and the accomplishments of the Environmental Commission could not have been completed without their help. We continue to advertise in the local paper for more volunteers. The ad is a good way to inform residents about the work the Green Team does and how they might participate. To help complete this project, the Green Team will be working with the local high schools as they try to become certified with Sustainable Jersey.

 [Resolution 143-10](#)

 [Franklin Lakes Green Team.](#)

 [Create Green Team Documentation](#)

 [Create Green Team Documentation](#)

 [Create Green Team Letter of Support](#)

Green Fairs

Hold a Green Fair

10 Points

Program Summary:

In the fall of 2014, the chairs of the Franklin Lakes, Oakland and Wyckoff Environmental Commissions met to discuss possible collaborative actions. In addition to our second annual film festival, we decided to hold a Green Fair in the spring. The Green Fair was held on Saturday, March 7, 2015 in the cafeteria of the Ramapo High School in Franklin Lakes from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. There were 28 exhibitors dealing with sustainability issues, animals in the environment and health and wellness. Approximately 250 residents from the three towns visited the fair and there was genuine interest and approval. The supporting documents will indicate the exhibitors and views of the media following the event. An intern for Franklin Lakes made a video of the fair early in the day. The link to the video is <http://video.com/124819335>.

 [Hold a Green Fair Documentation](#)

 1.13.15.GREENFAIR.Participants.docx

 Hold a Green Fair Documentation

 Hold a Green Fair Documentation

 Hold a Green Fair Documentation

 Hold a Green Fair Documentation

Municipal Energy Audits and Upgrades

Inventory and Upgrade All Buildings

50 Points

Bronze Priority

Silver Priority

Program Summary:

The Borough of Franklin Lakes performed a series of energy audits on all 7 municipal buildings in the borough. Steve Winters Associates conducted the energy audits on behalf of the borough, providing energy efficiency assessments and recommending energy conservation measures to the borough; the energy audits were approved by TRC Energy Services of NJ. Energy audits for all 7 municipal buildings are attached. In 2010, 2011 and 2012, the Borough implemented the recommendations in the energy audits with projects through the Direct Install Program, with contractor, Lime Energy, doing the work. Copies of Scope of Work for each of these projects is attached.

 Zip file of all 7 energy audit

 Direct Install Scope of Work 2010

 Direct Install Scope of Work 2011

 Direct Install Scope of Work 2012

Health & Wellness

Building Healthier Communities

20 Points

Program Summary:

I have only added recent programs to this narrative and uploaded the new documentation; 2015-2016. BUILDING HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES OPENING NARRATIVE FRANKLIN LAKES PROFILE Franklin Lakes is a suburban community in northwest Bergen County with a population of 10,590. Unlike many other communities in New Jersey, its population has changed only slightly in the past ten years. In 2000 its population was 10,422, making an increase of only 1%. (Figures are from the U. S. Census Bureau.) There are, however, changes in the make-up of its population. Whereas the percent of school age children has

remained steady, 23% in 2000 and 25% in 2010, the number of residents between the ages of 25 and 54 has declined from 55.2% to 50.3%. Also of note is the increase in the number of seniors in the community. Over the ten year period the percent of seniors has grown from 11.2% to 16.4%. In terms of health and wellness, the growing number of seniors presents new issues and requires new initiatives for the town. A HISTORY OF HEALTH AND FITNESS In 2002 the Mayor and Council of Franklin Lakes retained the services of Maser Consulting P.A. to assist the Borough in identifying the town's needs and developing a plan for future development. The report entitled "Municipal Open Space and Recreation Plan" states in its introductory remarks that in Franklin Lakes "recreation is an important component of Borough resident's lifestyles. Significantly, the participation rate in the youth sports program sponsored by the Franklin Lakes Recreation Commission is approximately 50% of the total youth population." This attitude, however, is not limited to young people. Further on the report states that "recreation is also an important outlet for the adult population of Franklin Lakes." The 2002 report to the Mayor and Council substantiates the fact that Franklin Lakes has for many years been a community that values physical activity for the well-being of all its citizens. It has continued to expand sports activities for the town's youth, communicated with the borough's schools regarding healthy life styles and has added more outdoor recreation opportunities. For example, the addition of walking paths in the Green Acres property adjacent to the municipal complex and the nearly three miles of hiking trails in the new Franklin Lakes Nature Preserve which circle a scenic body of water (formerly known as the Haledon Reservoir and purchased from Haledon in 2006) have greatly increased the ability of all the town's residents to exercise regularly in safe and beautiful environments. The Preserve also provides opportunities for fishing, birding and picnicking. ROLE OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT The town has a very active Parks and Recreation Department whose responsibility has expanded with the borough's participation in first, the Mayor's Wellness Campaign and now the Sustainable Jersey Building Healthier Communities action. Formerly, the "rec department" organized and managed all the borough's sports programs, but it has recently added a range of activities for adults and seniors. YOUTH SPORTS PROGRAM In terms of the town's sports programs for youth, for example, in 2011, there were 2007 young people between the ages of 5 – 19 registered to play baseball, softball, boys and girls lacrosse, boys and girls roller hockey, boys and girls soccer, boys football, girls cheerleading, and boys and girls basketball. This is approximately 90% of the young people in that age category. Even though some youngsters may participate in more than one sport, it is a clear indicator that the recreation program is highly successful and encourages young people to be active as well as competitive. (Document #1) MAYORS WELLNESS CAMPAIGN In 2009, the former mayor of Franklin Lakes, Maura DeNicola inaugurated the Mayors Wellness Campaign, an initiative of the New Jersey League of Municipalities. Its purpose, as stated in the Mayor's information brochure was "to promote health and wellness throughout New Jersey's cities and towns." (THE PROCLAMATION TO WHICH MAYOR DeNICOLA RESPONDED CAN BE FOUND AT THE MAYORSWELLNESSCAMPAIGN.ORG WEBSITE.) The Wellness Campaign has continued

under Mayor Frank Bivona, but its relevance to the town expanded even further this year with a proclamation by the Mayor and Council stating its firm support to developing a comprehensive program to foster healthy and active living by all its citizens. ((Document #2) The initial campaign sponsored a health fair, several bike-a-thons, 5K runs, several walks, an annual Splash and Dash for ages 7 to 16, which is co-sponsored by the nearby Wyckoff Family YMCA. (DOCUMENT #2) Last spring Mayor Bivona requested that the Franklin Lakes Recreation and Community Center develop new programs that would attract seniors as well as youth and adults. The Center now offers activities such as yoga, zumba, personal training, high intensity as well as low impact workouts. They are offered in the Community Center which has been upgraded and refurbished and appears as comfortable as a private sports facility, without the high cost. A pamphlet containing an explanation and calendar of the Center's activities is attached. (Document #2) MAYORS WELLNESS CAMPAIGN OUTREACH SENIORS In order to increase the scope of the Mayors Wellness Campaign, the director of the Recreation and Community Center has reached out to various groups in the community. One of these groups is the town's seniors. Although they are well-organized with their own club and have numerous travel entertainment programs throughout the year, it is the goal of the Mayors campaign to encourage them to become more physically active by taking part in the Community Center's programs. BOROUGH EMEMPLOYEEESS During the past year programs targeted especially for borough employees have been offered through the Department of Parks and Recreation. There is now an annual softball game pitting Franklin Lakes employees against Wyckoff's employees in the spirit of competition and to promote health and wellness. The Center has also sponsored a Day of Wellness for its employees. The program was an overview of how diet, exercise and stress management play a role in overall good health and suggested ways in which employees could improve their health by making better choices. (Document #3) FRANKLIN LAKES' SCHOOLS AND BUILDING HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES The three elementary schools, middle school and regional high school in Franklin Lakes are also involved in developing healthy living styles. The elementary schools are all part of a program sponsored by Shop Rite that gives the students the opportunity to shop for a family of four for a week with a budget of \$100. It teaches them about the quality of food they buy, its nutritional value and how to provide wholesome meals for a family. One of the elementary schools, the Woodside Avenue School, has contracted with Whole Foods to deliver lunch to its students as a way of getting them to eat healthier and more nutritious foods. One of Woodside's special programs, Food Fight (Document #3) offers advice to parents regarding proper and healthful eating. All of the schools have comprehensive sports programs. The Franklin Avenue Middle School offers soccer, volleyball, track, basketball, cheerleading, golf and an environmental camp once a year. The same is true of Ramapo Regional High School. The principal is an avid runner and biker who encourages the Ramapo students to bike to school rather than drive or take the bus. SUMMARY The effort to build a healthier community predated the borough's registration to achieve certification under the Sustainable Jersey program. Although it has always been a physically active town, see 2002 Open Space and Recreation Plan, it has sought, since then,

to improve and increase its recreation facilities and, since 2010, has undertaken with the Mayor's Wellness Campaign to encourage healthy living for its youth, adults, seniors and employees. The documentation that accompanies this narrative testifies to the actions to achieve that goal. 2015 UPDATE On February 23, 2015, Franklin Lakes was named "A New Jersey Healthy Town" by the Mayors Wellness Campaign for Mayor Bivona's continuing dedication to keeping the borough's residents active and healthy. It is one of only two town's in the state to be awarded that designation. In 2016, the Mayors Wellness Campaign continues to offer new programs, "Creative Insight Journey" and eight week course to transform one's way of living. It is adopted from a Stanford Program. Also, the campaign is working with the new Franklin Lakes Recreation Center which it share with the local YMCA in Wyckoff, NJ.

 [Building Healthier Communities Documentation](#)

 [Building Healthier Communities Documentation](#)

 [Mayors Wellness Campaign Pledge, 2009](#)

 [Building Healthier Communities Documentation](#)

Smoke-Free and Tobacco-Free Public Places

10 Points

Program Summary:

Franklin Lakes has had a no smoking restriction on all recreational fields owned by the Borough since 2007. In 2014, through information from GASP and conversations between them and the Franklin Lakes Mayor and Council, the Borough officials were persuaded that the Borough should become smoke free, both in its buildings and on in all parks and recreational areas. The Ordinance was adopted on December 16, 2014. Signs were posted on and in all municipal buildings and at recreational facilities. A letter was sent to all departments notifying Borough employees of the no smoking ordinance and advising them of cessation programs should any of them smoke. I have uploaded all of the documentation referring to the Ordinance, the Borough code, and a copy of the no smoking sign that has been posted in all public buildings and at recreational areas.

 [Smoke-Free and Tobacco-Free Public Places Documentation](#)

 [Smoke-Free and Tobacco-Free Public Places Documentation](#)

 [Smoke-Free and Tobacco-Free Public Places Documentation](#)

 [Smoke-Free and Tobacco-Free Public Places Documentation](#)

Land Use & Transportation

Sustainable Land Use Pledge

10 Points

Bronze Priority

Silver Priority

Program Summary:

On its meeting of August 14, 2012, the Franklin Lakes Environmental Commission passed a resolution affirming its support of the Sustainable Land Use Pledge that it drafted and passed it on to the Mayor and Council. On August 21, 2012, the Mayor and Council of Franklin Lakes passed the pledge which is a part of the borough's effort to achieve sustainability. The borough is currently following the requirement of the Sustainable Land Use Pledge that was affirmed in the fall of 2012 and was part of our first certification package. I have enclosed a memo from the Borough Administrator dated September 6, 2016 asking the applicable boards, commissions and administrators to honor the pledge which seeks to encourage and expand the Borough's commitment to building sustainability.

-  [Sustainable Land Use Pledge](#)
-  [2012 Minutes of Planning Board meeting](#)
-  [Sustainable Land Use Pledge Resolution](#)
-  [Sustainable Land Use Pledge Documentation](#)
-  [Resolution Distribution Email](#)

Natural Resources

Environmental Commission 10 Points

Program Summary:

The Franklin Lakes Environmental Commission was reactivated by former Mayor Maura DeNicola in 2008. Thomas Lambrix was appointed the commission's chair. Under his leadership the commission engaged in a number of wide-ranging activities. The commission secured a grant to help pay for an updated Environmental Resource Inventory. It was completed in 2009 and was adopted as the official guide for the Borough's future development. The charts displaying aspects of the Borough were publicly displayed at the library. The commission participated in the annual Town Fair. Hand-outs on environment issues were distributed as well as reusable bags and there was a contest for a large rain barrel. The commission led discussions with the Franklin Lakes DPW which resulted in the establishment of the Borough's first Recycling Depot. Members of the commission also assisted the Mayor and Council in negotiating a new Garbage and Recycling contract which will increase recycling and reduce the cost of waste removal. The commission's outreach committee formed relationships with the local schools and participated in the high school's Green Week and its Celebration Day with a "tree adoption" and gifts for students offering outstanding environmental contributions. The commission has been appointed the official

Green Team to lead the work of becoming certified under the Sustainable Jersey program. It secured a \$1000 Wal-Mart grant to publicize the program and conducted an online survey to determine how much residents knew about Sustainable Jersey and how many participated in current environmental initiatives. It is continuing to enlarge the Green Team and has employed an Intern to assist in the generation and transmission of data. There is a 2015 list of accomplishments by the commission that is part of our renewed documentation as well as a list of our present activities.

 [Environmental Commission Estab](#)

 [Environmental Commission Documentation](#)

 [Environmental Commission Documentation](#)

 [Environmental Commission Annual Accomplishment Report 2016](#)

 [Environmental Commission Documentation](#)

Natural Resource Inventory

20 Points

Bronze Priority

Silver Priority

Program Summary:

Princeton Hydro LLC would like to acknowledge the efforts and assistance towards the valuable Input and funding of this Environmental Resource Inventory report This plan was prepared with The assistance of a Smart Growth Planning Grant obtained in 2008 from the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions by the Boroughs Environmental Commission The grant And report were also supported by the Boroughs Mayor and Council Planning Board and Shade Tree Commission Members of the Boroughs Environmental Commission fully participated in The report by providing community tours and highlighting important local features providing Access to local planning documents policies and ordinances as well as editing the narrative of This report Mr. Thomas G. Lambrix the Chairman of the Environmental Commission also deserves special recognition for his critical leadership and oversight in completing this project A copy of the ERI was sent to Medea Villere at the Municipal Land Use Center, TCNJ on July 29, 2011. It was received on Tuesday, August 2, 2011. The ERI can be obtained at the following link http://www.franklinlakes.org/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC={94A1E993-5CB3-4B45-B017-0308E07CD3CB} The Franklin Lakes Mayor and Council have passed a binding resolution to update the ERI in 2019, ten years from its completion. A copy of that resolution is attached.

 [Franklin Lakes Master Plan](#)

 [Planning Board Resolution](#)

 [Natural Resource Inventory Documentation](#)

Tree & Woodlands Management

Community Forestry Plan and Tree Cover Goal

20 Points

Program Summary:

The Franklin Lakes Shade Tree Commission was established in 1996 primarily to manage the removal of diseased elm trees. Since then its focus has shifted to the protection of existing tree resources as development of new and bigger housing and the accompanying removal of trees has increased. An ordinance was passed to prevent the indiscriminate, unnecessary and excessive removal of healthy trees that also allows the borough to regulate and track tree removal. The Community Forest Management Plan, approved on July 8, 2008 is consistent with the borough's Master Plan and Municipal Recreation and Open Space Plan. The Annual Accomplishment Report Form up to middle 2014 has been uploaded into this document. In addition, The Shade Tree Commission verified and accepted the 2009 figure from the USDA's Forest Service for the percentage of tree cover in the borough. Statement also in accompanying files.

 [Community Forestry Plan and Tree Cover Goal Documentation](#)

 [Community Forestry Plan and Tree Cover Goal Documentation](#)

 [Community Forestry Plan and Tree Cover Goal Documentation](#)

 [Community Forestry Plan and Tree Cover Goal Documentation](#)

Recycling

Community Paper Shredding Day

5 Points

Program Summary:

The Borough of Franklin Lakes has committed to improving its recycling rates through education, specifically e-blasts, newsletters, film nights, exhibitions and Shred Day Events. The last of these have been held for several years and are organized by the Recycling Coordinator and the DPW in conjunction with All Shred and Waste Management. The event is held at the Borough's DPW where the forecourt is large enough for the shredding truck to park and residents to drive through (Document 'Shred Day picture'). The Shred truck parks on the left hand side of the forecourt and residents drive past the truck, circle round park in next to the truck. Once there, DPW & Waste Management staff check there is no unwanted material with the paper, unload the paper into bins and the bins are lifted up and emptied into the truck where they are shredded. The truck contains a camera to observe the shredding if residents require that. On the day of the event there are signs directing participants to the location of the truck. Shred day is promoted solely through the Town's website, weekly e-

blasts and the police sign in the few days before the event takes place. An example of the e-blast is shown in Document 'Shred Day E-blast'. The Borough also publicizes the county shredding events on the website reminding residents when and where they are taking place. During 2015 the day of week and time of day was varied to see if there was any impact on tonnage. Friday morning appears to be the most successful and at the end of 2015 the Borough took a decision to hold two events per year on a Friday morning, one in April and one in October, to produce the optimal tonnage. Document 'Shred Day' Table shows the tonnage.

 [Shred Day Picture](#)

 [Shred Day E-blast](#)

 [Shred Day Table](#)

Recycling Depot

10 Points

Program Summary:

In 2014 the Borough of Franklin Lakes started renovating its Recycling Center (drop off area). At that time the facility consisted of two small dumpsters for commingled items, one for paper and cardboard, a trailer for electronic items and a walled in area for metal. Access was 8 am to 3 pm Monday to Friday. The dumpsters frequently overflowed leaving the area unsightly to local residents. See pictures from original submission. The new depot was moved to a different location within the DPW where there was more space. In August 2014 the area was leveled, the area fenced on three sides and existing dumpsters moved to the new area. A ramp installed to make it easier to access the dumpsters. (Picture Recycling Center August 2014) In September 2015, concrete pads were put down and two 35 yard dumpsters installed in the recycling depot, one for cardboard/paper and one for commingled. The existing container for electronics is still in use and there is an open space for metal and appliances. (Picture Recycling Center Cardboard, Metal and Electronic) In 2016 three bins for the collection of textiles and one for books were added. (Picture Recycling Center Commingled and Textile). The Recycling center has been open to the public continually during these renovations. It isn't gated so there is 24 hour access (Picture Recycling Center Directions). The borough asks residents or local businesses who use the center to be considerate and only leave recycling material during reasonable hours. The center located at 500 DeKorte Drive behind the police department easily accessible from the street where the police station and borough hall are located. Residents are informed about the center through the borough website and annual newsletter (See Resident Recycling Center information attachment). When anything new is happening residents are told of this through the weekly e-blast.

 [Recycling Center Directions](#)

 [Resident Recycling Center Information](#)

-  Recycling Center August 2014
-  Recycling Center Commingled and Textile
-  Recycling Center Cardboard, Metal & Electronic
-  List of Materials selected