

## **Community Visioning**

### **Sustainable Gloucester Township Mission Statement**

Sustainable Gloucester Township (SGT) aims to improve the conditions of our only home, Earth, not just for ourselves but for future generations to come. This can only be attained by beginning the laborious journey to sustainability with one step forward. By organizing and encouraging community-based task forces such as the Green Team and educating our residents on important matters regarding sustainability, we strive to assist our community in achieving a more sustainable environment.

SGT is a neighborhood-oriented group, and due to this, we understand that it will take the effort of every single person to reach this crucial goal. Therefore, it is essential to launch and cherish relationships with all those involved in the South Jersey area: governments, businesses, schools, faith establishments, and all other community groups and individuals. However, grassroots cannot solely complete the marathon to sustainability. For change of the large scale variety to become realized, governments and corporations must provide leadership and pave the way. To do this, input from educated and passionate communities must be applied to these entities. For a brighter tomorrow, we must begin today by drawing open the shades and letting in the sun.

### **Vision Focus**

- Green Team
  - Creation of “Teen Greens,” “Baby Greens,” and “Little Greens” youth groups
  - Expansion of neighborhood groups
- Environmental improvements
  - Completion of bike path/nature walk
- Community health
  - Mayor's Wellness Campaign
    - Nature walk
    - Flag football events
    - Future events
- Waste reduction
  - Garbage
    - Shared services agreements for trash collection and trash disposal with Cherry Hill and Merchantville
  - Recycling
    - More plastics recycled
      - #1, 2, 4, 5, 7
    - Electronics recycling
    - Brick and construction debris, light iron
    - Anti-freeze, motor oil, batteries

- Appliances
  - Vegetative waste: brush, stumps, grass, leaves
  - Single-stream recycling program
    - New, larger bins
    - No sort recycling
    - Incentive program
- Composting and mulch
- CitizensAccess
  - Paperless agenda
  - Live, online council meetings
  - E-gov access
- Tax bills now only sent once a year
- Website
  - Green tips for an environmentally friendly lifestyle
  - Green challenge four step pledge
  - About Sustainable Gloucester Township & the Sustainable Jersey certification program
  - Resources
  - Local business directory
  - RFP/RFQ/Bids posted online
  - Current and past budgets online
  - Tax information viewable and payable online
- Food production
  - Community garden
  - Blackwood Farmer's Market
    - “Green” book reading series for children
- Public Works initiatives
  - Electronics recycling
  - Minimize plastic bags – use paper bags for leaf pick-up
  - Natural gas vehicles
  - Green fleet inventory
  - Public works yard – recycling depot
- Community safety
  - More crosswalks
  - Police bike patrol

- Bike safety rodeos
- Helmet-wearing incentives for children
- Police Department's electric low speed vehicle
- E85 fuel police vehicle
- Quality of Life Committee
- Community outreach
  - Green Fair
    - Distributed CFL bulbs
    - Collected shoes for Soles 4 Souls
    - Composting demonstration
    - Rain barrel demonstration
    - Outdoor event
    - Promoted farmer's market, community garden and recycling
    - Green vendor spotlight – Techniques Salon & Spa
    - Earth bag distribution
  - Website
- Businesses
  - Green Business Recognition Program
  - Business Breakfast
  - Economic Development Corporation
  - Façade improvement program
  - Local business directory
  - RFP/RFQ/Bids posted online
  - Eliminated performance bonds
- Energy
  - Energy Master Plan
    - Solar panel arrays
      - Municipal building
        - Informative kiosk
      - K-8 and High School buildings
      - Solar farm
    - Purchase of energy from third party (aggregation)
    - Energy audit
    - LED roadway improvements

- Traffic lights
  - Crossing signals
- Water conservation
  - Rain barrel workshops
  - Watershed education