

# Shore News Today



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## Middle receives certification

Wednesday, 11 April 2012 11:27  
Staff Reports

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CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE – Middle Township recently received the Sustainable Jersey certification.

Sustainable Jersey is a nonprofit organization that supports community efforts to reduce waste, cut greenhouse gas emissions and improve environmental equity.

The township is one of 108 towns of 358 registered municipalities that have attained certification. To become Sustainable Jersey bronze certified, Middle Township had to document that it completed about 15 sustainable actions.

Mayor Dan Lockwood said he appreciates the value to the program.

"I'm especially supportive of those actions that save money for the township, and also enhance the environment and quality of life for the residents," he said in a statement.

In April 2009, Middle Township Committee passed a resolution supporting participation in the Sustainable Jersey program the newly re-established

The Environmental Commission took the lead on the certification, with the help from a grant from the Clean Air-Cool Planet Fund for technical assistance.

"By coming together as a community to care for the environment, we can also save money and preserve our natural resources that we all appreciate and enjoy," said Committeewoman Susan DeLanzo.

Many of the sustainable actions outlined in the program are activities that the township has done for a several years, according to a press release. Those include holding paper-shredding events, completing an energy audit of township hall and adopting wind and solar regulations.

"The fact that Middle Township sought and received bronze certification from Sustainable Jersey shows that the township understands a healthy environment is essential for the well being of the economy, society and every person. The environment is the foundation upon which the economy and society are built," said Steve Atzert, chairman of the Middle Township Environmental Commission.

Planned initiatives include energy efficiency, developing an open space and recreation plan, green grounds and maintenance policy, water conservation education, mayor's wellness campaign and continued environmental education.

The Green Team is hosting a meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 25, at township hall.

That team consists of the Middle Township Environmental Commission members. Township hall is at 33 Mechanic St. in Cape May Court House.

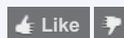
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