# Sustainable Jersey for Schools Certification Report

This is the Sustainable Jersey for Schools Certification Report of Alder Avenue Middle School (Atlantic), a Sustainable Jersey for Schools bronze certified applicant.

Alder Avenue Middle School (Atlantic) was certified on August 15, 2016 with 275 points. Listed below is information regarding Alder Avenue Middle School (Atlantic)'s Sustainable Jersey for Schools efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

## Contact Information

**The designated Sustainable Jersey for Schools contact for Alder Avenue Middle School (Atlantic) is:**

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## Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Alder Avenue Middle School (Atlantic) 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.

### Board Leadership & Planning

#### Professional Development for Sustainability

**20 Points**

Bronze Priority  Silver Priority  School  District

**Program Summary:** Thirteen Egg Harbor Township School District Green Team members

attended the Sustainable Practices Workshop on Friday, March 11, at NJ School Boards Association located at 413 West State Street in Trenton. The training ran from 9 am - 3:30 pm, with a brief lunch break. Those in attendance were: John Jones, 6th grade science teacher at Alder Avenue Middle School; Melissa Newhall, H. Russell Swift Elementary School teacher; Karen Ebert, Slaybaugh Elementary School teacher; Jim House, Egg Harbor Township High School Environmental Science teacher; Matthew Baldwin, Davenport Primary School Physical Education teacher; Shawn Braue, Energy Education coordinator; Bruce Singer, Vice Principal, Fernwood Avenue Middle School; Elizabeth Derbyshire, Slaybaugh Primary School Nurse; Christa Delaney, Egg Harbor Township High School Science teacher; Sharon House, Slaybaugh Elementary School teacher; Christine Crawford, Davenport Elementary School teacher; Rachel Prakash, Davenport Primary School teacher; and Ellen Gregory, Director of Development. The training included presentations by various sustainability professionals and a line-by-line review of the Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification process. Green Team members also attended the Alliance for New Jersey Environmental Education (ANJEE) Conference held in January 2016, to help facilitate the advancement of environmental education practices in the Egg Harbor Township School District. This was the first ANJEE conference for many of our attendees, but Egg Harbor Township School District has sent a number of staff members to this conference over the past five years. John Jones, our Alder Avenue Middle School representative has twice presented at the ANJEE conference, and was honored in 2014 with the Outstanding Environmental Educator Award, Formal Sector ANJEE award. The conference ran from 9 am - 5:15 pm, with a one-hour lunch break. The schedule of events attended by EHT staff members that day are uploaded below. Two-hour in-house Sustainability Professional Development has been provided to Green Team members on October 9, 2015 and February 12, 2016, to allow for collaboration on the grant-funded 'No Foam Cafeteria Zone' program and Breakfast After the Bell programs for the schools. Green Team members who attended this professional development training included: Ellen Gregory, Matthew Baldwin, Karen Ebert, Christa Delaney, Jim House, Keri Lucia, Gavin MacNeil (Alder Avenue Middle School teacher), Colin McClain (Dr. Joyanne D. Miller Elementary School teacher), Melissa Newhall, Laurie Lee Walters, Rachel Prakash, Trevor Zompa (Fernwood Avenue Middle School teacher), Christine Cusack, Tom Beck (Food Service Director), John Jones, Bruce Singer, John Mangino (Director of Facilities), and Donna Efstatos. The training was lead by team leader John Jones, who has secured more than $150,000 in service learning/environmental education grants for Alder Avenue Middle School, to help the attendees implement high-quality service learning techniques into their curriculum and to work together on the Sustainable Jersey application using a projector. YSA Innovative School Grant learned techniques were used by Jones to show teachers how they can align service-learning activities with other innovative educational strategies including deeper learning, project-based learning, experiential learning, citizen science/maker movement, global education, environmental education, and civic-minded learning. Our Superintendent of Schools served as a presenter at the March 16th Farm To School Summit held in East Windsor, where he described Egg Harbor Township School District's efforts to promote locally grown foods in the cafeteria, the importance of implementing school gardens into the curriculum where students grow and consume their own fresh fruits and vegetables, and shared a slideshow highlighting all of the school gardens in the district. Approximately 40% of teachers have participated in Project Wet, Project Learning Tree and Catawba Project professional development training on a volunteer basis. Additionally, the H.E.A.T. model has been introduced to staff members through professional development. H.E.A.T. is an acronym for Higher order of thinking; Engaged learning, Authentic connections, and Technology use. OnCourse ‘train-the-trainer’ lesson planning training has begun. ETTC representatives also conduct voluntary after-school workshops and as-needed training during teacher In-Service days and during Professional Learning Community (PLC) times. Alder Avenue Middle School has been an annual reipient of Make A Splash Project Wet Water Festival funding since 2010, hosting Water Festivals that have served 300+ elementary school children each year in an interactive fun learning environment that celebrates Egg Harbor Township's historical dependence on the Great Egg Harbor River, and the importance of preserving and protecting it. This year's Project Wet Water Festival, which provides hands-on professional development for teachers who are attending with their classes, will be held June 1, 2016 at Alder Avenue Middle School. Three school district administrators attended the Pediatric/Adult Asthma Coalition of New Jersey training program including the NJ PEOSH IAQ Standard training and the IAQ training. To qualify for the PACNJ Asthma Friendly School Award,

each school is required to establish an Indoor Air Quality Team. The updated NJ PEOSH Indoor Air Quality Standard N.J.A.C. 12:100-13 requires public employers to select and train a Designated Person. PACNJ requires that a school nurse and the IAQ designated person (or someone responsible for indoor air quality in a private school) from the school/district attend this training in order to qualify for the PACNJ award. The Egg Harbor Township School District recognizes the need for quality professional development for district leaders, school staff, and board members to facilitate the effective transition to sustainability planning and practices for schools and the community and to turnkey that information through classroom instruction and community outreach. Professional development training, representing a cross section of school board members, district, and school-level staff, has been held on sustainability topics which has provided a general understanding of the benefits of sustainable schools.

**PDF:** **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR SUSTAINABILITY DOCUMENTATION**

**PDF:** **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR SUSTAINABILITY DOCUMENTATION**

**POWERPOINT:** **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR SUSTAINABILITY DOCUMENTATION**

**PDF:** **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR SUSTAINABILITY DOCUMENTATION**

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**PDF:** **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR SUSTAINABILITY DOCUMENTATION**

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### District Sustainability Policy

**10 Points**

District

**Program Summary:** Adopted by the Board of Education on April 12, 2016, the Egg Harbor Township School District has established an Environmentally Sustainable Practices Policy #8429 that confirms Egg Harbor Township School District Board of Education's cognizance of the critical importance of environmental sustainability in today's changing world, and its commitment to fostering the principles of environmental, economic, and social stewardship through the incorporation of sustainable practices throughout the school district. Policy #8429, like all Board of Education Policies are posted on the district's website and easily accessible by the general public and district employees. Board minutes reflecting the adoption of Policy #8429 are shared publicly with district staff members via email, and are posted on the district website. All Board of Education meeting activities are covered by the local media and meeting dates and times are advertised in accordance with the law. Additionally, a press release promoting our efforts to reduce Styrofoam used in the cafeteria included a paragraph about the Green Team's efforts to introduce a new sustainability policy. That press release received coverage from the Press of Atlantic City and the Current Newspaper.

**PDF:** **DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY POLICY DOCUMENTATION**

**PDF:** **DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY POLICY DOCUMENTATION**

**PDF:** **DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY POLICY DOCUMENTATION**

**PDF:** **DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY POLICY DOCUMENTATION**

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### School District Foundation

**10 Points**

School District

**Program Summary:** The Egg Harbor Township School District has two education foundations, each with different funding goals, but with the best interests of the school district in mind. The

Egg Harbor Township Education Foundation, Inc. was established in 1984. Recognizing the need to increase academic quality, the Foundation supplements existing programs and services to schools in the Egg Harbor Township School District. Each year, the Foundation awards staff mini-grants for innovate educational projects which benefit students at every grade level. $155,000 worth of mini-grants have been awarded thus far. The Education Foundation was active in the past year and provided funds to support district and school sustainability programs or projects. Back up documentation shows a breakdown of the mini-grants that have been awarded in the past twelve months. Established in December 2005 and celebrating 10 years of support to Egg Harbor Township Schools, the Community Partnership is a 501(c)(3) IRS-recognized public charity that has raised more than $350,000 for academic enhancement, instructional technology, capital projects and extra-curricular activities for the largest school district in Atlantic County. Special event fundraising initiatives have provided energy-efficient commercial kitchen equipment for the Egg Harbor Township High School Field House/Concession Stand, an LED Marquee Sign to promote student successes and district-wide programs; a Steinway Grand Piano in support of the district's Performing Arts programs, three high-definition digital cameras and upgrades for the high school's media program. The non-profit has also funded the installation of two new playgrounds at C.J. Davenport and E.H. Slaybaugh Elementary Schools which are in line with our sustainability efforts to provide healthy environments for our students; AP Tests for low-income students; start-up boys and girls lacrosse team equipment & uniforms; former professional basketball player Chris Herren and his anti-drug presentation for high school and middle school students; EHTHS Alumni website hosting; Renaissance Program character education funding and end-of-year student academic awards at two middle schools; a 'Leg-Up' therapeutic horseback riding program for special needs students; district-wide, life-saving Automatic External Defibrillators (AED's); and Teacher of the Year county luncheon for EHT School District's awardees. Most recently, the Community Partnership has focused on providing much-needed technology to district schools for State-mandated PARCC testing. Two new computer labs were donated by the Community Partnership to Miller Elementary and Alder Avenue Middle Schools, and iPads were donated to Miller for their students with autism. A new initiative this year is their launch of an online 'Deposit-A-Gift' quest to raise funds for a playground for Swift Elementary School: http://playground4russellswiftschool.mydagsite.com/. The Community Partnership is also a member of the New Jersey Education Foundation Partnership (NJEFP), a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing public education in New Jersey by growing and strengthening local education foundations through education, training, collaboration and advocacy. Nearly 100% of all outreach and fundraising efforts of the Foundation are done electronically and paperless to reduce waste. Foundation Board members are drawn from the community and serve on a volunteer basis.

**WORD:** SCHOOL DISTRICT FOUNDATION DOCUMENTATION

## Climate Mitigation & Renewable Energy

### School Carbon Footprint

**10 Points**

Bronze Priority School District

**Program Summary:** Previously we submitted for each school individually. After verifying with SJFS personnel we are planning to submit the same information that awarded us all 10 points for last year for each individual school through the district application to reduce the workload of putting this information in 9 different locations. We can put all the information in one location for all 8 Schools on the District Applications. This is appreciated as the workload is reduced greatly.

As discussed we will include Data up to Feb 2016. Thank you! Egg Harbor Township School District began a baseline of energy utilities (Natural Gas and Electric, and greenhouse gas emission) before dates that you request so for the purposes of this Application we will submit from Mar 2011 to Feb of the following year. Utility bills with cost and usage data has been tracked since that date. ECAP reports of all our data which has been kept since then is submitted in the individual school applications. Our data is noted in total MMBTU's/Metric Tons of CO2E for the Mar-Feb 2011-2012, 2012-2013, 2013-2014 & 2014-2015 & 2015-2016 on GHG 02 PT reports. On GHG 01 reports which include both direct and indirect emissions for gas and electric broken into CO2 Carbon dioxide, CH4 methane and N20 nitrous oxide on a combo report for Electrical and Natural Gas for Mar-Feb 2011-2012, 2012-2013, 2013-2014 & 2014-2015 & 2015-2016. Carbon footprint data tracking includes Transportation Department bus fleets. Eagle will not appear on Natural Gas GHG 01 Reports as they do not use it. Presently you need to see just one individual schools application to get the format of data we will enter for Final submission. Questions please call District Energy Manager Shawn Braue. Thanks for the help and consideration. Was unable to get spreadsheet to work for Transportation numbers but the numbers are supplied in a file.

**WORD:** **SCHOOL CARBON FOOTPRINT DOCUMENTATION- GHG 01 EMISSIONS DISTRICT SCHOOLS NATURAL GAS**

**WORD:** **SCHOOL CARBON FOOTPRINT DOCUMENTATION- GHG 01 EMISSIONS DISTRICT SCHOOLS ELECTRICITY**

**WORD:** **SCHOOL CARBON FOOTPRINT DOCUMENTATION-GHG 01 DISTRICT TOTALS**

**WORD:** **SCHOOL CARBON FOOTPRINT DOCUMENTATION- CAP 15 A ENERGY REDUCTION IMPACT ON CO2**

**WORD:** **SCHOOL CARBON FOOTPRINT DOCUMENTATION-GHG 02 CO2 EMISSIONS**

**WORD:** **SCHOOL CARBON FOOTPRINT DOCUMENTATION-VEHICLE NUMBERS**

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### Onsite Renewable Generation System - Solar

**10 Points**

School

**Program Summary:** The EHT School District Solar program came out of the 2006 & 2009 audit. We have been tracking generation since as early as Jan & Nov 2010, & July 2011. For most of our smaller schools which have large fields and large in comparison to the usage those generation percentages are in the 40-50%. Our larger schools have a lesser percentage but generate a good amount of solar. Alder Avenue School generated about over 15% of annual usage in 2014. For most EHT schools the documentation includes an ENERNOC kW graph showing solar generation picks up 100% of the school's kWh needs. ENEROC kW graphs are school specific. We also have generation worksheets for each school. For some schools I have included a digital flyer called solar Structural Engineering for Solar featuring all our schools except Davenport Primary which is new to the solar here. All Schools should show an aerial photo of the school's roof with the solar panels on them. We have included a file on the kiosk page and all our schools have a kiosk. (As previously mentioned three are presently under repair.) In the case of the newer Solar projects I have data on the spreadsheet called Certification with kW and kWhs especially if the school is a new solar school, (Davenport Primary) or the additional solar generation on our other schools (Swift and Slaybaugh Elementary). All other schools you can refer to the Generation Worksheets to see the actual solar generation numbers in kWh. Some schools may show 0 in generation. See comments for generation totals. All of this information is added to our Energy Program "Energy Cap" software and calculated into our Energy Program numbers and ENERGY STAR portfolio. Alder is an ENERGY STAR Certified School 2 years in a row (2013 and 2014).

**PDF:** **ONSITE RENEWABLE GENERATION SYSTEM - SOLAR DOCUMENTATION**

**PDF:** **ONSITE RENEWABLE GENERATION SYSTEM - SOLAR DOCUMENTATION- SOLAR GENERATION WORKSHEETS**

**POWERPOINT:** **ONSITE RENEWABLE GENERATION SYSTEM - SOLAR DOCUMENTATION- GENERATION SITES**

**WORD:** **ONSITE RENEWABLE GENERATION SYSTEM - SOLAR DOCUMENTATION-ENERNOC VIEW SOLAR PICKUP**

**IMAGE:** **ALDER SOLAR SYSTEM PHOTO- SOLAR DOCUMENTATION**

**EXCEL:** **SOLAR DATE AND GENERATION DOCUMENTATION EHT - SOLAR DOCUMENTATION**

## Diversity & Equity

### Accessible Communications

**10 Points**

School District

**Program Summary:** The Egg Harbor Township School District is located in heart of Atlantic County, less than 8 miles from Atlantic City. With approximately 7,600 Pre-K - 12 students, Egg Harbor Township (EHT) is the largest school district in the County. Egg Harbor Township School District is rich in ethnicity. 49% of students are white, 22% are Hispanic, 13% are Asian, 11% are Black, 4% are two or more races, and 1% are American Indian. Approximately 50% of students receive free and reduced meals, and about 15% are special education students. More than 40% of casino industry employees call EHT their home. The economy in the shore and off-shore areas in particular has been ravaged by the collapse of the casino industry, as well as systemic pressure from a struggling macro-economy. Over the past decade, the EHT School District has been forced to absorb an exorbitant number of new students due to our designation as a "Regional Growth Area" by the Pinelands Commission and have been consistently underfunded to address the needs of those students. The measurable gaps in performance between our high-achieving and low-achieving subgroups has worsened to the point that the Regional Achievement Center and the NJDOE have designated two of our schools as a RAC Focus School. Atlantic County consistently ranks at the bottom of the annual New Jersey Kids Count rankings, which measures progress in improving the lives of children in 13 critical areas. Approximately 27% of Atlantic County’s 62,000 children were living in poverty in 2013, the most recent statistics available, according to Kids Count. The County in 2014 had the second highest family unemployment rate at 11.3 percent, compared to 5.7 percent statewide. This year’s New Jersey State Kids Count report included a special section on race, which found that black, Hispanic and mixed race children, on average, struggle more than children of other races. These children are more likely to live in poverty, experience negative health outcomes, be involved in the state child protection and juvenile justice systems and struggle in school. The EHT School District has gone from 27% free and reduced lunch to approximately 50% in the last 10 years due to the diminishing economy. More than 15% of district students have special needs. To address the needs of students with disabilities and at-risk students, the district has reduced staffing in general education settings to meet the growing special education population and at-risk needs of our students. The cost for required paraprofessionals, mandated special education teachers to meet compliance, and a large increase in the autistic population has required district leaders to do more with less. Recent casino closings have severely impacted the Egg Harbor Township residents with over 1,066 losing their jobs from four recent casino closings. Since 2005 the unemployment rate in Atlantic County, New Jersey has ranged from 4.7% in May 2005 to 15.3% in January 2013. The current unemployment rate for Atlantic County is 8.8% as of June 2015 but that is only attributed to the seasonal impact of the hospitality industry which will change dramatically once summer ends.The unemployment rate in Atlantic County was 10.8% in September 2014 while the unemployment rate in New Jersey was 6.5% and the national rate was 5.9%. In the fall of 2014, the Egg Harbor Township School District reached out to the community for help in developing a new five-year Strategic Plan, facilitated by Consultant Charles Ivory of the Educational Information and Resource Center in Mullica Hill, Gloucester County. The participants first brainstormed individually about wish list items or changes they felt should be implemented within the district before collaborating in small groups to draft their top three to five suggestions to present to the entire group. We

recognize that family and community engagement is a critical piece of the puzzle in improving student outcomes. By improving accessible communications, we have begun to see strengthened relationships with families and the community. Together we are working to expand our children's chances to reach achievement goals. We currently maintain solid partnerships with higher education institutions, Family Service Association, the Township of Egg Harbor, Egg Harbor Township Police, and other non-profit organizations that are dedicated to our children and their families and committed to the idea of ensuring access to services they need to provide a healthy, stable and positive home and school learning environment for the children of Egg Harbor Township. Our staff works hard to incorporate 21st century learning with technology and increased rigor into their daily lessons. Our very diverse student population is exposed to varying levels of learning in every classroom setting, with our focus on providing instruction specific to each child's needs and style of learning. Students receive a comprehensive education in Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education, Health Education, Music, Art, Library and Media skills, and Computer Technology. Additionally we continue to implement district wide lessons in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) to help our students gain more skills for more relevant use in our world today. Students also receive extra opportunities for additional educational experiences through our district's Mini-Grant program, our community service projects for Recycling and our Coat Drive, our Physical Education classes' participation in Atlantic Care's Healthy Schools program, and our annual 2nd & 3rd grade STEM Fair. Our reading specialist sponsors several programs for our students which include our annual "Read & Play Night", "Read Across America", and the "Accelerated Reader " program which challenge our students to read over 50,000 books each year! Our counselors provide programs such as our "Student Ambassadors" so current students may serve as welcome guides for new students, and our new Character Education program, which includes a building wide initiative to deal with life skills such as respect, citizenship, friendship, kindness, cooperation, responsibility, and anti-bullying/anti-violence skills. Counselors, our I&RS Team (Intervention & Referral Services) and our Child Study Team are spearheading team building initiatives throughout the year to help foster relations and pride in our schools. We also provide morning programs and summer programs to support our Title 1 students and English Language Learners. Parent and community support continue to play an important role in our school's success. Our Parents Club continues to provide assistance with character education assemblies, educational school trips, holiday food drives, family events, field days, parties, and our awards programs. Through their dedication and hard work, we have established an excellent relationship between our school and our community. Our students benefit directly from every activity planned by our Parents Club. In addition to our Parents Club, other community organizations work closely with us to provide much needed holiday food and clothing to our families in need. Partnerships have been developed with Atlantic Cape Community College, Richard Stockton College and Rowan University for teacher preparation. The Egg Harbor School Township School District has implemented Professional Learning Communities throughout all schools. Through this the District is able to support the development of productive team structures for teachers and administration to analyze data results to drive instruction. 6. The District plan is communicated to staff through school-based staff meetings and then posted on the District's common network server; which is accessible to all staff members. Furthermore, the plan is communicated to the community via www.eht.k12.nj.us. Increasing our district WIFI availability with the addition of access points. We increased WIFI coverage from 90% in 2012-2013 to 100% coverage for the 2013-2014 school year. This is all in support of the District's Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) and other wireless implementations. The community/district broadcast channel, EHT TV2 has continued to provide excellent programming during the 2013-2014 school year due to the addition of a Part Time TV studio assistant. These productions range from various High School sports and performing arts productions, informative sessions such as the "Superintendent's Round Table," and Township productions such as the "Mayor's Forum" and the filming of Township public meetings. The ITS Department has continued to upgrade equipment beyond the generous donation of new High Definition equipment provided by the local education foundation during the 2012-2013 school year. The department utilizes the Telvue Video Message Board System and digital video servers for video programming. This also includes PEGTV video archives for distribution on the internet, live internet distribution of the EHTTV2 video channels and other emergency management features through the new interface. During the 2013-2014 school year, EHT TV2 responded quickly to emergency snow closures,

Township notifications and information, as well as school events and programming. Title I parent coordinators were hired at Davenport Elementary School (2) and Miller Elementary School (2) to educate Title I parents regarding the reading and math curricula in each grade level. They also instruct parents in helping children with homework and how to meaningfully participate in parent/teacher conferences. Over 500+ parents and children attended these trainings during 2013-2014. The EHT ESEA/NCLB website was improved to increase parent, teacher, student and administrator knowledge of ESEA/NCLB. The ELA and Math Pacing Guides for 2013-2014 were added and other academic websites were added to increase parent participation and knowledge of ESEA/NCLB as well as various resources. During 2013-2014, the ESEA-NCLB district website received a total of 5,498 hits! Test data analysts were hired through Title IIA funds. The purpose of these teacher data analysts was to identify student strengths and weaknesses on benchmark assessments to improve student test scores. During 2013-2014, 221 ELL students district-wide received ELL services consistent with Title III. We have completed the development of a four year “cycle” for coursework with ELL high school students. This is designed to help ELL students meet required HSPA standards as well as the revised WIDA standards which are assessed by the ACCESS testing, additional state testing for ELL students. Elementary school Title I parents were provided with workshops by parent coordinators (Davenport and Miller), to inform them of the Title I regulations, how to monitor their child’s performance, and how to work with their child to improve achievement. Parents were also instructed in how to use the EHT ESEA/NCLB website for educational opportunities for their children. The Egg Harbor Township Board of Education believes all reasonable means should be employed to keep the community served by the school district informed on matters of importance regarding district programs, finances, personnel, policies, and operations. As a result, Egg Harbor Township Schools has established an open line of accessible communication between its community members and the schools through various vehicles including: District Website Individual School Websites Individual Teacher Websites Additionally, the district utilizes: EHT-TV, a Governmental-Educational access information-sharing channel that serves as a Community Message Board. Based at Egg Harbor Township High School, and managed by Media students and staff members, EHT-TV is another means of the district's outreach efforts to offer accessible communications to parents and the community-at-large. Community Strategic Planning: The Egg Harbor Township School District also solicits public input through an online Strategic Planning Community Survey. The survey, which can be found on the district’s main website, www.eht.k12.nj.us, will be used to formulate a three-year strategic plan. Open Houses and Parent-Teacher Conferences: Open-Houses and Parent-Teacher Conferences are held to ensure there is an opportunity for two-way communication between home and school throughout the school year. Parents of students also have access to their student's records via Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Blackboard Connect mass notification system is used to send timely vital information to parents and the surrounding community. These communications systems, as well as forms sent home, are made available in both English and Spanish. The District maintains a Public Information Program which can include but is not limited to the publication and distribution of a district Newsletter, home/school correspondence in both English and Spanish, promotion of upcoming public Board of Education meetings, Public Budget Presentations and Interpretation Sessions, periodically- distributed School Calendars and notices of events, the Superintendent's Annual Report, and a Pupil Handbook, as well as the release of news and photographs of school activities for publication via Media Releases to the Township’s free weekly newspaper that is home-delivered to every resident.

**PDF: ACCESSIBLE COMMUNICATIONS DOCUMENTATION**

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### Breakfast After the Bell

20 Points

School District

**Program Summary:** In May 2014, Egg Harbor Township High School was awarded $4,000 through the NJ Department of Health's Improving School Health to Enhance Student Learning Block Grant program to implement a Breakfast After The Bell program. As a large high school with approximately 7,500 students, it's nearly impossible for students who are departing school buses and rushing to lockers and remote areas of the building for class, to have time to stop and eat in the cafeteria. Grant funds were used to establish two ‘Grab-and-Go' Breakfast Kiosks in far-reaching areas of the high school for students to access quickly and efficiently, and consume during their first period class. In addition to quelling the hunger of students, the new breakfast program has also improved the physical, mental, emotional, social health and well-being of students and their academic performance. On March 1, Davenport Primary School kicked off its Breakfast After The Bell program. Geared toward ease and efficiency, the grant-funded program will enable students to pick up a healthy bagged breakfast every morning as they exit the buses and enter the school, and take it to their classroom to eat during morning preparations. In the past, students went to their classroom first, then had to be walked down to the cafeteria, where they ate, then headed back to the classroom. This new pilot program has gotten great reviews by teachers who say they are able to accomplish so much more, with no disruption, while the kids are eating their breakfast. This has been a win-win situation so far!

**PDF: BREAKFAST AFTER THE BELL DOCUMENTATION**

**PDF: BREAKFAST AFTER THE BELL DOCUMENTATION**

## Energy Efficiency

### Energy Audit

20 Points

Bronze Priority Silver Priority School

**Program Summary:** Egg Harbor Township School District performed an original energy audit in 2006 by CAE Building Solutions & another in conjunction with Energy Education, Inc., in 2009. All Buildings measured basic square footage & utilities usage. The more recent was used for Energy Star portfolio build After these initial walk through audits, which was equivalent to an ASHRAE Level 1, prior to entering contract, more substantial audits were completed. Square footage, all HVAC, kitchen, boiler room, electrical, solar generation systems, lighting systems, and building structures. Data was entered by Cenergistic Engineering teams into Energy CAP data baseline tracking system ASHRAE Level 2. This information is protected proprietary information & cannot be made public per contract. We use this system still and it adjusts the information based on weather conditions, temperature etcetera called baseline adjustment to current conditions (BATCC). Audit information is also entered into the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) and ENERGY STAR portfolio for all our 10 Schools and 3 other buildings in the district. These also have been updated over the years with additions of Solar systems, new HVAC equipment, meters, trailers, & building additions. We continuously audit our buildings energy usage throughout the year with a dedicated District Energy Manager. We have this audits back as far as 2010 for all our buildings. We will include samples of your energy audit reports, Electric demand audits, billing audits, and system audits. Now in our fourth year of the Energy Conservation Program this March 2015 we are putting together a Sustainable Energy Transition Plan over this year for each school and building for when our behavioral, and time/usage of day conservation scheduling plateau’s.

This project will have our Green Teams, District Energy, and Facilities to put together our plans to perform another internal audit room by room. Alder School has had 129 audits this past year and 235 over the last 24 months.

**PDF:** RENOVATIONS AND MAINTENANCE PLANS EHT SD

**WORD:** ENERGY AUDIT DOCUMENTATION-ALDER AUDIT SAMPLING FROM 2015/16

**PDF:** ENERGY AUDIT DOCUMENTATION

**PDF:** ENERGY AUDIT DOCUMENTATION-ALDER UPDATES-ORIGINAL AUDIT

**WORD:** ENERGY AUDIT DOCUMENTATION-ES 2016

**EXCEL:** ENERGY AUDIT DOCUMENTATION-BUILDING AND AUDIT LOG INFORMATION

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### Building Efficiency Measures

**30 Points**

Bronze Priority  Silver Priority  School

**Program Summary:** Alder Middle School of the Energy Harbor Township School District, has been working on Energy Efficiency measures since 2010 as with the District Energy Policy that was adopted. We have adapted and contracted to work behavioral changes into our district and numerous other measures that help us in our quest to be more energy efficient in operations of our buildings, uses of our classrooms and facilities. We have adapted time of day schedules that have Unoccupied, Beginning of Day, Occupied, End of Day, and Shutdown periods that work in different levels of energy usage and usage avoidance. We also have different periods with Breaks, summer months, Shoulder months, and School in session where we adapt our operations to the session and weather to ensure our learning environment is Safe, Comfortable and Energy Saving. We will show we have ENERGY STAR recognition all Eight of our schools, Demonstrate usage of several systems that demonstrate our Energy Efficiency and Tracking such as, Demand Response Software, our ECAP Tracking System and Reports, Training, Managing and Auditing practices as they relate to this category. We will provide our reports from Baseline of 2011-2012 to 2015-2016 showing our percentage of Usage Avoidance and Cost Avoidance and other data. We will submit our District Energy Policy and practices, our Auditing and Tracking data, for each school, a CAP 18 showing Savings in energy and cost for electric, gas, and water plus overall. Alder has a Cost avoidance of 45.3% and Usage Avoidance at 48.6%. A big contributor to our District overall Cost and Usage Savings of 38.2% and 39.2% respectively. Alder has earned it's 3rd consecutive ENERGY STAR with a 85 out of 100 score. All Previous Documentation is still valid. A 2015-2016 Document is added.

**PDF:** EHT SD ENERGY PROGRAM HANDBOOK 2015-2016/BOE ENERGY POLICY 7460

**PDF:** ALDER ENERGY 2006 AUDIT

**PDF:** CAP 18PT TOTAL SAVINGS

**PDF:** BUILDING EFFICIENCY MEASURES SUPPORT PACKAGE TOD SCHEDULES, ETC

**PDF:** BUILDING EFFICIENCY MEASURES DOCUMENTATION-EAGLE CAP 18 RPT AND ENERGY STAR

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### Energy Tracking & Management

**20 Points**

School  District

**Program Summary:** Egg Harbor Township has been doing extensive Energy Tracking through numerous software editions and organizations. Our main software is ENERGY CAP or ECAP, a global leader in Energy Tracking software. We have been tracking data since 2009 and the entire

district since 2010. We also track our ENERNOC kW demand since late May 2014 when we originated the program. ENERGY STAR tracking also is in place for our ENERGY STAR Certifications through Cenergistic and ECAP. We have Bench marked through our Energy Companies Cenergistic and also ENERNOC, using ENERGY CAP (ECAP software) and ENERNOC's software. We also track our energy audits through Cenergistic and via spreadsheet. Solar is tracked via spreadsheet and entered into our Energy Usage and Savings data in ECAP via a solar conversion spreadsheet. See Solar for those spreadsheets uploads. Here at this school you see we have our kW Demand Tracking Spreadsheet, Our CAP 21 overall Energy Program Report Our CAP 13 is the Savings in a Period report which helps track usage , waste and possible problems with facilities. Also included is the CAP 7 Executive Summary with each school's Electric Gas Water for 2013, 2014 and to July 2015. Energy Usage is tracked monthly via utility bills which are entered into our ECAP software. This Software produces hundreds of reports depend whether you want an analysis report, billing, budgeting, Cost avoidance or Greenhouse gas reports to name a few. kW demand is tracked constantly during each week and monthly readings for each metered school is recorded via spreadsheet. Finally our CAP 19 19A and 19B is the Report used for our Board of Education Reports showing Cumulative Cost Savings, Cumulative Energy Savings, and Cumulative Energy Savings with a month to month graph. Alder's cost avoidance is 46.7% and Energy reduction 49.6% since 2013.

**PDF:** **ENERGY TRACKING & MANAGEMENT DOCUMENTATION-ALDER CAP 07 UPDATE 2016**

**PDF:** **ENERGY TRACKING & MANAGEMENT DOCUMENTATION-ALDER ECAP TRACKING**

**PDF:** **ENERGY TRACKING & MANAGEMENT DOCUMENTATION-ALDER ECAP 21 REPORT UPDATED**

**PDF:** **ENERGY TRACKING & MANAGEMENT DOCUMENTATION-ALDER CAP 13**

**EXCEL:** **ENERGY TRACKING & MANAGEMENT DOCUMENTATION-EHT ENERNOC DEMAND TRACKING SPREADSHEET**

**PDF:** **ENERGY TRACKING & MANAGEMENT DOCUMENTATION-2015-2016 UPDATE**

## Healthy School Environments

### Asthma Friendly Schools

**10 Points**

School

**Program Summary:** The Pediatric/Adult Asthma Coalition of New Jersey (PACNJ), a project of the American Lung Association in New Jersey (ALANJ), honored alder Avenue School with the “Asthma Friendly School Award”, applauding their effort and hard work in qualifying. This award was given in recognition of the school’s efforts to enhance the quality of education for students and staff that face the challenges of asthma. As part of this commitment to excellence, Alder Avenue School completed the Six Steps toward establishing an asthma friendly school environment and has become part of the nearly 15% of schools in New Jersey to qualify for the award. In response to the NJ law stating that students with asthma are permitted to carry their inhalers in school, and the requirement that schools staff be given annual in-service training on asthma management, PACNJ developed educational programs that build a partnership with students, staff, physicians, and families to work as a team to manage asthma in the school setting. Alder Avenue School completed the educational programs and took a proactive approach to implement a program on indoor air quality by establishing an Indoor Air Quality Team in their school, as well as signing the No Idling Pledge for school buses in effort to reduce pollutants that can trigger asthma attacks. Taking these steps can lead to a reduction in school absenteeism as well as a decrease in the number of asthma episodes.

**IMAGE:** **ASTHMA FRIENDLY SCHOOL DOCUMENTATION ALDER CERTIFICATE**

**POWERPOINT:** **ASTHMA FRIENDLY SCHOOL DOCUMENTATION**

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### Anti-Idling Education & Enforcement

**10 Points**

School  District

**Program Summary:** Simply stated, it's the law: "Control and Prohibition of Air Pollution From Diesel-Powered Motor Vehicles" N.J.A.C. 7:27-14, and "Control and Prohibition of Air Pollution From Gasoline-Fueled Motor Vehicles" N.J.A.C. 7:27-15 dictated how school districts are mandated to follow those laws. On November 10, 2004, Egg Harbor Township Schools signed the "No Idling Pledge". The "No Idling Pledge" meant that Egg Harbor Township Schools agreed to implement practices to eliminate or reduce idling. Egg Harbor Township School Bus drivers are given a Transportation Training Manual, which is updated annually with new information. A chapter on Idling Regulations and Idling Enforcement was added to the manual (see documentation), and sent to all bus drivers that enforces elimination of all idling even when loading and unloading students. “No Idling” signs were in the planning process for all drop-off and pick-up zones at each school, but due to budgetary constraints, those signs were not purchased. A new initiative has been presented to the new Facilities Director asking him to consider putting those signs in his future budget. As a precautionary, grant funds will also be sought for this project. The district Transportation Department Director holds training for all bus drivers on the importance of excessive bus idling and proper bus maintenance. In addition to the training, he communicates by memorandum and radio with bus drivers. The Egg Harbor Township School District Transportation Department was selected as a “Great Fleet” by the School Bus Fleet, magazine and was the only fleet from New Jersey selected. Anti-idling is included in driver education classes for students at Egg Harbor Township High School, and is promoted to parents via Facebook and through a Parent "No Idling" Pledge campaign.

**:** **ANTI-IDLING EDUCATION & ENFORCEMENT DOCUMENTATION**

**PDF:** **ANTI-IDLING EDUCATION & ENFORCEMENT DOCUMENTATION**

**PDF:** **EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS ANTI IDLING PLEDGE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR**

**PDF:** **ANTI-IDLING EDUCATION & ENFORCEMENT DOCUMENTATION**

**PDF:** **ANTI-IDLING EDUCATION & ENFORCEMENT DOCUMENTATION**

**PDF:** **ANTI-IDLING EDUCATION & ENFORCEMENT DOCUMENTATION**

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### Outdoor Air Quality Awareness Program

**10 Points**

School  District

**Program Summary:** Immediately following the first year of certification we looked into other areas that could be improved upon in our ongoing sustainability efforts. After attending a webinar sponsored by Sustainable Jersey For Schools, we acquired EPA Flag Sets for all EHT schools. We promoted the program within our schools to school principals and custodial staff members first, and then expanded that awareness to the entire school staff community via our school website and Facebook pages. We have loaded up the AIRNow.gov link and Widgets on our District homepage as well as individual schools' webpages. All ten district schools are flying the EPA flags. A poster contest is ongoing to further promote the program among the students. We are working with Wellness teams, nurses and physical education teachers to continuously educate students about what the flags mean. We have done all requested and will continue to promote program in

Community. We feel we have a model program in talking with EPA lead for NJ and NY and thanks for consideration.. A District Crisis Team is in place and prepared to confront circumstances in which the physical and/or mental well-being of pupils, staff and other individuals on school grounds is threatened or overtly impacted by an individual or group of individuals including bio-terrorism. Furthermore, a Toxic Hazard Preparedness (THP) Officer position has been created. The THP Officer identifies potential sources of toxic hazard and develops a plan that includes preventive and remedial measures to be followed in the event pupils and staff members are exposed to a toxic hazard. The plan will also include a system for the periodic evaluation of school environments, inside and out. The THP Officer can enlist the aid of county and municipal authorities to address any toxic hazard.

**IMAGE:** COLLAGE OF SCHOOLS WITH FLAGS FLYING HIGH

**PDF:** OUTDOOR AIR QUALITY AWARENESS PROGRAM DOCUMENTATION

**PDF:** EHT OAQ AWARENESS PROG DOCS-PRINCIPAL LETTERS

**WORD:** EHT OUTDOOR AIR QUALITY AWARENESS PROGRAM DOCUMENTATION WEBSITE, WIDGET, POSTERS, CONTEST, HANDOUTS, CLASSROOM PLACARDS ETC.

## Innovation Projects

### Innovative Project #2

**10 Points**

School District

**Program Summary:** Alder Ave Middle School's Catawba Project has always worked hard to educate the community about environmental issues they are learning about in the classroom. Last year, while learning about Egg Harbor Township's history and the lost of its natural environmental due to the increase in development, the students identified a need to help the community members get on touch with their natural surrounding. They felt that if they could help people learn more about the plants and animals in our area than they would work harder to protect them. What they came up with is the "Smart Trail project." http://www.eht.k12.nj.us/~smarttrail/index.html

**IMAGE:** WEBSITE

**IMAGE:** MAP FROM WEBSITE

**IMAGE:** STUDENTS TEACHING FROM VIDEO

**IMAGE:** PISTURE OF STUDENTS INSTALLING TRAIL MARKERS

**IMAGE:** SMART TRAIL SIGN

**WORD:** GREEN WORKS GRANT WITH PROJECT DISCRIPTION

## Student & Community Outreach

### Green Team

**10 Points**

Bronze Required School District

**Program Summary:** After months of planning by the district's Green Team members, Egg Harbor Township Schools officially kicked off its grant-funded 'No Foam Cafeteria Zone' pilot project in March, in an effort to bring awareness about school budgets vs. environmental responsibility, and to serve as good examples to our students that we need to make a concerted effort in school to be better stewards of the Earth. Made up of teachers and administrators, Green Team members have brainstormed ideas all year while meeting after school, during professional development planning time, and while traveling to and from sustainability workshops and conferences to learn new ways to reduce/eliminate the use of polystyrene (often referred to as Styrofoam) in the cafeterias, create sustainable solutions that can be replicated in other schools, districts, and classrooms; develop new Board of Education policies that promote sustainability practices, and introduce student-driven recycling programs in each of the 10 schools. On April 6, 2016, the Green Team met withy four employees of Atlantic County Utilities Authority and the recycling coordinator from the Township of Egg Harbor to plan and execute the recycling stations and waste audits at each of the 10 schools. Waste audits were completed at Eagle Academy, Egg Harbor Township High School, Alder Avenue Middle School and Fernwood Avenue Middle School. Audits for the six elementary schools are planned for the fall. Preliminary audit documentation is attached.

**PDF:** **GREEN TEAM DOCUMENTATION**
**PDF:** **GREEN TEAM DOCUMENTATION**
**PDF:** **GREEN TEAM DOCUMENTATION**
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**PDF:** **GREEN TEAM DOCUMENTATION**

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### Green Fair

**10 Points**

School

**Program Summary:** Alder Ave Middle School has hosted an annual Project Wet Make a Splash Water Festival since 2010. Each year the Festival was funded by a grant from Project Wet and focused on water conservation. Last year students were given most of the responsibilities involved in organizing the event. They invited students from one of our elementary school along with community members to attend the open-to-the-public festival. Over 30 learning stations, many of them managed by students, taught the attendees how and why we need to protect and conserve water. Several outside organizations participated including The Greate Egg Harbor Watershed Association, New Jersey Transit Authority, ACUA, AtlantiCare, and the Egg harbor Historic Society. Over 800 students, parents, and community members attended the Water Festival, making last year's one of the most successful. The marketing for the event begins in early March when classes throughout the district and outside organizations are invited to create a learning station. Last year, three schools were represented at the festival. The younger students attending are asked to reflect on the learning they did through a series of question and then asked to share this with the older students who taught them. For the last two years, we have made a documentary of the event which gives the students a chance to reflect and evaluate their effort. Videos of past events can be found on our website and Facebook Page at https://www.facebook.com/Catawba-Project-240132572794093/

**PDF:** **GREEN FAIR DOCUMENTATION**
**IMAGE:** **GREEN FAIR DOCUMENTATION**
**PDF:** **GREEN FAIR DOCUMENTATION**
**PDF:** **GREEN FAIR DOCUMENTATION**

**WORD:** GREEN FAIR DOCUMENTATION
**IMAGE:** GREEN FAIR DOCUMENTATION

## Student and Staff Wellness

### Policies to Promote Physical Activity

**10 Points**

District

**Program Summary:** The Egg Harbor Township Board of Education approved and adopted a new Wellness Policy on July 28, 2015. In accordance with the Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA), which funds child nutrition programs and establishes nutrition standards for school lunch and breakfast programs, each district school will implement this new Wellness Policy that includes goals for nutrition promotion, nutrition education, physical activity, and other school-based activities that promote student wellness. A School 'Wellness Team' was formed during the 2014-2015 school year. The team meets informally four times a year.The district provides additional activities in the form of 20 minutes of recess for grades K-5, which is not directly preceding or following a physical education class, Before and After Schools Organizations, such as Kids Klub which provides an element of physical activity, and the Use of School Facilities Outside School Hours is utilized in district. Egg Harbor Township offers community recreation programs at district schools in the evening, weekend, and during breaks for a fee which is no more than the incremental costs associated with the intended use. In addition to policies that promote student wellness activities and participation, the district partners with Family Service Association (FSA) and offers an FSA-staffed School-Based Youth Services Counseling Center at Egg Harbor Township High School and offers fee-based afterschool programs through its Kids Klub and Summer Enrichment programs. Low-income students attend for free or at a reduced rate. Additionally, staff members at each individual school promote and integrate additional student wellness activities including mountain biking, homegrown vegetable gardens, Fruit and Veggie Challenges, Blood Drives, Relay for Life competitions, Hero Campaign team competitions, and Nerfball tournaments.

**PDF:** SCHOOL WELLNESS POLICY
**PDF:** POLICIES TO PROMOTE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY DOCUMENTATION
**PDF:** POLICIES TO PROMOTE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY DOCUMENTATION
**PDF:** POLICIES TO PROMOTE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY DOCUMENTATION
**PDF:** POLICIES TO PROMOTE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY DOCUMENTATION

## Waste Reduction & Recycling

### Document Recycling Rates

**10 Points**

School

**Program Summary:** In 2013 we did a solid waste audit of our school which was part of an Eco-

Schools pathway program. Part of the project involved tracking the amounts of recycling done at Alder by getting tipping reports from ACUA scale house of the white dumpster which is filled with the single stream recycling materials. We tracked the data before the school recycling program was introduced and after. We saw an increase in recycling amounts after students launched a staff and student awareness program which included PSA about the need to recycle and better recycling stations in our cafeteria. Students presented their finding to the board of education through a power point presentation highlighting the increase.

**IMAGE:** **DOCUMENT RECYCLING RATES DOCUMENTATION**

**EXCEL:** **DOCUMENT RECYCLING RATES DOCUMENTATION**

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### Recycling Non-Mandated Materials

**10 Points**

School

**Program Summary:** For three years Alder Ave Middle School has collection Juice pouches and GoGo squeezes to send to Terracycle. The Terracycle container is part of the recycling station at our cafeteria. We made an infomercial to encourage students to up-cycle juice pouches. You can find the full infomercial on our Facebook page @catawbaproject We has also started a program which sends in old electronics to the funding factory.

**WORD:** **TERRACYCLE SLIDE FROM SCHOOL BOARD PRESENTATION**

**IMAGE:** **RECYCLING NON-MANDATED MATERIALS DOCUMENTATION**

**IMAGE:** **TERRACYCLE INFORMERCIAL**

**IMAGE:** **FUNDING FACTORY WEBSITE**

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### Food Waste Recycling or Composting

**15 Points**

School

**Program Summary:** The composting program at Alder Ave Middle School has been in existence for five years. It began small using garden tumblers which could only hold a a fraction of the waste produced by the school. After an audit of the waste created from the lunches in our cafeteria, the Catawba students saw a need to design a larger system that could hold all of the organic waste produced from our school lunches. The kids made a simple design using pallets which are easily pulled back to allow the decomposing material to be rotated from left to right. The students also learn about composting recipes for so they could add other ingredients to the lunch waste which is mostly fruits and some greens. The kids collect yard waste from the grounds staff and rake piles of leaves from our nearby wooded area. Two years ago, after the audit of the cafeteria waste, students found that for each lunch over 4lbs of organic waste was dumped into trash. By projecting the total amounts over the entire school year and multiplied this by 3 lunches a day, they calculated that 2160lbs of organic waste could be taken out of the solid waste. At the end of the school year they had a compost bin full of decomposing fruits and yard waste. However, much to their surprise, when the returned to school in the fall, the compost pile only produced less than a yard of compost to be used in the garden. A full report of the waste reduction project including the composting of the cafeteria organic waste was included in a presentation the students made to the school board. A district-wide waste audit, spearheaded by Alder Avenue Middle School, is currently in the works, following an initial waste audit conducted by Alder students in 2015. Plans for 2016 include Alder Avenue Middle School students serving as

'train-the-trainers' to help younger district students conduct their own cafeteria waste audit and establish their own compost project. Based on Alder's prior experience and under Alder's direction and leadership, nine scales have been ordered to conduct the waste audits at the other EHT schools. Other supplies ordered for the Waste Audits include rubber gloves and tarps. The Waste Audits, which will begin in May, will be conducted in a joint effort by the school district, Atlantic County Utilities Authority and the Township of Egg Harbor municipality.

**IMAGE:** **FOOD WASTE MANAGEMENT DOCUMENTATION**

**IMAGE:** **FOOD WASTE MANAGEMENT DOCUMENTATION**

**PDF:** **FOOD WASTE MANAGEMENT DOCUMENTATION**

**PDF:** **FOOD WASTE MANAGEMENT DOCUMENTATION**