

LOWER MERION TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLAN

Revision No. 1

2012 to 2016

Prepared for:

Lower Merion Township

Prepared by:

2012 Environmental Advisory Council

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Preamble

The Lower Merion Township Environmental Advisory Council (“EAC”) is pleased to submit the following 2012-2016 Environmental Action Plan (“EAP”) to the Lower Merion Township Board of Commissioners. Pursuant to Chapter 13 of the Lower Merion Township Code, the EAC “shall provide advice to the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Lower Merion and the Planning Commission of the Township of Lower Merion and shall coordinate its activities with all appropriate boards, agencies and officials of the Township.” One of the primary duties of the EAC as set forth in Chapter 13 is “to recommend plans and programs to the Board of Commissioners for the promotion and conservation of the natural resources of the Township of Lower Merion and for the protection and improvement of the quality of the environment within the Township.” We acknowledge that our function is purely advisory and the EAP is not intended in any way to be construed as mandate from the EAC to the Board of Commissioners. The EAP is offered as a comprehensive effort to fulfill our advisory function and encompasses a broad range of environmental policy recommendations for consideration by the Board of Commissioners. Certain recommendations that we have collectively deemed to be easily implemented are identified as short-term priorities, while longer-term efforts requiring additional analysis and deliberation have been designated as mid-term or long-term goals. The EAP is the product of our collective experiences as Lower Merion residents informed by our professional backgrounds as they relate to environmental issues impacting the Township. We value the opportunity to be of service to the Board of Commissioners and look forward to our continued work together to ensure the preservation of the Township’s environment and natural resources.

I. INTRODUCTION

This proposed Environmental Action Plan (EAP) provides the first revision to the original EAP prepared for Lower Merion Township (LMT) in 2007 by the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC).

Purpose

This plan proposes a Township-guided initiative to promote sustainable development; conservation of energy and natural resources; enhancement of the quality of life; and is based on areas of action on which the Township can exert its influence in pursuit of environmental conservation goals. The plan responds to the increasing awareness that natural resources are being consumed at unsustainable rates and in ways that have a harmful effect on the environment. The EAP encourages action at the local level that can, both individually and in conjunction with other communities, have a meaningful impact on the local, regional and even global environment. Responding to the awareness and the desire of the Township and its residents to take action, this plan provides a framework for moving forward with numerous different environmental initiatives in an organized fashion.

II. OVERVIEW

This revision of the EAP provides continued opportunity for LMT to further advance the implementation of environmentally-sound initiatives across the spectrum of its areas of influence. The EAP is intended to serve as a ‘living document’; one that is updated at 5-year intervals to reflect current environmental stewardship initiatives and to catalogue previous and continued achievements. This revision will serve to guide environmental initiatives undertaken by the LMT EAC for years 2012 to 2016. The following Sections provide an overview of the organization of the EAP, the approach for implementation and documentation (Section II), and summarize specific proposed environmental actions (Section III).

A. AREAS OF INFLUENCE

This EAP presupposes that there are three general areas upon which the Township can exert its influence to conserve energy and natural resources.

1. Stewardship

Comprising management of existing Township-owned buildings and grounds, Township oversight of privately owned preservation areas, and the Township’s procurement of products and services.

The Township owns and maintains numerous properties and purchases products and services on a large scale as a routine part of operations. The Township stewardship of these properties and assets can have significant environmental impacts. The impact of the Township’s stewardship is not confined to its own operations, but can also be applied to its selection of vendors with whom it contracts. Stewardship puts emphasis on the Township’s commitment to implementing the EAP.

2. Capital Improvements

Comprising Township and other publicly funded projects not yet under contract, and carrying forward.

This focuses on projects that the Township intends to pursue in the future as part of the 5-year plan. Township capital improvements have direct environmental impacts and can be used as an opportunity to promote conservation, sustainable development and environmental protection, as well as set the example for other townships and Township residents. Since the 5-year plan is updated each year, as projects are added, experience gained in the early years of the program can be used to inform efforts put forth in addressing projects that come on line in the later parts of the plan.

3. Regulation

Comprising the Township's judicious exercise of its regulatory authority over private sector permits that are subject to land use and building codes, and other permits and approvals.

The ability of the Township to emphasize adherence to elements of the environmental action plan that are part of, or incorporated into Township regulations.

B. CATEGORIES

Within the areas of influence, the proposed actions can be organized into numerous types of projects. For reporting and tracking purposes, the proposed actions and initiatives are grouped into seven categories as follows:

1. Building Practices

Actions that promote measurable and sustainable environmental practices in public and private sector construction projects

2. Education and Volunteer Projects

Actions that serve to foster environmental awareness of all residents of LMT by supporting or providing education programs, seminars, events or other informational outlets. Moreover, actions that provide opportunities for or promote participation in environmental based volunteer initiatives, or projects.

3. Energy Conservation

Those actions that promote and/or result in the quantitative reduction of energy use by means of administrative or engineering controls that are undertaken by the Township or by the community.

4. Land Use and Sustainability

Actions taken to manage Township open space including the acquisition of new lands, the maintenance of existing parcels, the conservation of regulated natural areas, and the promotion of land use practices that will help to sustain the long-term health of the community's natural resources.

5. Recycling

Actions that result in the increased recycling of products and materials at the Township, business, and public levels.

6. Stormwater Management

Those actions that promote and/or result in the reduction of stormwater runoff; downstream flooding; stream bank erosion; increased turbidity from erosion; aquatic and riparian habitat destruction; changes in the stream flow hydrograph (a graph that displays the flow rate of a stream over a period of time); infrastructure damage; and contaminated Township streams and rivers.

7. Miscellaneous Environmental Initiatives

Other actions such as grant funding, ordinance evaluation and revision, licensing and registration recommendations, etc., that promote environmental stewardship in categories other than those previously identified.

C. IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

The EAP identifies target timeframes for each environmental action project or initiative. These timeframes include:

Short-term (S) – those actions with target completion dates within 1 year

Mid-term (M) – those actions intended for completion within 2-3 years

Long-term (L) – actions to be completed in 4-5 years

Ongoing (O) – actions that will have continued progress or promotion.

D. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The EAC will implement the EAP and is tasked with obtaining feedback from LMT residents to help guide the current and subsequent plans. Members of the EAC will identify environmental actions within the above categories to champion and will form sub-committees, as necessary, to facilitate the implementation of projects. Implementation progress will be discussed quarterly during EAC scheduled meetings (March, June, September, and December). Each EAC environmental action champion will provide written progress on an annual basis for inclusion in the EAC report.

The current EAC champions are:

- Thomas Dilsheimer - Building Practices
- Kate Galer – Education and Volunteer Projects
- Clifton Payne - Energy Conservation
- Bruce Bayne - Land Use and Sustainability
- Joseph Freudenberg - Recycling
- Brian Hoppy -- Stormwater Management
- All - Miscellaneous Environmental Initiatives

E. PROGRESS REPORTING

The EAP is designed to be continually revised on a set 5-year schedule. This schedule will allow sufficient time to implement many of the proposed actions outlined in the current EAP while identifying new initiatives for the subsequent EAP revision. Each revision is to be reviewed and approved by the LMT Ad Hoc Environmental Initiative Committee (EIC), a subset of the Board of Commissioners (BOC).

Progress on the EAP will be reported each calendar year within the EAC annual report and verbally presented to the BOC. Moreover, a current list of proposed actions and their status will be summarized in tabular form for inclusion in LMT newsletters. Finally, each revision of the EAP will include a summary of past accomplishments.

III. ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS – ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

The EAC has made significant strides toward accomplishing many of the environmental actions outlined in the first EAP. Summary points regarding key accomplishments are presented below, organized by action categories.

EAP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Building Practices:

- Green Building Resolution – Working with the EIC, the EAC has submitted a draft resolution to the LMT BOC for passage that advocates for the incorporation of green building programs and their principles in the design or redesign of Township facilities. These programs promote sustainable building practices that can result in less impact to the environment during the construction and site development phase and long-term efficiencies in building and property management.
- Green Parking Lot Ordinance – The EAC has made substantial progress in developing a draft of a new ordinance for BOC consideration that will increase vegetation within and adjacent to parking lots and is intended to increase the amount of shade in parking lots, reduce the quantity of stormwater runoff from these areas, result in additional groundwater recharge, and improve water quality. A demonstration project is currently being developed for implementation adjacent to one of the Township Building parking lots.

Education and Volunteer Projects:

- Environmental Awards Program – The 5th Annual GO FOR THE GREEN Awards will be celebrated in 2012. This awards program was established in 2008 by the EAC to honor LMT environmental leaders in categories that include residential, commercial, organization, education, commercial site greening, and lifetime achievement.



- Environmental Education Programs – Periodic and ongoing education programs that have been presented by EAC members include rain barrel and composting workshops. The EAC has also participated in annual Southeast Pennsylvania EAC conferences hosted by the Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC) to learn from other practitioners and to

share LMT's approaches to environmental issues. Similarly, the LMT EAC has participated in several Bucks/Montgomery County EAC summits to share information with other township environmental volunteers. A final example; the EAC/EIC have held joint meetings to review Township environmental topics.

- Volunteer Efforts – EAC members have organized and participated in annual clean-up programs, some of which have been coordinated with the Darby Creek Valley Association.

Energy Conservation:

- Seek Funding to Study Energy Conservation – The EAC supported the successful LMT effort to obtain an Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG). The EECBG has enabled the Township to conduct a comprehensive energy audit of the majority of all Township facilities and buildings. This formed the basis for recommendations aimed at reducing energy consumption by the Township and thereby realizing cost savings. As a result of the energy audit LMT performed the following energy improvements: : lighting, HVAC, smart power strips at miscellaneous Township facilities including the Township Administration Building, Public Safety Building, County Line Road Complex, Koegel Complex, Ardmore Avenue Community Center, etc.)
- The EAC has met with LMT officials and reviewed their analysis regarding the potential opportunities to use bio-diesel and/or natural gas in Township fleet vehicles and the use of solar panels for energy generation.

Land Use and Sustainability:

- The EAC has and continues to participate in Land Development Committee meetings to review proposed development projects within LMT ahead of their official presentation to the Planning Commission and Building & Planning Committee. These efforts help to promote the inclusion of EAP elements into Township development.
- Riparian Buffer Improvements – LMT has implemented riparian buffer best management practices on several Township owned parklands (e.g., Ashbridge Memorial Park, Shortridge Park, and West Mill Creek Park). LMT and the EAC continue to look for opportunities to promote such stewardship on Township property and to increase the implementation of such practices along all riparian corridors.
- LMT used porous pavement in the renovations at the Warner Avenue Playground.
- LMT will post Integrated Pest Management Policy in Township Parks and on Township website.
- LMT installed rain gardens at Linwood Park.
- LMT will be installing rain gardens and other plantings at Ashbridge Park as part of the parking lot renovation/improvement project.
- LMT built and fully planted a detention basin at Bala Cynwyd Park to handle stormwater runoff from the Cynwyd Heritage Trail.

- LMT attempted to use, where feasible, green and sustainable building practices throughout the renovation of Ludington Library including the installation of a green roof on a portion of the building.
- LMT will use, where feasible, green and sustainable building practices for all library projects.
- LMT will install a geothermal heating and air conditioning system at the renovated Bala Cynwyd Library.

Recycling:

- As of April 2012, over 47% of municipal solid waste is recycled.
- A Recycling Bin Grant was received in 2011 from Keep America Beautiful and The Coca Cola Company to purchase recycling bins to be used at special events.
- As of 2010, additional items can be recycled including plastics 1 through 7 and corrugated cardboard.
- Tires, metal, clothing and textiles are also now recycled.
- In 2012 the Township signed a contract with e-Force to recycle electronic waste including computers, televisions, etc.

Miscellaneous:

- LMT Facilities Maintenance donated a rain barrel to the Township and installed it at the garage in the Township Administration Building parking lot.
- LMT staff encouraged developers to install rain gardens/bio retention areas at the following sites: Citizens Bank, Bryn Mawr; Stern Hebrew High School, Merion; Saint Joseph’s University, Merion; and Aqua America, Bryn Mawr.
- The EAC supported the Lower Merion Conservancy’s installation of a stormwater demonstration project at Rolling Hill Park.

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS – PROPOSED & ONGOING

Recognizing the beneficial environmental impacts the Township can have through stewardship, capital improvement, and regulation, this plan contemplates that the Township’s EAC will, with the assistance and input of Township staff and oversight from the BOC, make concrete proposals to the BOC that can be implemented through the Township’s areas of influence. The EAC and Township staff have compiled and evaluated various environmental initiatives. As previously mentioned, the EAC has organized these disparate environmental initiatives into seven categories: Building Practices; Education and Volunteer Projects; Energy Conservation; Land Use and Sustainability; Recycling; Stormwater Management; and Miscellaneous Environmental Initiatives.

The EAC has organized itself into teams consisting of members of the EAC leading each team with staff, interested board members, and selected residents or experts participating in each of these teams. Recommendations, observations and information is presented by the teams to the

entire EAC and participating staff members for comment, discussion and ultimately recommendation by the EAC to the BOC.

This process has generated steady discussions with LMT officials and resulted in well vetted proposals from the EAC for consideration by the BOC and public discussion. This plan would continue the process by which new ideas are always added to the pipeline of initiatives being considered and allows proposals to be made and acted upon as they are developed.

The following proposed environmental actions, grouped by category, are summarized below. The proposed environmental actions will be executed by each team and are ordered according to anticipated implementation schedule and identified accordingly [i.e., Short-term (S), etc.], as presented in TABLE 1:

A. Building Practices

This team will continue to evaluate methods that encourage or require sound environmental and sustainable practices in public and private sector construction projects, including the use of certification programs as a mechanism for implementation of these objectives.

Generally speaking, this team will consider ways to encourage or require developers to use environmentally friendly methods, designs or materials in both new construction and when retrofitting projects. This team may consider sustainable design methods; encouraging use of Energy Star products, recycling grey water, installing geothermal heating/cooling systems and green roofs and whether developers should be offered expedited permit review, expedited approvals or other incentives for employing such technologies. This team will also consider whether the “tear down” phenomenon in the Township is having an environmental impact and whether a regulatory response is warranted. This team would also consider whether Township construction projects should be required to incorporate environmentally friendly practices.

The current and proposed Building Practices Initiatives are as follows:

1. ***Promote Environmentally Friendly Construction Method. (S)*** Provide incentives to encourage developers to use environmentally friendly methods, designs or materials in both new construction and retrofit projects, incorporating sustainable design methods, using Energy Star products, recycling grey water, installing geothermal heating/cooling systems and green roofs in return for expedited permit review, expedited approvals or other incentives.
2. ***Enact an Outdoor Lighting Ordinance. (M)*** Enact an outdoor lighting ordinance that reduces sky glow and controls glare on adjacent properties. Better lighting designs that minimize/prevent glare on adjacent properties and minimize disruption to wildlife from too much light during overnight hours.
3. ***Encourage Sustainable and Preservation-based Redevelopment Practices. (M)*** Preservation of existing housing stock some of which may have historic value. Reduction of waste to landfills and potential reduction in demand for new materials.

B. Education and Volunteer Projects

This team will continue to evaluate actions that serve to foster environmental awareness of all residents of LMT, actions that provide opportunity for or promote participation in environmental based volunteer initiatives, or projects for implementation of these objectives. The ideas presented below directly implement the mission of the EAC, which is to educate the public. An educated public will result in increased stewardship by all and positive impacts on the environment.

The current and proposed Education and Volunteer Projects Initiatives are as follows:

1. ***Environmental Awards Program. (O)*** Continue the EAC's annual Go for the Green Awards program for exemplary commercial, institutional and residential projects. This has been a powerful incentive to encourage environmentally friendly behavior. Award categories include:
 - **Joseph M. Manko Lifetime Achievement Award** - Presented to an individual or group that makes a long-term significant impact on environmental issues such as improvement, protection, and awareness of the environment. This award was named for former Lower Merion Township Board President and Ward 9 Commissioner Joseph M. Manko, Esq., whose environmental endeavors as both an attorney and a community leader have improved the quality of life in Lower Merion now and for future generations.
 - **Resident** - Any individual living in the Township or Narberth Borough.
 - **Commercial** - Businesses located in or providing services in the Township or Narberth Borough.
 - **Organization** - Nonprofit entities or citizens groups in the Township or Narberth Borough.
 - **Educational** - Schools, universities and affiliated student organizations or youth organizations in the Township or Narberth Borough.
 - **Commercial Site Greening** - A commercial property that has been enhanced through greening efforts such as the installation of trees, shrubs and other plant material, the reduction in impervious paving, or other improvement to the outdoor environment thereby improving the site ecologically and aesthetically.

2. ***EAC's Environmental Education Program. (O)*** Continue the EAC's extensive environmental education program to educate residents/business owners/institutions, etc. via Township website, newsletter, Channel 7, tax bill mailings, street banners, watershed signs, etc. including but not limited to:
 - What the Township is currently doing to reduce environmental impacts/emissions and what residents can do to reduce their own impact upon the environment.
 - Responsible management of contractors including insisting on proper disposal practices, implementation of erosion and sedimentation controls, choice of materials, etc.
 - Proper stream/riparian/stormwater management using best management practices.

- Reduction of trash to the waste stream and the importance of recycling and composting.
 - Informing commercial business owners and institutions on recycling compliance requirements.
3. ***Earth Day Events. (S)*** Make Earth Day a significant event in the Township, perhaps in conjunction with the Lower Merion Conservancy and/or Riverbend.
 4. ***Environmental Roundtable Events. (O)*** Convene and/or participate in annual environmental roundtable events, including Greenfest.
 5. ***Promote Chemical Free Lawn Care. (M)*** Promote residential chemical free lawn care and organic pest management practices.

C. Energy Conservation

This team will evaluate actions that promote and/or result in the quantitative reduction of energy by the Township or by the community.

The current and proposed Energy Conservation Initiatives are as follows:

1. ***Purchase Green/Renewable Energy Sources. (L)*** Purchase some portion of the electricity used by the Township from green/renewable sources.
2. ***Generate Green/Renewable Energy. (L)*** Generate some portion of the Township's electricity using renewable resources.
3. ***Use Fuel Efficient Vehicles. (O)*** Continue leasing/purchasing the most fuel efficient vehicles for the Township fleet.
4. ***Pursue Ways to Reduce Energy Consumption. (O)***

D. Land Use and Sustainability

This team will evaluate actions that manage Township open space and promote land use practices that will help to sustain the long-term health of our community's natural resources.

The current and proposed Land Use and Sustainability Initiatives are as follows:

1. ***Comprehensive Plan Update – Land Use and Sustainability. (S)*** Evaluate following as part of the pending Township Comprehensive Plan update:
 - Increase preservation area requirements for new Open Space Preservation District developments.
 - Increase riparian buffer requirements or similar (beyond the ordinance that was adopted by LMT as part of the Darby Cobbs Stormwater Management Act 167 Plan in 2006).

2. ***Strengthen Natural Features Code. (M)*** Strengthen the Natural Features Code relative to replacement and/or construction of parking lots and impervious surfaces.
3. ***Amend Noxious Weed Ordinance. (S)*** Work with Shade Tree Commission to ensure that Township-recommended plantings promote native plants and eliminates/reduces the use of invasive plants that pose a threat to native plants and diminish biodiversity. Review the Township's existing ordinance to achieve this suggestion.
4. ***Implement Comprehensive Stream Bank Restoration Plans. (M)*** Work with the Lower Merion Conservancy to develop and implement comprehensive stream bank restoration plans for entire tributaries not just portions of stream banks. A consultant may also need to be hired.
5. ***Establish Open Space Funding Source. (M)*** Establish a dedicated source of funding to advance LMT open space preservation and improvements, public access, and related projects. The EAC will evaluate applicability of funding sources that are currently being used by other municipalities and develop a draft resolution for BOC consideration.
6. ***Restore Natural Areas. (M)*** Work with the Lower Merion Conservancy to evaluate the use the Natural Areas Crew to help restore LMT open space. Set specific restoration goals, identify and prioritize Township properties to restore, and set schedule for maintenance/restoration implementation.

E. Recycling

This team would evaluate actions that result in the increased recycling of products and materials at the Township, business, and public levels.

The current and proposed Recycling Initiatives are as follows:

1. ***Use Environmentally Friendly Products. (O)*** Continue to select more environmentally friendly products when purchasing new equipment or updating existing technology. In making procurement decisions the following criteria should be included: demand a reduction or elimination of toxic components in products that are purchased; increase requirement for recycled content; promote products that are easily recycled; promote energy conservation; extend product life; reduce packaging and acknowledge/reward companies that have good corporate environmental policies.
2. ***Increase Recycling. (M)*** Increase recycling, particularly commercial recycling. Potentially have Building and Planning Department staff explain recycling requirements when a Certificate of Occupancy is issued. Also use the existing Township database of commercial recyclers to begin a written educational campaign to commercial establishments that either do not provide recycling information for annual reporting to Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) or are not recycling at all.

3. ***Increase Number of Recycling Containers. (O)*** Provide recycling containers in business districts and Township parks. This requires the purchase of new containers with smaller openings to prevent trash from being deposited. Note: The Township is currently exploring this by undertaking a pilot program at Township pools.
4. ***Expand Composting Program. (S)*** Increase the existing Township compost program to reduce trash flow and increase the availability of high quality compost for home use.
5. ***Continue Composting Seminars. (O)*** Continue to conduct seminars on composting and provide bins for residents who attend either at no charge or at cost. Continue to apply for grant funds to be used to subsidize the cost of the bins.

F. Stormwater Management

This team would evaluate actions that promote and/or result in the reduction of stormwater runoff; flooding; erosion; habitat destruction; infrastructure damage; and contaminated streams, rivers and coastal water.

The current and proposed Stormwater Management Initiatives are as follows:

1. ***Comprehensive Plan Update – Stormwater Management. (S)*** As part of the Township Comprehensive Plan update, the EAC will lead the development of the Storm Water Management Component Plan.
2. ***Continue Rain Barrel Seminars. (O)*** Continue to conduct seminars on rain barrels and provide barrels for residents who attend either at no charge or a nominal fee. Continue to apply for grant funds to be used to subsidize the cost of the barrels.
3. ***Increase Use of Stormwater Controls. (M)*** Use bio-retention basins, rain gardens and other innovative storm water controls in all new/redeveloped parking areas and along streets and intersections.
4. ***Change Impervious Surface and Stormwater Ordinances. (L)*** Make changes to the impervious surface and/or stormwater management ordinance to improve recharge and stormwater controls (i.e., Green Parking Lot ordinance, Riparian Buffer ordinance).
5. ***Stormwater Runoff Fee Evaluation. (M)*** Evaluate the potential for establishment of stormwater runoff fees to direct funding to designated stormwater projects.
6. ***Increase Use of Porous Pavement. (M)*** Use porous pavement or permeable pavers in municipal playing courts and/or parking lots, where feasible.
7. ***Increase Riparian Buffers in Township Parks. (S)*** In Township parks with streams, stop mowing stream edges and convert areas to meadow or plant trees and shrubs. Enhance/restore existing riparian buffers in Township parks by implementing best management practices that were used successfully in other parks.

8. ***Establish Annual 5K Run/Family Walk. (S)*** In conjunction with the Friends of the Cynwyd Heritage Trail and/or the Lower Merion Conservancy, establish a 5K run/family walk along the Cynwyd Heritage Trail or other LMT location to raise funds for Township stormwater projects and education. Use signage along the run and walk routes to demonstrate natural and manmade features that aide in the Township’s stormwater management program.
9. ***Continue to install stormwater medallions on stormwater inlets throughout the Township. (O)*** Installation of medallions educates residents to not dump anything into inlets.

G. Miscellaneous Environmental Initiatives

This team would evaluate other actions such as grant funding, ordinance evaluation and revision, licensing and registration recommendations, etc., that promote environmental stewardship in categories other than those previously identified.

The current and proposed Miscellaneous Environmental Initiatives are as follows:

1. ***Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction. (O)*** Seek grant funding to study ways to “green” the Township and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Develop a comprehensive greenhouse gas emission reduction plan for the Township (e.g., as was done in Santa Monica, California).
2. ***Implement Bike and Pedestrian Study. (M)*** Implement the Bike and Pedestrian Study to create bicycle trails, bike lanes and amenity improvements for pedestrians.
3. ***Landscape Contractor Licensing/Registration. (M)*** Promote awareness of preferred horticultural best management practices and techniques for maintaining residential properties and preservation areas. Consider licensing or registration of landscape contractors in the Township to improve regulation of their activities and provide an avenue of communication regarding best management practices and Township requirements.
4. ***Increase Number of Dog Parks. (M)*** Build and increase the number of dog parks and increase the number of dog waste stations. Increase the availability of “mutt mitts” and trash cans for disposal of dog waste resulting in less pollution to streams.
5. ***Encourage developers demolishing structures to recycle or salvage materials. (O)***

TABLE 1
CURRENT AND FUTURE ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

Category	Environmental Initiative	Schedule
Building Practices	1. Promote Environmentally Friendly Construction Methods	S
	2. Enact an Outdoor Lighting Ordinance	M
	3. Sustainable Preservation-based Redevelopment Practices	M
Education and Volunteer Projects	1. Environmental Awards Program	O
	2. EAC's Environmental Education Program	O
	3. Earth Day Events	S
	4. Environmental Roundtable Events	O
	5. Promote Chemical Free Lawn Care	M
Energy Conservation	1. Purchase Green/Renewable Energy Sources	L
	2. Generate Green/Renewable Energy	L
	3. Use Fuel Efficient Vehicles	O
	4. Pursue Ways to Reduce Energy Consumption	O
Land Use and Sustainability	1. Comprehensive Plan – Land Use and Sustainability	S
	2. Strengthen Natural Features Code	M
	3. Amend Noxious Weed Ordinance	S
	4. Implement Comprehensive Streambank Restoration Plans	M
	5. Establish Open Space Funding Source.	M
	6. Restore Natural Areas	M
Recycling	1. Use Environmentally Friendly Products	O
	2. Increase Recycling	M
	3. Increase Number of Recycling Containers	O
	4. Expand Composting Program	S
	5. Continue Composting Bin Seminars	O
Stormwater Management	1. Comprehensive Plan Update – Stormwater Management	S
	2. Continue Rain Barrel Seminars	O
	3. Increase Use of Stormwater Controls	M
	4. Change Impervious Surface and Stormwater Ordinances	L
	5. Stormwater Runoff Fee Evaluation	M
	6. Increase Use of Porous Pavements	M
	7. Increase Riparian Buffers in Township Parks	S
	8. Establish Annual 5K Run/Family Walk	S
	9. Continue to install stormwater medallions on stormwater inlets throughout the Township	O
Miscellaneous	1. Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction	O
	2. Implement Bike and Pedestrian Study	M
	3. Landscape Contractor Licensing/Registration	M
	4. Increase Number of Dog Parks	M

Short-term (S) – those actions with target completion dates within 1 year,
Mid-term (M) – those actions intended for completion within 2-3 years,
Long-term (L) – actions to be completed in 4-5 years, and
Ongoing (O) – actions that will have continued progress or promotion.