



**Virtual Meeting  
Hawthorne Green Team Committee Minutes  
July 28, 2025**

**Call to Order:** Rayna Laiosa, Mary Mahon, Holly Cowen, Charles Stebbins, Maureen Cook, Mike Mariani, Pat MacDonnell, Michael Turco, Janet Turco, Judi Bosloper, and John Bosloper

**Join Zoom Meeting**

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**Green Team Purpose**

- Making community life sustainable in a way that minimizes environmental harm and depletion of natural resources
- Framework is based on the Sustainable Jersey Certification

**Topics Discussed on July 28 2025**

a. Review Hawthorne Green Team – Minutes May 19 2025 -Approved

b. Community Garden

1. Giving Tuesdays – Communicate to Gardeners - Pat will send e-mail to the gardeners that Giving Tuesday’s begins Aug 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025
2. Weed/Grass Removal Issue – Friendly Reminder – email/communicated to the Gardeners on July 12, 2025 A request was made by a gardener for DPW to remove weeds killed by the vinegar. After discussion, an e-mail will be sent to remind gardeners weed control and removal to be done by them. Also reminder that vinegar recipe kills not only weeds but also vegetables so be very careful. Maureen will send photos of the community garden to Rayna.

- c. Find the Hawthorne BEE – Partnership Hawthorne Green Team and Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce - 32 businesses participation; July 1, 2025 to August 3, 2025 buy local campaign; BEE Grand Celebration & Prize Drawing Sunday August 3, 2025 at 12:00 pm – All are welcome to attend!
- d. Sustainable Jersey- 1<sup>st</sup> Deadline February 23, 2025; 2<sup>nd</sup> Deadline May 16, 2025, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Deadline July 31, 2025 Done delivered July 27, 2025
  - 1. Approved Sustainable Jersey Action Plans
    - 1. Brownfield Assessment & Investigation 12/31/2025 expires – 20 points
    - 2. Natural Resource Inventory – **Priority** – 20 points
    - 3. Tree Protection Ordinance No expiration date – 10 points
    - 4. Tree Planting 12/31/2025 expires – 10 points
  - 2. Sustainable Jersey Action Plans – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database – Met the February 23, 2025 Deadline
    - 1. Green Team – Mandatory –Resolution – Passed Council January 22, 2025 – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    - 2. Green Grounds & Maintenance Policy – Re-Adopt Policy –Council January 22, 2025 – Distributed to departments; Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    - 3. Environmental Commission – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    - 4. Community Partnership & Outreach – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    - 5. Green Fair – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    - 6. Prescription Drug & Safety – **Priority** – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    - 7. Emergency Communication Planning – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    - 8. Hawthorne Community Garden – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    - 9. Municipal Communication Strategy - Sent to Boro on January 18, 2025 for review and update – received; Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    - 10. Digitizing Public Information – Sent to Boro on January 18, 2025 for review and update – received; Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    - 11. Farmers’ Market and Accessible Farmers’ Market – In Process; waiting for information from Chamber to finalize documents; received; Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    - 12. Community Food Pantry/Bank & Soup Kitchen – In-Process – Completed and Uploaded SJ Database
    - 13. Community Paper Shredding Day – In Process; waiting for additional information from Boro; received; Completed and Uploaded SJ Database
    - 14. Recycling Depot – In Process; received updated photos; Completed and Uploaded SJ Database
    - 15. Brownfield Inventory & Prioritization – In Process - Review Updated 2025 Brownfield Inventory with Commissioners – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database

16. Mayor's Wellness Program – In Process - Sent to Boro on January 26, 2025 and Mary Mahon for requested information; received information from various departments and organizations; Senior & Youth completed; In Process – Employees & Community – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
  17. Community Asset Planning – Hawthorne Green Map – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
  18. Buy Local Campaign - Map – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
  19. Support Local Campaign - Map – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
  20. Recycled Materials & Composting – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database Four small updates.
3. 1<sup>st</sup> Round of SJ Comments – Received end of March 2025 – Resubmitted Updated Documents – April 6, 2025
    1. Brownfield Inventory & Prioritization - Matrix
    2. Community Outreach – Annual June Environmental Program
    3. Green Team – Text Box – the narrative text was cut off
    4. Community Garden – Remove Garden Bed Assignments Figure
  4. Sustainable Jersey Action Plans – To be Updated - 2024/2025 Activities - 2<sup>ND</sup> round Deadline May 16th, 2025
    1. Non-Mandated Materials Recycling – In Process (need 2024 Annual Recycling Tonnage Report – Hawthorne submitted to NJDEP by April 30, 2025) – **Completed & Uploaded into SJ System May 11, 2025**
    2. Household Hazardous Waste – In Process (need 2024 Annual Recycling Tonnage Report – Hawthorne submitted to NJDEP by April 30, 2025) - **Completed & Uploaded into SJ System May 11, 2025**
    3. Recycling & Waste Reduction Education & Compliance – **Priority Green Lecture** to be set up at Library on Recycling, Maureen to preside April 3<sup>RD</sup> 7-8:30. Need to Create Publicity Documents – Press Release, Facebook, etc. Mary contacted Library all set.; March 10, 2025 - Code Officer provided 2024 and January to March 2025 Recycling Inspections and Violations Report for Action Plan. Maureen to ask Mayor to add Green Lecture to his weekly newsletter - Completed. - **Completed & Uploaded into SJ System May 11, 2025**
    4. Sustainable Land Use Pledge - **Priority** - Prepared documents; waiting for response from SJ – Borough of Hawthorne Adopted Pledge in Re Exam 2022 Master Plan Elements in July 2022; SJ responded via email – must have a resolution and distribute to appropriate departments and boards - Council Meeting Re-Adoption of Resolution -March 19, 2025 – Discussed Re-Pledging of Sustainable Land Use Pledge and Practices – **Completed & Uploaded into SJ System April 6, 2025**
    5. Vulnerable Population Identification for Emergencies – Sent to Police for review
    6. Fleet Inventory – **Priority** Need to be put in Resolution although already exists.
    7. Anti Idling Education & Enforcement Program - Discussion of Letter prepared by Janet Turco; A big Thank You to Janet. Discussion followed on how to promote. Ask Police and Superintendent to partner with Green Team to add validity to Press release and flyer. Rec'd Responses back from Superintendent and Police Chief – All Good! We

- will publicity the information – Tap Net Hawthorne, PTO and HEC website. **Completed & Uploaded into SJ System April 18, 2025**
8. Community Forestry Management Plan & NJUCF Accreditation – Working with Hawthorne Shade Tree Commission - **Completed & Uploaded into SJ System April 18, 2025**
    1. Tree Maintenance Programs - **Completed & Uploaded into SJ System April 18, 2025**
  9. Innovative Project – Silver Girl Scout Badge Project – Received information/documentation from Melissa/Zoe. Need to encourage book lending. **Completed & Uploaded into SJ System May 11, 2025**
  10. Safe Routes for School – Silver Level - - Rayna will submit information. - **Completed & Uploaded into SJ System April 18, 2025**
5. Sustainable Jersey Action Plans – To be Updated - 2024/2025 Activities - **3<sup>RD</sup> round Deadline is July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025**
1. Anti Idling Education & Enforcement Program – Comments states the following: “Your enforcement plan, priority locations map, and resolution are dated 2022. Please submit documentation that shows a more recent enforcement plan and map. All documentation must be from the current or previous year. If the locations/information has not changed, please indicate so in the narrative. For the resolution, you'll either need to pass a new resolution or provide a letter from your Business Administrator, clerk, etc., that confirms the resolution is still in effect.” SJ Uploaded and Completed on July 8, 2025 – Will be Submitted for Certification prior to July 31, 2025
- e. 14<sup>th</sup> Green Fair Sunday September 7, 2025 (Rain Date September 14, 2025) Time of Event 10:00 am to 1:30 pm; set-up 9:00 am
- a. Hawthorne Environmental Commission Green Team Brochure – Bring copies
  - b. Music – Hawthorne local musician – Matty Z – Rayna will contact – “Old Man Winters” 10:00 am to 1:00 pm - \$350 – Confirmed/Booked
  - c. Potential Vendors – Contact Them & Request Participation – Open to New Vendors/Organizations – ***Deadline for Commitment*** – Monday August 4, 2025;
    1. Paws in Hands – Mary
    2. Amy Rowe – Rainbarrel/green infrastructure/ water conservation/native plant booth -
    3. Hawthorne Recycling – Maureen Cook - Yes
    4. PCSPCA – Stephanie
    5. BEAR Management – Doreen Yes, under the tree – shady spot - Yes
    6. Lyme and Tick Disease/World Paper USA - Alexandra
    7. Goffle Brook Farm – donate vegetable seeds – Maureen will contact Donna, Owner
    8. Passaic County 4-H Club (Bike Smoothie Demonstration – Rutgers Nutrition) –
    9. Knead-U-Need - No
    10. Green Team/Environmental Commission Booth –Community Garden, Container Gardening, Rain Garden, Native Plant Projects, Gateway to the Passaic River - Yes
    11. Neighborhood Composting – Addison – Mary
    12. Hawthorne Birds – Holly - Yes
    13. Project Medicine Box – Get literature/information for Green Team booth – Maureen Cook
    14. The Learning Tree
    15. JNA Fitness in Wyckoff – Holly
    16. Electric Car - Park Ave BMW check with Craig
    17. Hawthorne Shade Tree Commission – Maureen - Yes

18. Boy Scouts – Rich M – Rita will follow up
  19. Lincoln Landscaping “Native Plants” - Maureen
  20. Reimagined Design - Stephanie
  21. A Rock Solid History of Hawthorne NJ –Veronica - Yes
  22. Hawthorne Historical Society –Jackie - No
  23. Yoga with Gianna – Rita
  24. Hawthorne Fire Department – Rayna
  25. Hawthorne Ambulance Corp – Rita
  26. Farmers Market Vendors –Meg Natale - Yes
  27. Farmers’ Market – Tony Green Thumb – will discuss hydroponic growing of plants  
Yes
  28. Farmers’ Market – Clove Acre Farms – Dustin Jurgensen, son of farmer, will discuss  
Sustainable Farming in Sussex County, New Jersey Yes
  29. Friends of the Library Farmer’s Market YES
  30. Plug In EV Charger – Jesse Carpenter
  31. Passaic River Coalition –Laurie Howard
  32. Trinity Solar. Julie Saporito-Acuna [julie.saporito-acuna@trinity-solar.com](mailto:julie.saporito-acuna@trinity-solar.com); 732-685-1744
  33. Prestige Pest Services – Favio Ulloa
  34. Bee Hives –Team decided to ask Bee Farmer at the Farmers’ Market for participation since they are selling honey from their beehives Daughter of Bee Farmer – Girl Scout Gold Project – “Help Save the Bees” – [www.pollinatorsaver.org](http://www.pollinatorsaver.org)
  35. St. Joseph’s Educational Games – Bob Bertollo – Mary will contact answer Aug 10th
  36. Passaic County Recycling – Maureen
  37. Passaic County Park & Recreation – Maureen
  38. Adventures with Nature – Mary
- d. Tables and Chairs for event – All vendors will provide their own tables and chairs
  - e. Publicity
    1. Press Release, Facebook, Borough’s Website, Electronic Boards at Boro Hall and throughout town
    2. Green Fair Signs – Mike will double check on the number of lawn signs
    3. Green Fair Flyers – Discussed and updated flyer for 2025 – Completed
    4. Special Invitations – Mayor and Council
  - f. Giveaways – Dog Tags and Can Opener out of recycled rubber
  - g. Contact Police in advance for signs and traffic control
- f. Open Discussion - None

## **Next Hawthorne Green Team Virtual ZOOM Meeting Monday August 25, 2025 at 7:30 pm**

### **VISION STATEMENT**

Hawthorne is committed to protecting our natural resources while meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising those of future generations.

Sustainability means:

- Protecting our open spaces, and conserving our natural resources with waste reduction and recycling
- Promoting environmental education, and energy efficiency to residents and businesses alike
- Considering environmental, economic, and social impacts to future development
- Improving community health and quality of life for every citizen