

# SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA

## Sustainability Assessment

Building a Stronger, more Sustainable Springfield



SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP  
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY  
COMMISSION

Presented January, 2020

# INTRODUCTION

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Sustainability is defined as “meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” With that definition in mind, it is important to understand that sustainability is about more than just environmental issues. At its root, becoming a sustainable community is about addressing a wide range of concerns including social equity, economic vitality and, of course, environmental challenges.

The Sustainable Pennsylvania Community Certification is a voluntary performance recognition program designed to help communities achieve their sustainability goals. The program is also intended to bring recognition to those municipalities that are applying sustainability-focused policies and practices in their daily operations as well as serve as a mechanism for sharing best practices for creating a more sustainable Pennsylvania.

The remainder of this document delves into the eight categories and 131 criteria the program uses in their certification process.

Please note that the journey to foster a more sustainable Springfield does not end with certification. This process is meant to represent a starting point upon which the Springfield Environmental Advisory Commission (EAC) and Township can work in tandem with local and regional partners to promote sustainability throughout the community.

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# OVERVIEW

The Pennsylvania Sustainable Communities Certification is awarded to communities implementing sustainability related policies and practices. There are 5 possible levels of certification, each having separate point and validation requirements. Points are awarded based on 131 criteria separated into 8 categories (see below).

Out of a possible 300 points, Springfield Township earned approximately 177 points and qualified for a gold level certification. By becoming a gold certified community, Springfield Township joins only Montgomery and Lower Merion Townships in Montgomery County as having achieved such a high recognition to the implementation of sustainability policies and practices.



The following pages include a breakdown of each criteria, summaries of the policies / practice used to satisfy the requirement, and links to supporting evidence. To learn more about the certification process, the different levels of certification, or explore the library of best practices, visit:

[www.sustainablepacommunitycertification.org](http://www.sustainablepacommunitycertification.org)

**177 points earned**



## Sustainable Pennsylvania Certification Categories

Governance and Community Engagement

66 points available – 37 earned

Healthy Communities

16 points available - 14 earned

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

20 points available - 11 earned

Education

7 points available - 7 earned

Energy Use, Conservation, and Green Building

56 points available - 30 earned

Environmental Stewardship

37 points available - 27 earned

Housing

24 points available - 11 earned

Land Use and Transportation

70 points available - 40 earned



## CATEGORY: Governance and Community Engagement

### SECTION 1: MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS (4 points)

#### **Criteria 1 A: Professional staff are employed or retained, in the areas of budgeting and finance. (1 point)**

Consisting of dedicated professionals headed by the Director of Finance, the Springfield Twp. Finance Department conducts all financial transactions related to cash collections, cash disbursements, and employee payroll in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. Effective controls are maintained to safeguard Municipal assets.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Twp. Finance Department Webpage

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#### **Criteria 1 B: A revenue-expenditure trend analysis is conducted annually. (1 point)**

Every year, the Springfield Finance Department and Administrative staff work with a third party auditing firm to review the Township's overall financial position. Audits provide assurance that financial information is reliable and demonstrates to constituents that government functions are carried out ethically and efficiently.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Twp. 2018 Financial Audit

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#### **Criteria 1 C: Funds for capital-related borrowing are not used for day to day expenses. (1 point)**

Springfield Township maintains a dedicated Capital Reserve Fund for all capital-related borrowing expenses. Capital reserve fund, which are separate from the Township's operating funds for day-to-day expenses, is used towards specific capital projects that are authorized by the Board of Commissioners as part of the annual budgeting process.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Twp. 2020 Adopted 2020 Budget

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#### **Criteria 1 D: Municipality routinely evaluates ability to ensure that revenue is sufficient to maintain public infrastructure, i.e., road, water, sewer, stormwater (community has an asset management based budget system). (1 point)**

Every year, the Springfield's Finance and Administrative staff work with a third party auditing firm to review the Township's overall financial position. Part of this process is a comprehensive review of Municipal assets and liabilities.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Twp. 2018 Financial Audit

## CATEGORY: Governance and Community Engagement

### SECTION 1: MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS (9 points)

#### **Criteria 1 E: Obligations for pensions/other post-employment benefits are funded for the long-term to at least 80%. (3 points)**

Springfield Township maintains a total of three pension plans for municipal employees. Through sound financial practices and fiscal stewardship, the Township has funded approximately 86% of the total liability across the three pension plans.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Twp. 2018 Financial Audit (see Page 47)

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#### **Criteria 1 F: 5-10 percent of operating funds are carried over year to year. (2 points)**

At year end 2018, Springfield Township was able to carry over a total of \$874,280 in operating revenue to the fiscal year 2019 operating budget. This amount represents a carryover of 5.8% of excess operating funds.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Twp. 2018 Financial Audit (see Page 23)

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#### **Criteria 1 G: Taxation takes a balanced approach applicable to all sectors of municipal services provided and fees satisfy cost recovery. (1 point)**

Ensuring that the cost of providing public services to the citizens of Springfield Twp. is balanced with the taxes and fees levied on the population is a critical component of the Township's cost recovery and annual budgeting efforts. The Township Manager outlines the justification for proposed rate increases (when applicable) in the annual budget statement.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Twp. 2020 Budget Statement

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#### **Criteria 1 H: Green vehicle fleet assessment has been initiated toward: using greener fuels and/or vehicles, vehicle right-sizing for the job/trip, retrofit or replace older diesel trucks or equipment with cleaner technology, or driver education about driving techniques for fuel economy. (3 points)**

As with the growing trend in municipal operations and its long-standing dedication to promoting sustainability, Springfield Township underwent a green vehicle fleet assessment as part of its 2019 grant application to the Driving PA Forward Class 8 Clean Diesel Vehicle Grant Program. Using the U.S. Environmental Protection Agencies emissions calculator, Township staff were able to tabulate the emission reduction for its vehicle fleet and has begun the process of acquiring grant funding to replace them with cleaner, more environmentally friendly models.

EVIDENCE: Not Applicable (Grant Pending)



## CATEGORY: Governance and Community Engagement

### SECTION 2: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (5 points)

#### **Criteria 2 A: Civic engagement, public participation and transparency are regularly assessed and facilitated. (1 point)**

Springfield Township actively promotes engagement, participation, and transparency through our municipal website. We post meeting agendas & minutes, community events, and other new items to engage our residents and keep them informed.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Twp. Website

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#### **Criteria 2 B: A Historic Review Commission is active. (2 points)**

The Springfield Township Board of Commissioners recently created a Historic Resources Commission with the adoption of Ordinance 962 in December 2019. The Commission is now responsible for designating historical resources in the Township and advocating for the preservation of those sites.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Twp. Historic Resources Commission

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#### **Criteria 2 C: An Environmental Advisory Council is active. (2 points)**

The Springfield Township Environmental Advisory Commission (EAC) was created in April 2006 to advise the Board of Commissioners and other Township advisory boards, commissions and committees on, and promote education about, issues relating to the management, promotion, use and protection of the Springfield Township environment.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Twp. Environmental Advisory Commission



Above left: Springfield EAC visits the local recycling facility. Above right: EAC tours regional stormwater projects

## CATEGORY: Governance and Community Engagement

### SECTION 2: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (7 points)

#### **Criteria 2 D: Municipality communicates with the public via a regularly scheduled newsletter or regularly updated web based communications. (1 point)**

Springfield Township issues a bi-annual newsletter to every resident and property owner in the municipality. The newsletter contains pertinent seasonal information and features informational articles written by staff and Township advisory board members.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Twp. Fall 2019 / Winter 2020 Newsletter

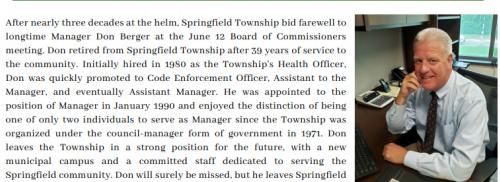


#### **TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD NEWSLETTER**

Fall 2019 / Winter 2020 [www.springfieldmontco.org](http://www.springfieldmontco.org)



Township Bids Farewell to Longtime Manager



After nearly three decades at the helm, Springfield Township bid farewell to longtime Manager, Don Berger at the June 12 Board of Commissioners meeting. Don retired from Springfield Township after 39 years of service to the community. Initially hired in 1980 as the Township's Head Officer, Don was quickly promoted to Code Enforcement Officer, Assistant to the Manager, and eventually Assistant Manager. He was appointed to the position of Manager in January 1990 and enjoyed the distinction of being one of only two individuals to serve as Manager since the Township was organized under the council-manager form of government in 1971. Don leaves the Township in a strong position for the future, with a new municipal campus and a committed staff dedicated to serving the Springfield community. Don will surely be missed, but he leaves Springfield Township in a good place and we are all better because of him.

#### **Criteria 2 E: All municipal-sponsored events have a sustainability-awareness component. (3 points)**

Springfield Township's Environmental Advisory Board is an active participant in every municipal-sponsored event, taking part to promote sustainability and environmental issues.

EVIDENCE: Not available at this time.



#### **Criteria 2 F: A program exists to actively pursue and match residents and local businesses to volunteer opportunities to better the community and assist the local government. (3 points)**

Springfield Township oversees the activity of nearly a dozen citizen boards and committees that the public can volunteer to serve on and provide recommendations on a variety of topics

EVIDENCE: Springfield Twp. Advisory Boards

## CATEGORY: Governance and Community Engagement

### SECTION 3: LOCAL/REGIONAL COOPERATION (5 points)

#### **Criteria 3 A: Municipality is an active participant in a Council of Governments. (1 point).**

Springfield Township is an active participant in the Montgomery County Consortium of Communities, a council of governments comprised of municipalities in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

#### EVIDENCE: Montgomery County Consortium of Communities



#### **Criteria 3 B: The municipality utilizes Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreements (ICA) to engage in multi-municipal endeavors. (2 points)**

Springfield Township possesses multiple cooperative agreements with Montgomery County and neighboring municipalities. One such agreement between Cheltenham, Abington, Whitemarsh, Upper Dublin, and Springfield Townships and the City of Philadelphia provides for the discharge of certain sewage from and to the municipalities.

#### EVIDENCE: Eastern Montco Sewer/NW Philly ICA

#### **Criteria 3 C: Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreements include conflict resolution provisions. (2 points)**

All of the ICA entered into on behalf of Springfield Township includes conflict resolution provisions that require the settling of dispute by arbitration or legal process.

#### EVIDENCE: Not available at this time.

## CATEGORY: Governance and Community Engagement

### SECTION 4: SUSTAINABILITY (30 points)

**Criteria 4 A: The municipality is committed to passing a resolution (within six months of enrolling) to affirm participation in the Sustainable Community Essentials Certification Program. (3 points)**

Springfield Township committed to the principles of the Sustainable Pennsylvania Community Certification program with the passage of Resolution 1848 on November 13, 2019.

EVIDENCE: News Article on the passage of Resolution 1484

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**Criteria 4 B: A municipal sustainability program (in name) has been developed and departmental goal setting and budget processes are used to advance it. (4 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time

**Criteria 4 C: Sustainability policies, goals, and principles have been adopted. (3 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time

**Criteria 4 D: A sustainability assessment has been conducted to evaluate municipal facilities, operations, plans and regulations relative to conserving resources, saving money, and implementing policies and procedures that simultaneously advance the environment, economy, and social equity. (4 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time

**Criteria 4 E: There is on-going training for municipal employees and officials and the HR function is closely engaged in advancing objectives of the municipal sustainability program. (4 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time

**Criteria 4 F: Procedures are in place to measure and track the impacts of the sustainability program (and yearly reporting to the public on results is conducted). (4 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time

**Criteria 4 G: An executive/management level municipal staff person has responsibility for management of the municipal sustainability program expressly included in their job description. (3 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time

**Criteria 4 H: Professional development for municipal personnel and officials includes participating (at a minimum, per year) in quarterly Local Government Academy, PA DCED or other professional training association programs. (2 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time

**Criteria 4 i: Newly elected officials participate in Local Government Academy or other orientation training for public officials. (3 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time



## CATEGORY: Governance and Community Engagement

### SECTION 5: PUBLIC SAFETY (6 points)

#### **Criteria 5 A: Municipality maintains updated public safety mutual aid agreements with neighboring municipalities and shares resources. (1 point)**

Springfield Township remains a long-standing member of the eastern Montgomery County Regional Emergency Management Group. The group, comprised of eighteen (18) municipalities, is committed to working together in the coordinating planning, response, and recovery efforts in the face of adversity.

EVIDENCE: Montgomery County Regional Emergency Management Group



#### **Criteria 5 B: Municipality maintains an updated Public Safety comprehensive plan to be sure staffing and financial resources keep pace with municipal needs for Police, Fire, and Emergency Medical Services. (2 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time

#### **Criteria 5 C: Municipality participates in a regional service program or contracts services to or through other municipalities for fire, police, or EMS. (3 points)**

The Community Ambulance Association of Ambler was established in 1941 and currently provides inter-municipal EMS to Ambler Borough as well as the Townships of Lower Gwynedd, Springfield and portions of Upper Dublin.

EVIDENCE: Community Ambulance Association of Ambler





## CATEGORY: Healthy Communities

### SECTION 6: Local Food (9 points)

#### **Criteria 6 A: Incentives exist for establishment of farms and gardens within the municipality. (2 points)**

Springfield Township provides for an exemption from the local business privilege tax on goods, articles and products, or on by-products of farm products manufactured, produced, or grown in the Township.

EVIDENCE: Article IV Business Privilege Tax, §100-36 Exemptions; deductions; exclusions

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#### **Criteria 6 B: The municipality supports a program (or cooperates with neighboring communities) to engage residents in strengthening sustainable food systems to link local foods, farms & people (ex. Buy Fresh Buy Local initiative, Good Food Neighborhood, etc.). (3 points)**

Springfield Township committed to the principles of the Sustainable Pennsylvania Community Certification program with the passage of Resolution 1848 on November 13, 2019.

EVIDENCE: Springfield EAC's tools to promote sustainability webpage

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#### **Criteria 6 C: Education programs are made available for residents on the benefits of organic, locally-purchased food; farmers' markets and farm stands are facilitated. (2 points)**

Established in 1986, the Flourtown Farmers Market has served as a beacon of fresh, local produce and goods in Springfield Township for over twenty years!

EVIDENCE: Flourtown Farmers Market



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#### **Criteria 6 D: A community produce garden(s) is available. (2 points)**

Situated along the boundary between Springfield Township and the Chestnut Hill Section of the City of Philadelphia, the community garden at Morris Arboretum is open to residents of both communities for a nominal annual rental fee.

EVIDENCE: Community Garden at Morris Arboretum



## CATEGORY: Healthy Communities

### SECTION 7: Healthy People (7 points)

**Criteria 7 A: Programs by local government, or in cooperation with the non-profit and private sector, exist to address community health concerns, i.e. exercise programs, feeding programs for children and the elderly, crime watches, accessible health care, exercise away from areas of air pollution, etc. (1 point)**

A local non-profit started by residents in 2019, the Springfield Township Opioid ACTION Committee is a grass-roots effort supported by Springfield Township to raise awareness of the opioid epidemic.



EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Opioid ACTION Committee

**Criteria 7 B: Outdoor recreation opportunities, amenities, and lifestyles are promoted. (1 point)**

The Springfield Township Park and Recreation Department is committed to providing year-round activities to residents of all ages. Programs and activities sponsored by the Department are fee-based and are generally not subsidized by Township tax dollars. The Township Park system is open to all residents without a fee.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Parks and Recreation



**Criteria 7 C: A program to promote safe walking to school is in place. (3 points)**

Identified as budget item 410.050, the Township provides crossing guards to control and direct traffic at or near schools in the community during hours when school children are going to and from school. Crossing guards must protect and safeguard the lives and well-being of school children as they go to and from school by directing the movements of both pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Crossing Guard Unit

**Criteria 7 D: The use of pesticides and herbicides is being monitored and reduced by all municipal departments which use them. (2 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

## CATEGORY: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

### SECTION 8: Human Resources (15 points)

**Criteria 8 A: Measures are taken to ensure a wide range of candidates are interviewed for all municipal job openings i.e., the Rooney Rule. (2 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 8 B: The municipality has a written municipal policy prohibiting discrimination and valuing diversity and inclusion. (3 points)**

Adopted as Ordinance No. 914 on September 14, 2011, Chapter 47 of the Municipal Code of Springfield Township declares the public policy of the Township to foster equality and equal opportunity for all citizens regardless of actual or perceived race, color, religious creed, ancestry, sex, national origin, handicap or use of guide or support animals because of blindness, deafness or physical handicap.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Anti-Discrimination Ordinance

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**Criteria 8 C: The municipality has provided diversity training for municipal employees. (3 points)**

All municipal staff are required to undergo diversity training on an annual basis.

EVIDENCE: Not available at this time.

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**Criteria 8 D: The municipality annually assesses, and reports to the public, diversity of all boards, employees, volunteers, committees, etc. (3 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 8 E: The municipality reports annually to the public on progress in creating a more diverse workforce. (4 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.



## CATEGORY: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

### SECTION 9: Economy (5 points)

#### **Criteria 9 A: There is a municipal policy ensuring Minority Business Enterprise and Women Business Enterprise are considered in municipal purchasing, bids and contracts. (2 points)**

Springfield Township actively solicits the participation of Minority and Women Business Enterprises (M/WBE) for municipals purchasing, bids, and contracts. As a recipient of Community Development Block Grant funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development through the Montgomery County Office of Housing and Community Development, the Township is also required by law to adhere to federal rules and regulations mandating that M/WBE engaged throughout the process.

EVIDENCE: Montgomery County 2019 CDBG Action Plan



#### **Criteria 9 B: The municipality is engaged in programs to communicate that the community is welcoming to persons who represent diversity (sister city relations, diversity sensitivity training, multilingual signage, etc.). (3 points)**

Springfield Township Police Department's Welcome Wagon program is a long-standing tradition that is intended to welcome new residents to the Township and reinforce the notion that Springfield welcomes all residents without regard. Officers participating in the Welcome Wagon program visit every new homeowner in Springfield Township shortly after the resident moves in. The Township also hosted a forum to address diversity and reinforce the Township's support in welcoming all residents to Springfield.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township PD Welcome Wagon Program  
Springfield Township Diversity Forum



A photograph of the Springfield Township Administration building. The building features a modern design with a curved, overhanging roof supported by a wooden beam. The entrance is marked by a large glass door set within a wall made of grey stone. To the right of the entrance, the words "SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION" are written in large, bold, black capital letters. The sky above is blue with wispy white clouds, and a large green tree is visible behind the building.

**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP  
ADMINISTRATION**

## CATEGORY: Education

### SECTION 10: Cooperation (5 points)

#### **Criteria 10 A: Municipal planning is coordinated with the school district and the two meet together at least once per year. (3 points)**

Springfield Township and Springfield Township School District enjoy a strong working relationship as they partner on a regular basis to improve the quality of life for everyone in the community. In addition to having designated School District representatives serve on various Township Advisory Boards to facilitate district involvement, the Township and District meet regularly for land use purposes. Most recently, the planning and construction of a new elementary school has fostered an even deeper partnership.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township School District Paper Mill Elem. Groundbreaking

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#### **Criteria 10 B: The municipality and local public schools cooperate to share facilities and other resources. (For example, the municipality assists with the cost of evening lifeguards for community use of a school swimming pool or for provision of crossing guards.) (2 points)**

Identified as budget item 410.050, the Township provides crossing guards to control and direct traffic at or near schools in the community during hours when school children are going to and from school. Crossing guards must protect and safeguard the lives and well-being of school children as they go to and from school by directing the movements of both pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Crossing Guard Unit

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### SECTION 11: Engagement (2 points)

#### **Criteria 11 A: Municipality works with schools and local nonprofits/community organizations to engage students about community issues such as waste reduction and recycling, public safety, wellness, conservation, nature, etc. (2 points)**

Another strong partnership between the Township and School District is the classroom environmental awareness campaign spearheaded by the Springfield Township Environmental Advisory Commission (EAC). Every year, the volunteers of the Springfield EAC visit elementary classrooms and teach them about recycling, conservation, and renewable energy.

EVIDENCE: Not available at this time.

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## CATEGORY: Energy, Conservation, & Energy Use

### SECTION 12: Municipal Energy Use (11 points)

#### **Criteria 12 A: The municipality has recently completed an energy audit of all municipal buildings and operations. The audit includes findings and recommendations and establishes a baseline of energy usage. (2 points)**

Conducted over the course of fall 2019, Springfield Township contracted with Practical Energy Solutions (PES) to complete a comprehensive energy audit of all Township facilities and operations. The audit findings and recommendations were presented to the Springfield Township Board of Commissioners on January 6, 2020

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township 2019-2020 Municipal Energy Audit

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#### **Criteria 12 B: The municipality has established goals from the energy audit findings and is methodically implementing the energy audit findings. (3 points)**

As outlined in the energy audit, a total of twelve (12) recommendations were identified to reduce the Township's energy consumption. Conservative calculations estimate that implementing said recommendations stand to reduce energy consumption by at least 25%. Township goals following the audit is to implement all twelve recommendations, some of which are already being implemented, and reduce municipal energy consumption by 25% by Jan. 1, 2021.



EVIDENCE: Springfield Township 2019-2020 Municipal Energy Audit



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#### **Criteria 12 C: Municipal energy use has declined overall at least 15% from the baseline year established in the energy audit. (4 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

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#### **Criteria 12 D: Municipality is reporting yearly to the public on progress and results made in implementing recommendations/findings contained in the municipal energy study. (2 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

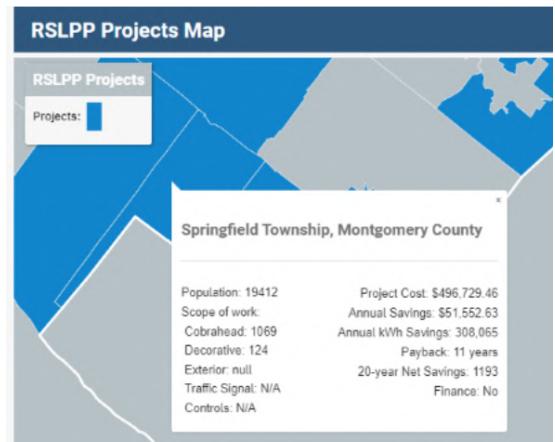
## CATEGORY: Energy, Conservation, & Energy Use

### SECTION 12: Municipal Energy Use (13 points)

#### **Criteria 12 E: Municipality has or is in the process of retrofitting street lights and traffic signals to LED bulbs. (3 points)**

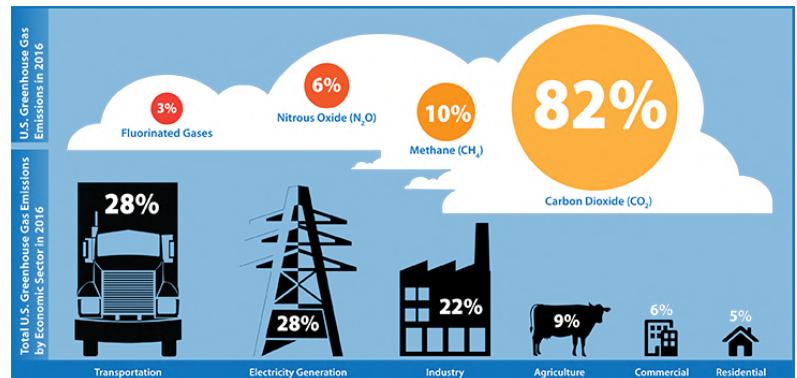
Completed in the early 2010s, Springfield Township partnered with the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission to retrofit over 1,100 streetlights with more energy efficient LED lights. The total cost of the project was nearly \$500,000 with an annual savings of approximately \$51,522 in utility billing. Another source of savings is that the annual kWh savings for the Township is estimated to be over 300,000 kWhs per year!

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township LED Streetlight Procurement



#### **Criteria 12 F: As part of the energy audit, a greenhouse gas inventory and mitigation plan has been established for municipal functions. (4 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.



#### **Criteria 12 G: Positive progress on the greenhouse gas inventory and mitigation plan is reported annually to the public. (3 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

#### **Criteria 12 H: Energy performance of key municipal buildings is tracked using ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager and is reported yearly to the public. (3 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

## CATEGORY: Energy, Conservation, & Energy Use

### SECTION 13: Community Energy Use (8 points)

#### **Criteria 13 A: The municipal comprehensive plan contains an energy conservation element. (1 point)**

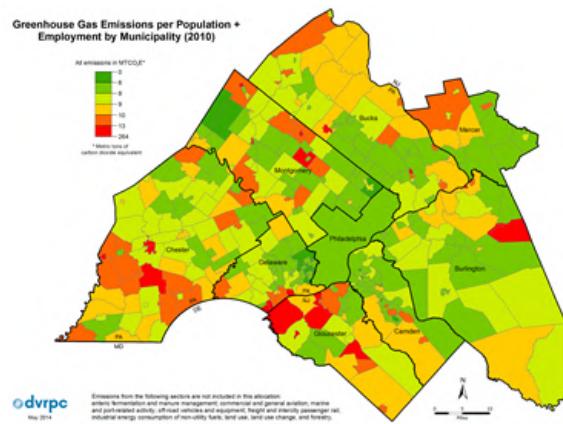
Springfield Township is dedicated to energy conservation and local sustainability. Goal 8 of the Township's Comprehensive Plan affirms this commitment and advocates for the adoption of policies and practices that would encourage the conservation of energy and natural resources, and allow the use of renewable energy sources by the municipality, residences, and the business community.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Comprehensive Plan: A Vision for 2025

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#### **Criteria 13 B: Municipal support is provided to a public program (throughout the community and for businesses) to conserve energy, promote renewable energy sources, and mitigate carbon emissions. (3 points)**

Springfield Township's Environmental Advisory Commission is a group of volunteers and environmental professionals dedicated to promoting a more sustainable Springfield. Through their portion of the Township website and by hosting workshops, the EAC promotes public awareness of environmental issues such as energy conservation, carbon emissions, and renewable energy.



EVIDENCE: Springfield Township EAC's clean and renewable energy subpage  
Springfield Township EAC's tools to promote sustainability subpage

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#### **Criteria 13 C: The greenhouse gas inventory has been expanded to include the entire community (not just the municipality) and a mitigation plan has been developed. (4 points)**

Connections 2045 is the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission's comprehensive plan for the Greater Philadelphia Area. Section 3 of the plan covers various strategies to sustain the environment, including a regional approach to reducing GHG emissions (see pages 45-52).

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township energy and emissions profile  
Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission - 2045 Comp. Plan

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## CATEGORY: Energy, Conservation, & Energy Use

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### SECTION 14: Green Buildings (17 points)

**Criteria 14 A: There is a written green building policy/standard for new construction/major renovations of municipal buildings such as the International Green Construction Code (IgCC). (3 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time

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**Criteria 14 B: New construction and major renovations at municipal facilities incorporate (sufficient to achieve) LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver principles. (3 points)**

When Springfield Township constructed a new municipal campus, consisting of a new Administration/Police building, Public Library, and Public Works Facility, all three were designed to meet silver LEED standards. Eco-friendly features include a green roof at the library for stormwater management and water quality improvement, thermal blanket heating and cooling, LED lighting throughout, six underground detention basins with water recharge design and three rain gardens to improve stormwater quality and recharge the groundwater.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township New Eco-Friendly Municipal Campus

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**Criteria 14 C: Municipal building operations could meet LEED O&M Silver principles or better. (4 points)**

When Springfield Township constructed a new municipal campus, consisting of a new Administration/Police building, Public Library, and Public Works Facility, all three were designed to meet silver LEED standards. Eco-friendly features include a green roof at the library for stormwater management and water quality improvement, thermal blanket heating and cooling, LED lighting throughout, six underground detention basins with water recharge design and three rain gardens to improve stormwater quality and recharge the groundwater.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township New Eco-Friendly Municipal Campus

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**Criteria 14 D: The municipality has reviewed ordinances, resolutions, and other policies to remove impediments to the use of alternative energy (wind, solar, geothermal) installations or green buildings. (3 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time

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**Criteria 14 E: LEED certification is required for development projects receiving a public incentive (TIF, abatement, etc.). (4 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time

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## CATEGORY: Energy, Conservation, & Energy Use

### SECTION 15: Renewable Energy (7 points)

**Criteria 15 A: Municipality purchases energy for municipal facilities from renewable energy sources (or has installed renewable energy sources) such that at least 10% of all municipal energy comes from renewable sources. (3 points)**

On January 8, 2020 the Springfield Township Board of Commissioners demonstrated their commitment to sustainability through the authorization of a new energy procurement agreement with Constellation Energy through the Pennsylvania Municipal Leagues's Municipal Utility Alliance to power all Township facilities by 100% clean and renewable energy.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Enters in one year agreement for 100% green energy



**Criteria 15 B: New construction and major renovations at municipal facilities incorporate (sufficient to achieve) LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver principles. (3 points)**

On January 8, 2020 the Springfield Township Board of Commissioners demonstrated their commitment to sustainability through the authorization of a new energy procurement agreement with Constellation Energy to power all Township facilities by 100% clean and renewable energy.

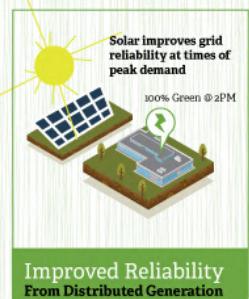
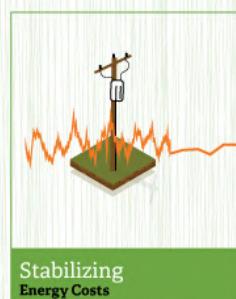
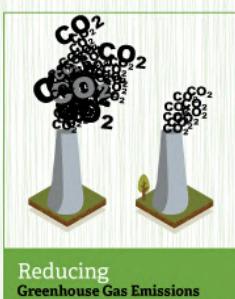


EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Enters in one year agreement for 100% green energy

**Renewable Energy Benefits**

- Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Creating Jobs In Rural Areas
- Strengthening America's Energy Independence
- Stabilizing Energy Costs

#### Potential Economic & Environmental Impacts





## CATEGORY: Environmental Stewardship

### SECTION 16: Water Use, Conservation & Quality (6 points)

**Criteria 16 A: The municipality utilizes a Integrated Municipal Stormwater and Wastewater Planning Approach (as described by EPA) to identify the municipality's priorities for projects and includes a description of how the proposed priorities reflect the relative importance of adverse impacts on human health and water quality and the municipality's financial capability. (4 points)**

Chapter 88 of the code addresses storm water management. The chapter includes drainage plan requirements, storm water management guidelines, inspections, fees and expenses, maintenance responsibilities, prohibitions, and enforcement / penalties related to managing storm water.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Code Chapter 88: Stormwater Management

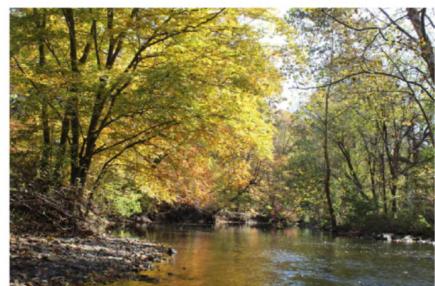
**Criteria 16 B: The municipality actively encourages water conservation and efficiency measures in the community and among businesses. (1 point)**

As a founding member of the Wissahickon Creek Watershed Partnership, Springfield Township actively works with over a dozen other municipalities, watershed associations, and water utility providers to encourage water conversation and improve the water quality for the entire region. The Springfield EAC also provide information for more localized action and tips for water conservation.

EVIDENCE: Wissahickon Creek Watershed Partnership  
Springfield Township EAC Water Conservation Link

Wissahickon Creek Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP)

A comprehensive plan to improve water quality in the Wissahickon Creek Watershed

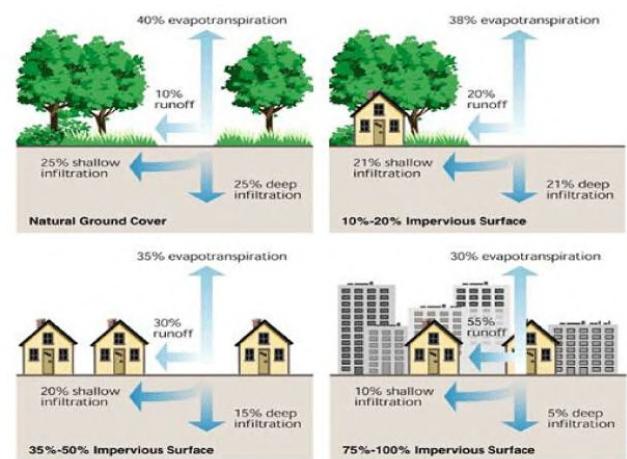


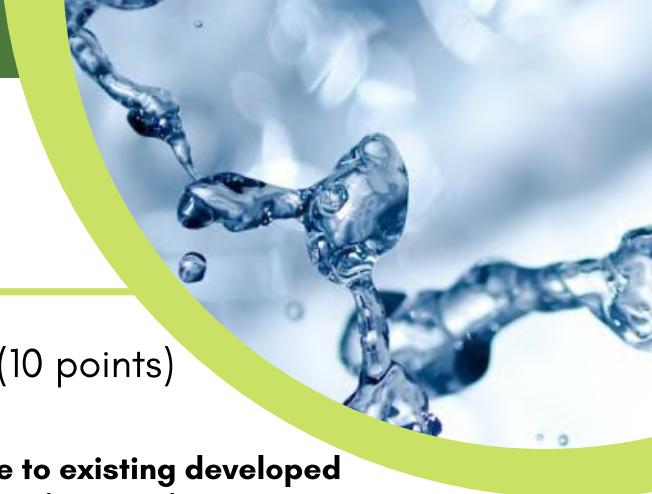
September 2019

**Criteria 16 C: Low impact development and onsite stormwater infiltration is encouraged. (1 point)**

In accordance to Article III, Chapter 88-8 of the Springfield Township Code, Stormwater management easements shall be provided by the property owner if necessary for access for inspections and maintenance, or preservation of stormwater runoff conveyance, infiltration, and detention areas and other BMPs, by persons other than the property owner

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Code Chapter 88 Article III





## CATEGORY: Environmental Stewardship

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### SECTION 16: Water Use, Conservation & Quality (10 points)

#### **Criteria 16 D: Water provider(s) prioritize improving service to existing developed areas as opposed to opening up new areas to development. (3 points)**

Aqua America announced in 2019 their intention to invest over \$555 Million across eight (8) states to improve the dire state of water infrastructure in the U.S. Of that amount, \$323 million will go to Aqua Pennsylvania, the primary water provider for Springfield Township, to replace aging water mains. Aqua credits its main replacement program with a dramatic reduction in service interruptions caused by main breaks in southeastern Pennsylvania. In 2000, the number of main breaks per 100 miles of pipe was 25. By the end of 2018, following an investment of \$1.2 billion, the number of breaks per 100 miles of main has been reduced by more than 60% to fewer than 10. Aqua plans to replace an additional 600 miles of water main between 2019 and 2023.

EVIDENCE: Aqua America plans over \$555 Capital Investment

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#### **Criteria 16 E: Drinking water and sanitary sewer rates are based on the real cost of providing service. (3 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time

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#### **Criteria 16 F: Sufficient investments are being made to the water, sewer, and stormwater systems per real costs and keeping pace with maintenance and operations. (2 points)**

In 2013, a stormwater Springfield Township a comprehensive stormwater plan was developed by the municipal engineering firm Boucher & James. As part of their analysis, the firm identified prioritized projects for the Township to fund and pursue to improve stormwater conditions in the community. Since the development of that report, the Township has actively invested in its stormwater system.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Stormwater System Improvement Map

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#### **Criteria 16 G: Cooperation is occurring with neighboring municipalities to manage water and sewer supply, treatment and distribution, sewage and stormwater, in the most cost-efficient way. (2 points)**

As a founding member of the Wissahickon Creek Watershed Partnership, Springfield Township actively works with over a dozen other municipalities, watershed associations, and water utility providers to encourage water conversation and improve the water quality for the entire region.

EVIDENCE: Wissahickon Creek Watershed Partnership

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## CATEGORY: Environmental Stewardship

### SECTION 17: Air Quality (10 points)

#### **Criteria 17 A: PA State anti-idling law is enforced and compliance is promoted. (2 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

#### **Criteria 17 B: Municipality supports public education regarding reducing air pollution and emissions. (1 point)**

Springfield Township's Environmental Advisory Commission is a group of volunteers and environmental professionals dedicated to promoting a more sustainable Springfield. Through their portion of the Township website and by hosting workshops, the EAC promotes public awareness of environmental issues such as energy conservation, carbon emissions, and renewable energy.

EVIDENCE: [Springfield Township EAC Air Pollution Link](#)



#### **Criteria 17 C: A clean construction emissions policy for all publicly subsidized projects has been adopted and is enforced. (3 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

#### **Criteria 17 D: A burn ban has been formally adopted and made part of municipal ordinance, and State or County outdoor wood fired boiler construction and operation is in accordance with state law. (2 points)**

Chapter 16 of the Springfield Township Code makes it unlawful to burn, or cause to be burned, garbage, trash, or similar waste products outdoors in any property in Springfield Township.

EVIDENCE: [Springfield Township Code Chapter 16: Outdoor Burning Banned](#)

#### **Criteria 17 E: The municipality and its municipal waste hauler service are exploring ways to reduce emissions from vehicles and trucks beyond anti-idling. (2 points)**

Understanding the need to reduce emissions of its municipal fleet, Springfield Township recently analyzed the emissions reduction possible by replacing its older Class 8 Diesel Refuse Fleet with newer, cleaner models using the U.S EPA's Diesel Emissions Quantifier.

EVIDENCE: [U.S. EPA Diesel Emissions Quantifier](#)

## CATEGORY: Environmental Stewardship

### SECTION 18: Green Infrastructure (5 points)

#### **Criteria 18 A: Policies, plans and ordinances protect wetlands and waterways and their buffers. (1 point)**

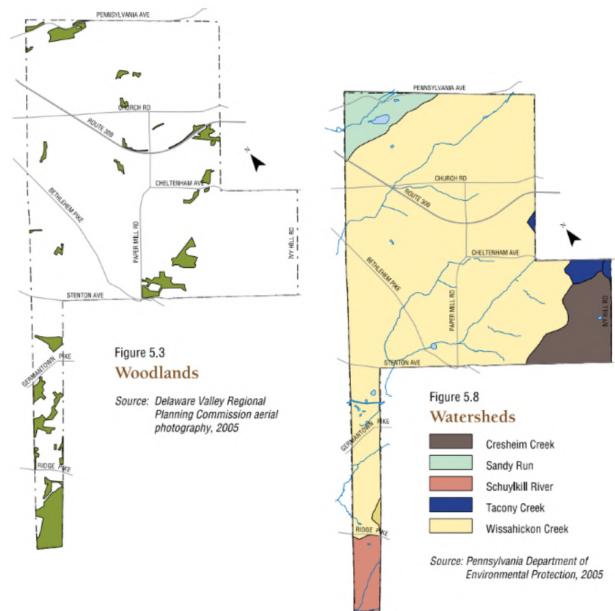
Embodyed in the legislative intent for each zoning district, the Springfield Township Zoning Code (Chapter 114) outlines the Code's purpose to Preserve natural features such as woodlands, steep slopes, wetlands, and floodplains and provide open space for residents of each development.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Zoning Code, Chapter 114, Article IIIA, Section 3A0 (b)

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#### **Criteria 18 B: Written policies exist and ordinances and incentives have been enacted to conserve environmentally and ecologically sensitive places (for example, slopes over 25%, slide prone soils and geology, springs and vernal pools, mature woodlands, Natural Heritage Areas, etc.) in order to protect public safety and natural resources while using green infrastructure for stormwater management. (1 point)**

Embodyed in the legislative intent for each zoning district, the Springfield Township Zoning Code (Chapter 114) outlines the Code's purpose to Preserve natural features such as woodlands, steep slopes, wetlands, and floodplains and provide open space for residents of each development.



EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Zoning Code, Chapter 114, Article IIIA, Section 3A0 (b)

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#### **Criteria 18 C: Low impact and green development projects, as well as techniques (permeable pavement, bioswales, cisterns, woodland and steep slope protection) are fostered through incentives, ordinances and design guidelines. (3 points)**

All proposals for development in Springfield Township must include an analysis of physical resources associated with the natural environment of the site (including topography, soils, hydrology, and vegetation).

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Zoning Code, Chapter 114, Article IIIA, Section 3A3 (a)

## CATEGORY: Environmental Stewardship

### SECTION 18: Green Infrastructure (6 points)

**Criteria 18 D: Tree and woodlands protection and management policies are in place (for example, community forestry plan and canopy goal; tree planting programs; tree maintenance programs; Shade Tree Commission, tree hazard and health assessment projects; computerized assessment of municipal trees, Tree/woodland replacement criteria in ordinances, etc.). (3 points)**

Springfield Township's Shade Tree Commission promotes the beautification of public spaces by designing landscape plans for municipal facilities, and encourages good planting and landscaping of private spaces through the review of landscaping plans.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Shade Tree Commission

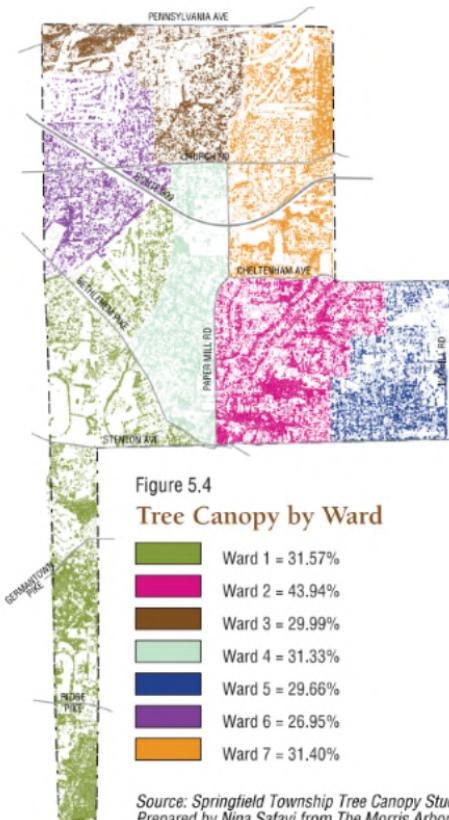
**Criteria 18 E: A natural resource inventory has been developed for the community within the last 7 years as part of the comprehensive plan. (1 point)**

Adopted in 2014, Chapter 5 of the Springfield Township Comprehensive Plan inventories the natural resources of the Township.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Comprehensive Plan, Chapter 5: Natural Resources

**Criteria 18 F: Sustainable landscape maintenance practices are in place for parks and municipal grounds. (2 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.





## CATEGORY: Housing

### SECTION 19: Affordability (13 points)

#### **Criteria 19 A: The zoning ordinance provides for or accommodates a full range of housing opportunities throughout the community. (1 point)**

Springfield Township's Zoning Ordinance (Chapter 114) exists to regulate the land use and development in the Municipality. It also provides for and accommodates a full range of housing opportunities by differentiating different residential districts that includes provisions for single and multi-family residences.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Zoning Ordinance - Chapter 114

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#### **Criteria 19 B: The comprehensive plan addresses the community benefits of and need for expanding housing choice. (2 points)**

Adopted in 2014, Chapter 7 of the Springfield Township Comprehensive Plan outlines several goals and objectives to encourage housing diversity and environmentally responsible housing upgrades.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Comp. Plan - Chapter 7

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#### **Criteria 19 C: The zoning ordinance has inclusionary housing provisions/incentives. (3 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

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#### **Criteria 19 D: A program exists (perhaps in partnership with an outside agency) to facilitate home ownership: homebuyer incentives, employer-assisted housing, community land trust, etc. (3 points)**

Through the Montgomery County Office of Housing & Community Development, all eligible homebuyers purchasing a home in Springfield Township are able to receive assistance with payment and closing costs. By helping to offset the cost, the program is intended to promote home-ownership in Springfield Township and throughout Montgomery County.

EVIDENCE: Montgomery County First-Time Homebuyer Assistance Program

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#### **Criteria 19 E: The community is tracking and reporting annually to the public on results toward affordable housing for residents. (4 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

## CATEGORY: Housing

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### SECTION 20: Sustainable Neighborhoods (11 points)

**Criteria 20 A: A current inventory of vacant and blighted/blighting properties is maintained and mapped. (2 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 20 B: A program is being implemented to put blighted, abandoned properties back into productive use: smart rehab code, conservatorship, demolition, acquisition, green lot strategies, etc. (2 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 20 C: The municipality has elected to administer and enforce PA's statewide Unified Construction Code (UCC). (1 point)**

Chapter 13 of the Springfield Township Code adopts the most recent version of the Pennsylvania Construction Code and Uniform Construction Code.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Code, Chapter 13, Article I, Section 2 (A) & (B)

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**Criteria 20 D: The municipality has adopted the International Property Maintenance Code within the last 6 years per good, safe rental housing. (2 points)**

In 2015, Springfield Township amended Chapter 13 pertaining to Construction Codes to include all relative codes including the International Property Maintenance Codes as applicable in town.

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 20 E: Staffing is in place sufficient to enforce building and maintenance codes. (2 points)**

The Springfield Township Community Development Department is responsible for ensuring the safety and well-being of the general public through strict enforcement of property maintenance codes and other housing/property related regulations.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Building & Zoning

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**Criteria 20 F: The municipality utilizes a system for collection of delinquent taxes and fees in order to mitigate blight and abandonment. (2 points)**

The Township utilizes the Montgomery County Tax Claim Bureau for the collection of delinquent taxes. The systematic collection of delinquent taxes is reflected in line 300-020 of the 2020 Springfield Township Operating Budget.

EVIDENCE: Montgomery County Tax Claim Bureau

## CATEGORY: Land Use and Transportation

### SECTION 21: Mobility (5 points)

#### **Criteria 21 A: Trails for walking and bicycling are being developed or maintained. (1 point)**

Cresheim Trail is a proposed trail that would connect multiple communities in Philadelphia and Montgomery Counties. Utilizing primarily old railroad rights-of-way, the Cresheim Trail will provide a safe, off-road alternative to high speed local roads for transportation, recreation and connecting with neighbors.

EVIDENCE: Cresheim Trail Feasibility Study

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#### **Criteria 21 B: Alternate transportation (e.g. transit, inter-modal, multi-modal, bicycle/pedestrian) are accommodated and promoted. (2 points)**

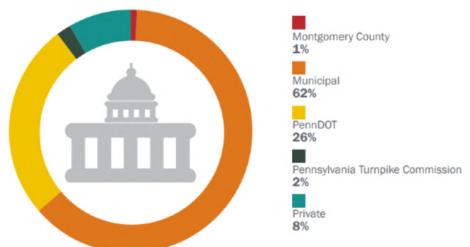
Springfield Township's Oreland train station is a popular stop on the Southeastern Pennsylvania transportation Authority (SEPTA)'s Lansdale/Doylestown Regional Rail-line. Springfield Township also participated with the Montgomery County Planning Commission's BikeMontco Initiative. The county-wide bike plan is intended to guide development in towards the construction, improvement, and promotion of bicycling in the municipality and the county as a whole.

EVIDENCE: Montgomery County Bike Montco Plan



Bike Montco

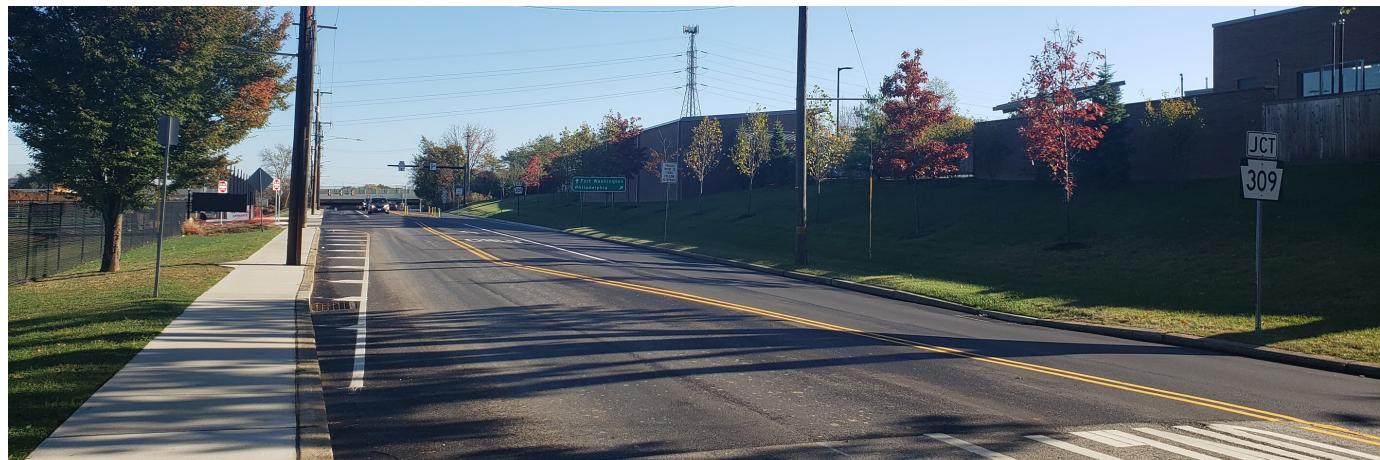
Road ownership in Montgomery County



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#### **Criteria 21 C: Public transportation and ride sharing are promoted and facilitated, as is transit-oriented development (where applicable). (2 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.



## CATEGORY: Land Use and Transportation



### SECTION 21: Mobility (8 points)

#### **Criteria 21 D: Bicycle lanes or shared roadways are being developed and a "Share the Road" education campaign is being advanced. (3 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

#### **Criteria 21 E: Police are trained on the rights and responsibilities of bicyclists and state law on passing bicycles. (2 points)**

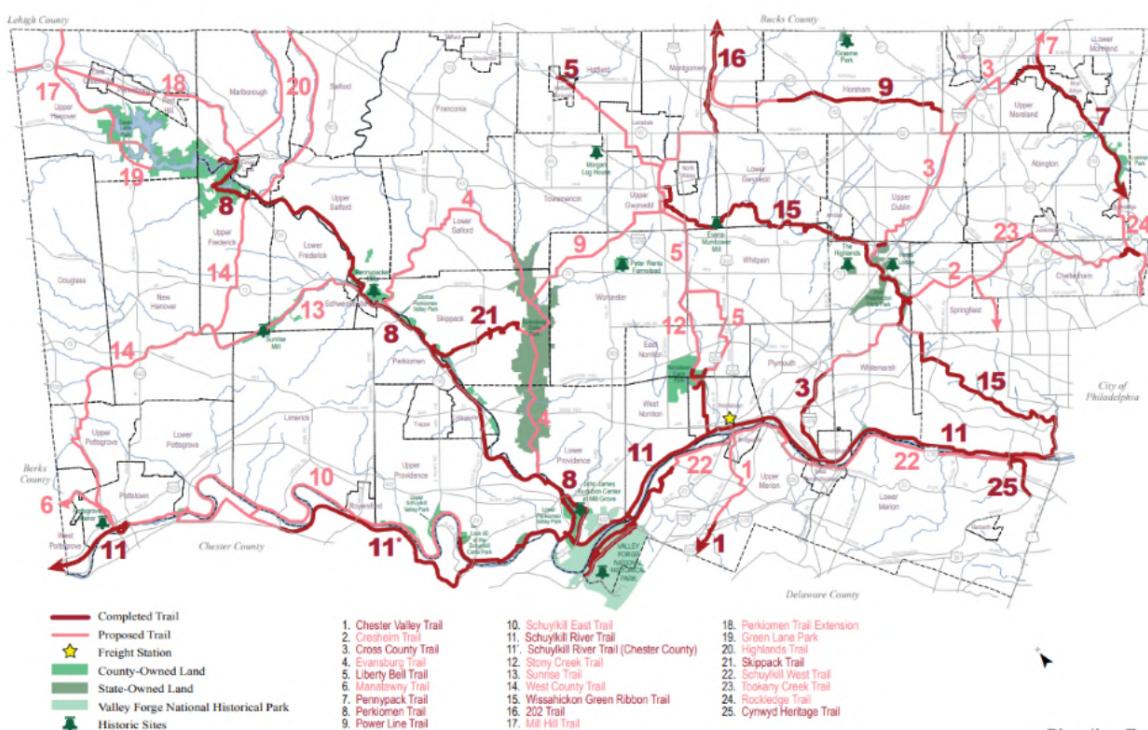
EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

#### **Criteria 21 F: Traffic calming techniques, complete streets projects, access management and congestion management programs have been evaluated and are being implemented. (3 points)**

Located along Paper Mill Road, the Springfield Township Middle and High Schools house over 1000 students that travel to and from school by car, bus and walking. The Township has partnered with our local School District on a traffic calming strategy along Paper Mill Road through the designation of a multi-block school zone and installation of warning flashers.

EVIDENCE: Springfield awards Transportation Grant for School Zone Flashers

Montgomery County Primary Trail Network



## CATEGORY: Land Use and Transportation



### SECTION 22: Community (7 points)

#### **Criteria 22 A: Professional staff are employed or retained to manage the land use program. (1 point)**

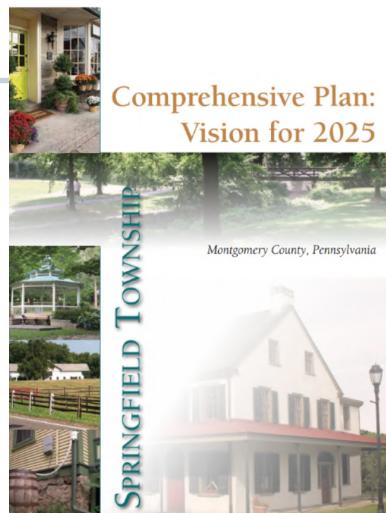
The Township's Building & Zoning Department is responsible for ensuring that Springfield develops and grows in ways that are consistent with our vision of the community as embodied in the Comprehensive Plan.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Building & Zoning Department

#### **Criteria 22 B: Comprehensive land use/development plan is current, addresses impacts to neighboring communities, and incorporates sustainability principles. (2 points)**

Adopted in 2014, Springfield Township Comprehensive Plan incorporates sustainability principles through its goals to preserve historic buildings, implement traffic calming, improve pedestrian crossing, improve streetscapes, and more.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Comprehensive Plan



#### **Criteria 22 C: A multi-municipal comprehensive plan has been adopted as has an official map. (3 points)**

Adopted in 2015 by Montgomery County and endorsed by the Municipality of Norristown, the Montco 2040 Comprehensive Plan reflects a collaborative effort between the County Planning Commission and the numerous local municipalities to set a clearly defined vision for the entire region.

EVIDENCE: Montco 2040: A Shared Vision



#### **Criteria 22 D: Up-to-date ordinances for zoning and subdivision/land development are in place to implement the comprehensive plan. (1 point)**

The Township frequently updates its zoning and subdivision/land development ordinances to assist in the implementation of the comprehensive plan. The most recent full-scale amendment to the Zoning ordinance having occurred in 2019 with the addition of a historic resource overlay district.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Zoning Code - Article XIID Historic Resources Overlay District

## CATEGORY: Land Use and Transportation

### SECTION 22: Community (11 points)

#### **Criteria 22 E: The comprehensive plan and ordinances promote pedestrian-oriented, dense, walkable, mixed-use development (in existing and proposed development), and redevelopment in the core or town center. (4 points)**

The comprehensive plan addresses how creating a pedestrian-scaled retail environment will encourage walking and attract new development in the downtown area. The plan addresses improving sidewalks and landscapes to enhance the pedestrian experience.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Comprehensive Plan

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#### **Criteria 22 F: A Transfer Development Rights (TDR) program is in place to incentivize development where infrastructure currently exists and to protect important green space. (4 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

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#### **Criteria 22 G: Developers are required to submit a comprehensive and detailed fiscal impact analysis including long-term fiscal impacts such as road repair, school infrastructure needs and other public services with their development applications. (2 points)**

It is often a requirement by Springfield Township that development proposals be accompanied by several impact analyses to ensure that projects do not or at least alleviate potential negative impact on the surrounding neighborhoods.

EVIDENCE: Not available at this time

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#### **Criteria 22 H: Land use and development decisions are assessed to ensure they do not have negative fiscal, stormwater, traffic, infrastructure, or service demands, or quality of life impacts on neighboring municipalities. (1 point)**

The Springfield Township Zoning Ordinance regulates land use and development decisions in the community. Establishing zoning districts based on land use, the ordinance stipulates specific criteria for each district to ensure that proposed land uses/developments do not have a negative impact on fiscal, environmental, or traffic conditions in the Township.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Zoning Ordinance



## CATEGORY: Land Use and Transportation

### SECTION 23: Green Space (9 points)

#### **Criteria 23 A: The Comprehensive Plan identifies environmentally sensitive, ecologically significant, and civic/historic places. (1 point)**

Goal/Recommendations 3 and 4 of the Springfield Township Comprehensive Plan establishes the protection of natural and historic resources as a major priority for the Township.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Comprehensive Plan - Recommendations 3 & 4

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#### **Criteria 22 B: The Comprehensive Plan and ordinances protect farmland and/or promotes community gardens and infill green space. (2 points)**

Each district in Springfield Township's Zoning Ordinance include language in their permitted use sections to promote community gardens and open green spaces.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Zoning Ordinance - Design and Development Standards

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#### **Criteria 23 C: The Comprehensive Plan includes a parks/recreation and open space component with proposed passive or active greenways, parks and trails, and the zoning and subdivision ordinances support the vision. (1 point)**

Chapter 5 of the Springfield Township Comprehensive Plan outlines the importance of natural resources and includes an open space component that identifies both protected and unprotected open spaces in the Township.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Comprehensive Plan - Chapter 5



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#### **Criteria 23 D: The greenspace/open space plan has benchmarks and results are reported annually to the public. (4 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

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#### **Criteria 23 E: The municipality has a PA Dept of Agriculture Agricultural Security Area (ASA). (1 point)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

## CATEGORY: Land Use and Transportation

### SECTION 24: Thriving Green Business (8 points)

#### **Criteria 24 A: The municipality has assessed Main Street program options and opportunities for possible applicability and implementation. (1 point)**

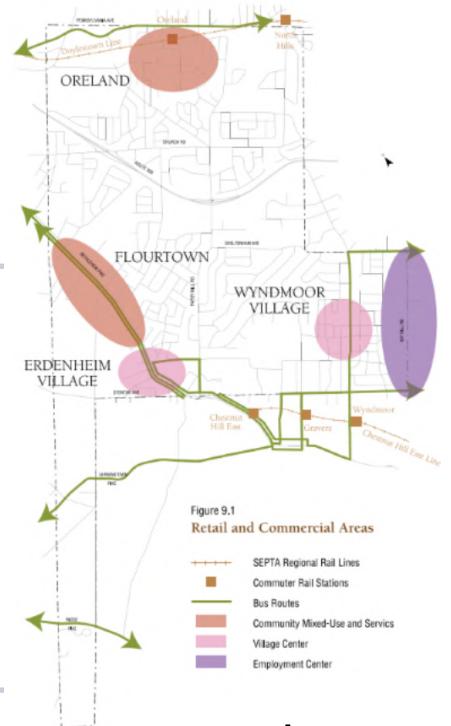
Chapter 9 of the Springfield Township Comprehensive Plan identifies local economic assets. One of the opportunities explored by the plan is the creation of a main street development coordinator position for the business areas in the Township such as Bethlehem Pike & Willow Grove Avenue Corridors.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Comprehensive Plan - Chapter 9

#### **Criteria 24 B: Owners and tenants in the retail area are engaged with the municipality to provide attractive sidewalks, trees, and street furniture and make the area safe for pedestrians and bicyclists. (1 point)**

The comprehensive plan has objectives to upgrade facades, storefronts and the streetscape to improve the appearance of Springfield's business corridors.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Comprehensive Plan - Chapter 9



#### **Criteria 24 C: The municipality maintains and supports an initiative to encourage residents to buy local. (2 points)**

In addition to promoting environmental awareness, Springfield Township also encourages the community to buy local as part of its commitment to local economic sustainability.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township EAC's Buy Local Links

#### **Criteria 24 D: Municipal action plans for promoting minority and women-owned business are being advanced, including seeking proposals from the same for purchasing, services, etc. (1 point)**

Springfield Township actively solicits the participation of Minority and Women Business Enterprises (M/WBE) for municipals purchasing, bids, and contracts.

EVIDENCE: Montgomery County 2019 CDBG Action Plan

#### **Criteria 24 E: A program is in place to encourage businesses to be aware of innovative sustainable business approaches and to recognize achievement. (3 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

## CATEGORY: Land Use and Transportation

### SECTION 25: Material Use, Waste, & Recycling (8 points)

#### **Criteria 25 A: Waste and recycling ordinances and regulations are in compliance and enforced per Act 101, or if not a mandatory-Act 101 municipality, a municipal recycling program is conducted. (2 points)**

Chapter 72 of the Springfield Township code establishes a mandatory recycling program. The recycling program is consistent with the requirements of Act 101 and requires suitable containers for collection and sorting.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Code - Chapter 72: Recycling

#### **Criteria 25 B: There is a curbside and/or drop-off recycling program. (1 point)**

In accordance to Chapter 72 Section 5 of the Springfield Township Code, recyclables shall be placed curbside for collection.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Code - Chapter 72: Recycling

#### **Criteria 25 C: The municipality contracts for solid waste collection as opposed to individual home owners contracting for the same. (2 points)**

As of 2020, the Refuse and Recycling Division of the Springfield Township Public Works Department is responsible for collecting all refuse and recycling in the Township.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Refuse & Recycling Division



#### **Criteria 25 D: There is a written waste reduction and recycling ordinance for residential, commercial and institutional facilities. (2 points)**

Chapter 72 Section 1 (A) of the Springfield Township Code outlines the written waste reduction and recycling ordinance for all properties.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township Code - Chapter 72: Recycling

#### **Criteria 25 E: There is an active public informational program to encourage citizens to reduce waste and recycle. (1 point)**

The Springfield Township organizes public workshops and tours of the local recycling facility to encourage citizens to reduce waste and recycle.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township's Residential Recycling webpage

## CATEGORY: Land Use and Transportation

### SECTION 25: Material Use, Waste, & Recycling (14 points)

#### **Criteria 25 F: All municipal buildings have an active recycling program. (1 point)**

Springfield Township actively recycles all paper, glass, cardboard, and aluminum waste collected at the Township Buildings through a single-stream recycling process.

EVIDENCE: Not available at this time.

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#### **Criteria 25 G: For municipal facilities, a recent waste management assessment has been conducted with municipal employees trained in waste reduction and recycling. (2 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

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#### **Criteria 25 H: An Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program has been implemented for municipal operations. (3 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

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#### **Criteria 25 I: Municipality has an active litter prevention/clean-up program. (2 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

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#### **Criteria 25 J: An expanded material recycling program is being advanced, i.e., e-waste, composting, pharmaceuticals, and household hazardous waste for community-wide collection. (2 points)**

Springfield Township actively collects leaf and yard waste from residential properties. In 2019 and prior years, this collection was conducted curbside seasonally and then as a drop off during the spring and summer months. Starting in 2020, this collection will be operated year-round as a curbside pickup. The Township has also partnered with Curb my Clutter for e-waste recycling.

EVIDENCE: Springfield Township's Residential Recycling Webpage

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#### **Criteria 25 K: A community-wide recycling program is maintained at 5% above the state stipulated goal of 35 percent. (4 points)**

EVIDENCE: Not applicable at this time.

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PRESENTED BY  
THE SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION

1510 PAPER MILL ROAD, WYNDMOOR, PA 19038