

## West Vincent Township Sustainability Work Plan 2017-2022

Revision of original 2012 Sustainability Work Plan

### INTRODUCTION

The West Vincent Township Sustainability Work Plan proceeds from the West Vincent Township Sustainability Plan, which was adopted by the Board of Supervisors as an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan in December 2011. During 2016, the West Vincent Township Sustainability Committee conducted a thorough review of the original 2012-2015 Work Plan document which had been approved on February 27, 2012. There were cases where we felt the initiative had been completed. There was one duplicate, and cases where it made sense to combine two similar initiatives. There were cases where events in the township, and in society in general, have changed the landscape of sustainability; and the initiatives were edited to reflect current best thinking for this program. We found six groups of initiatives that we felt needed to be considered as related topics: water quality, farming, education, trails, trash, Ludwig's Corner. The result of this evaluation was that several initiatives were deemed no longer applicable, and some were seriously edited to reflect our current thinking on the role of the Sustainability Committee in the Township.

As a reference for evaluation by a future Sustainability Committee, the original numbering of the initiatives has been retained. There will no doubt be opportunities for some of the inactive original initiatives to resurface in the future.

Although the revised work plan does not include a calendar (as the 2012 Plan does) showing beginning and ending dates for accomplishing each initiative, it is based instead on prioritizing. The intent is to better meet the needs and abilities of the township and to promote interaction, communication, cooperation and participation by all West Vincent Township officials, personnel and committees. Although it currently favors the lack of rigidity a monthly timetable would impose, it still retains the requirement of the original plan for progress reports to the Supervisors.

The concept of this update is that the 2017 Revision comes with the acceptance that the West Vincent Township Sustainability Plan is a flexible document permitting ongoing additions and completions of initiatives without a revision of the entirety.

Respectfully submitted,

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### **Initiative 1: Perform comprehensive energy audits on all township facilities and implement recommendations**

**Category:** Energy

**Goal:** Maximize energy efficiency at all Township facilities

**Target:** Reduce municipal energy consumption as much as possible

**Scope:** Township facilities (vehicles, equipment and facilities).

**Other Categories Affected:** Energy, Environment

**Tasks:**

1. Commission energy audit on all facilities
2. Create phased approach to implement audit recommendations
3. Obtain funding
4. Implement

**Results:** Municipal energy consumption reduced to the extent of the recommendations

Who will be responsible to see this happens?

BoS, Township Manager

Who should do the work?

Township Manager and staff

When does it need to be done to have an impact?

As prioritized

How do we measure this?

**Tasks:** Completion of energy audit recommendations.

**Target:** Documented reduction in costs and usage (kWh and fossil fuels).

How much will it cost?

Savings should offset cost.

Funding source?

General Fund, grant

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### **Initiative 2: Create and Implement Alternative Energy Plan for Township Facilities**

**Category:** Energy

**Goal:** Reduce CO2 emissions as much as possible

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#### DEFINITIONS OF ACRONYMS

**BoS**—Board of Supervisors

**DEP**—Department of Environmental Protection (US)

**DRWSI**—Delaware River Water Shed Initiative

**EAC**—Environmental Action Committee (WVT)

**GIS**—Geophysical Information System

**GVWA**—Green Valleys Watershed Association

**RFP**—Request for Proposal

**SALDO**—Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance

**TBD**—To Be Determined

**WVT**—West Vincent Township

**WVSC**—West Vincent Sustainability Committee

**Target:** Reduce municipal energy consumption as much as possible

**Purpose:** To use appropriate township lands and structures for alternative energy generation

**Scope:** Municipal facilities, possibly beyond

**Other Categories Affected:** Economy, Environment Tasks:

1. Inventory township facilities for suitability for alternative energy generation by type
2. Research all details including ownership issues, costs, connection options, best practices for installation, hiring consultant if necessary
3. Complete plan
4. Obtain funding as appropriate to implement plan
5. Create RFP for providers. Emphasis should be on zero or low-cost options and installations
6. Choose provider(s)
7. Install

**Results:** Township generates at least 50% of the energy it uses from non-carbon sources

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

BoS, WVSC, EAC

*Who should do this?*

Township Manager, WVSC, EAC, BoS

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** Improvements installed as planned

**Target:** Energy costs and kWh provided by renewable facilities

*How much will it cost?*

Long-term contract for energy/equipment may provide benefits with little or no capital costs

*Funding source?*

Grants, energy provider, sale of excess energy. Large solar projects often include financing that makes the end cost near zero. WVT may even be able to have net income through this use of Township property, if solar cost downward trends continue.

### Initiative 3: Removed in 2017 work plan

### Initiative 4: Create a sustainable energy education outreach program for both residents and township employees

**Category:** Energy

**Goal:** Reduce CO2 emissions from 2005 levels

**Target:** Reduce township-wide energy consumption 10% by 2025; Purchase/generate 25% of residential energy from alternative sources

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Environment, Engagement Tasks:

1. Draft and adopt energy conservation policies for township staff
2. Collect educational materials for residents for display in township building and library
3. Create Energy webpage on township website, offering definitions, resources, funding information, links
4. Cover green energy in newsletters
5. Promote green energy at annual township sustainability fair

6. Create an annual green energy competition for township residents and businesses

**Results:** Educated and motivated WVT staff and citizens do positive things to reduce energy consumption on their properties

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

WVSC, Planning Commission Chair, BoS liaison

*Who should do this?*

Township Manager, Secretary (website, newsletter), WVSC (displays, fair, and competition), EAC (education), BoS (policy approvals)

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

2017 and ongoing

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** Hits on webpage, number of attendees at fair and participants in contest

**Target:** Gradual reduction in residential energy consumption measured by County, DVRPC and local surveys; more alternative energy used

*How much will it cost?*

Funding source? Donations, grants, General Fund

### Initiative 5: Removed in 2017 work plan

### Initiative 6: Revise Township ordinances and building codes to include incentives for, remove obstacles to, and add regulations supporting green building practices, including alternative energy generation and energy conservation.

**Category:** Energy

**Goal:** Reduce CO2 emissions as much as possible

**Target:** Reduce township-wide energy consumption; Purchase/generate residential energy from alternative sources

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** All Environment and Economy Tasks:

1. Review Zoning Ordinance, Building Code, and Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance
2. Revise as appropriate to meet targets. Consider successful ordinances from other communities
3. Refer to BoS for advertisement and approval

**Results:** Ordinances promote the reduction of CO2 emissions and other sustainability targets

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

Planning Commission, BoS, WVSC

*Who should do the work?*

Township Manager, WVSC, Planning Commission, Solicitor, BoS

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** All applicable ordinances and codes revised and adopted.

**Target:**

- Noticeable reduction in township-wide energy consumption
- Increased production of residential energy from alternative sources

*How much will it cost?*

No additional cost as part of a general revision process

*Funding source?*

General Fund

**Initiative 7: Removed in 2017 work plan**

**Initiative 8: Map township forests and establish forest preservation and reforestation program to protect watershed with an emphasis on riparian buffers**

**Category:** Environment

**Goal:** Protect and improve water quality

**Target:** 100% of riparian areas on municipal land are forested by 2020; 25% of riparian areas needing buffers on private lands are reforested by 2020

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Energy, Environment/Air, Soil, Wild life

**Tasks:**

1. Update ordinance to improve riparian buffer regulations and incentives
2. Educate residents about importance of forested buffers on website and during sustainability events
3. Investigate funding sources and partnerships for forestation efforts
4. Utilize GIS maps (GVWA has data)
5. Create a phased municipal forestation plan
6. Partner with Delaware River Watershed Initiative and watershed organizations to implement forestation projects

**Result:** Forested buffers prevent stream pollution and erosion from runoff.

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

WVSC, Township Manager, EAC, Planning Commission

*Who should do the work?*

Planning Commission, EAC, Township Manager, BoS, Solicitor

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized, and ongoing for implementation

*How do we measure this?*

**Target:** Photographs, water testing, stream base flows

*How much will it cost?*

Staff time, \$500 for educational materials, several thousand for municipal trees

*Funding source?*

TreeVitalize and other grant programs, non-profit partnerships, General Fund, landowner contributions, developers

**Initiative 9: Develop identification, testing, and mitigating opportunities for non-point source pollution**

**Category:** Environment

**Goal:** Protect and improve water quality and quantity

**Target:** Non-point source pollution is reduced 20% from 2015 levels by 2020

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Energy, Environment/Soil, Wildlife, Economy

**Tasks:**

1. Set criteria for pollutants, including emerging contaminants
2. Update ordinances as necessary to enable better monitoring and control of contaminants
3. Access data produced by Delaware River Watershed Initiative
4. Identify sources of run-off pollution indicated by GIS (Geographical Information Systems)
5. Create action plan to improve water quality at unhealthy locations, control run-off, etc.
6. Educate the residents about the hazards of lawn care products to the ecosystem.
7. Partner with GVWA to monitor stream health through their testing program

**Result:** Township water quality is protected and improved

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

WVSC, Township Manager, EAC, Planning Commission

*Who should do the work?*

Planning Commission, EAC, Township Manager, BoS, Solicitor, DEP, Green Valleys Watershed Association, volunteers

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized for criteria and ordinance revisions, and ongoing for testing and remediation

*How do we measure this?*

**Target:** Water testing

*How much will it cost?*

Staff time, \$10,000 for water testing

*Funding source?*

Grants, non-profit and university partnerships, General Fund

Notes: In West Vincent Township streams and waterways, biological run-off has a minimum impact. Run-off sedimentation is the more serious, but solvable, issue. (GVWA)

**Initiative 10: Ensure that municipal and community wastewater is treated to remove emerging contaminants such as pharmaceuticals and personal care products from treated effluent using techniques such as biofiltration or reverse osmosis**

**Value Category:** Environment

**Goal:** Protect and Improve Water Quality and Quantity

**Target:** Reduce sources of non-point source pollution 20% from 2015 baseline 2020

**Scope:** Township, French Creek Watershed

**Other Value Categories Affected:** Environment/ Wildlife

**Tasks:**

1. Perform regular testing on monitoring wells at spray irrigation sites for chlorides, bromides, caffeine and other substances that could prove harmful.
2. Monitor water quality best practices for emerging contaminates and ways to test for same

3. Add selected test methods to look for emerging contaminants in monitoring wells and local streams
4. If found to be above trace amounts, investigate solutions, including retrofitting municipal and community wastewater systems with appropriate filtration method. Require new plants to include chosen appropriate filtration method.
5. If no significant presence is found, continue monitoring on a pre-determined schedule

**Results: Fewer contaminants enter groundwater**

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

BoS, Township Manager

*Who should do the work?*

Water Quality Specialist, Township Manager, BoS, Solicitor

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized for testing and establishment of new plant requirements, three years later for retrofits.

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** Testing done and evaluated, plants retrofitted as necessary, new plants with filtration as necessary

**Target:** Water tests of streams and aquifer

*How much will it cost?*

\$10,000 or more for testing, \$300,000 plus per plant retrofit, additional costs to users and developers

*Funding source?*

Developers, capital reserves, user fees

**Initiative 11: Require that on-lot septic systems be pumped every three years**

**Category:** Environment/ Water

**Goal:** Protect and improve water quality and quantity

**Target:** Reduce non-point pollution 20% from 2015 levels by 2020

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Environment/ Solid Waste

**Tasks:**

1. Adopt stand-alone ordinance requiring pumping every three years with reporting requirements and fines for non-compliance. (Research by comparing with other examples such as East Pikeland's ordinance #111)
2. Email blast and mail postcard informing all residents with on-lot systems of new law
3. Provide information and resources about septic pumping and inspections on Water page of website
4. Include annual reminder on township tax bill

**Results: Streams and aquifer are better protected from malfunctioning systems**

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

BoS, Township Manager

*Who should do this?*

Solicitor, BoS, Township staff

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized.

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** Ordinance adopted and residents informed

**Target:** Residents reports indicate majority compliance; stream tests show reduction in non-point source biologic pollution.

*How much will it cost?*

\$5,000 legal and advertising costs; approximately \$1,000 for postcard mailing, staff time

*Funding source?*

General Fund

**Initiative 12: Develop a Canada goose control program for township facilities**

**Category:** Environment

**Goal:** Protect and improve water quality and quantity

**Target:** Reduce non-point source pollution

**Scope:** Township facilities

**Other Categories Affected:** Environment Tasks:

1. Investigate cost-effective and environmentally friendly goose controls, including barriers and repellents
2. Create a phased plan for population control
3. Implement plan

**Results: Goose dropping contamination is significantly reduced on township properties**

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

Township Manager, EAC

*Who should do this?*

Township groundskeeper and other staff

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** Plan created and implemented

**Target:** Visual assessment shows fewer geese and droppings, fecal contamination reduced in water tests

*How much will it cost?*

To be determined by task 1.

*Funding source?*

General Fund

**Initiative 13: Provide water warnings to residents during flood events**

**Category:** Environment

**Goal:** Protect and improve water quality

**Target:** Reduce sources of non-point pollution

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Environment/Soil Tasks:

1. Create and implement plan to distribute county flood warnings to township residents, including emails, website homepage alerts, signage, including electric police sign and signs at Ludwig's Corner Firehouse
2. Educate residents via website, newsletter about measures to take to prevent and mitigate contamination from well head flood exposure

**Results: Township residents receive timely warnings about possible well threat from flooding and take measures to protect their wells and mitigate contamination**

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

WVSC, Township Manager

*Who should do the work?*

Township staff, Emergency Management Coordinator, WVSC

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

2017 and ongoing

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** Plan created and implemented

**Target:** Surveys, anecdotal evidence of increased resident awareness of flooding risks and remediation procedures

*How much will it cost?*

Minimal staff time Funding source? General Fund

**Initiative 14: Revise township ordinances and building codes to include incentives for, remove obstacles to, and add regulations for green building practices including green roofs, rain gardens, constructed wetlands, and other water quality practices**

**Category:** Environment

**Goal:** Protect and improve water quality and quantity

**Target:** Reduce non-point source pollution as much as possible

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Environment/Wildlife and Soil Quality, Economy

**Tasks:**

1. Review Zoning Ordinance, Building Code and Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance
2. Revise as appropriate to meet targets, using among other sources Chester County, Rocky Mountain Land Use, Brandywine Conservancy and Pennsylvania Environmental Council model ordinances. Check American Planning Association sources
3. Refer to BoS for advertisement and approval

**Results: All ordinances promote the filtration, absorption, and retention of storm water on site, minimizing stream discharge, thereby reducing non-point source pollution and replenishing the aquifer.**

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

Planning Commission, BoS, WVSC,

*Who should do the work?*

Township Manager, Planning Commission, Solicitor, EAC, BoS, WVSC

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized and ongoing

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** All applicable ordinances and codes revised and adopted

**Target:** Water testing shows reduction in non-point-source pollution, flooding and runoff issues are reduced

*How much will it cost?*

Should be done as part of a general revision.

*Funding source?*

General Fund

**Initiative 15: Educate township staff and residents about their role in water quality protection and water conservation**

**Category:** Environment

**Goal:** Protect and improve water quality and quantity

**Targets:** All

**Scope:** Township-wide

**Other Categories Affected:** Environment/Wildlife and Soil Quality, Engagement

**Tasks:**

1. Draft and adopt water protection and conservation policies for township staff
2. Collect materials for resident education including information about storm water management, safe disposal of medicines, biofiltration, conservation methods, septic system inspection every three years, and well water protection during flooding
3. Create Water web page on township website, offering definitions, resources, funding information, links including ReadyNotifyPA for severe weather alerts and county water warnings, partner with Delaware River Watershed Initiative, GVWA, Chester County Water Resources Authority
4. Include information about water protection and conservation at annual sustainability fair
5. Create a water conservation competition for township residents and businesses
6. Educate residents on water quality and recommend annual testing of private wells
7. Include an article in township newsletter about water at least annually
8. Include reminder on township tax bill to pump your septic system every three years

**Results: Educated and motivated WVT staff and citizens do positive things to protect water quality and reduce consumption on their properties.**

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

WVSC, Township Manager, BoS

*Who should do the work?*

Township Manager and Secretary (website), WVSC and EAC (education, fair and competition), BoS and Solicitor(policies). Partner with non-profits such as Green Valley Association, our local watershed association, and County agencies such as Chester County Water Authority wherever possible.

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized and ongoing

*How do we measure this?*

**Target:** Hits on web page, number of attendees at fair and participants in contest. Gradual reduction in water consumption and pollution measured by Chester County, DVRPC, local surveys; well water and stream tests

*How much will it cost?*

\$2,000 annually for event costs

*Funding source?*

Donations, General Fund

**Initiative 16: Decrease use of gasoline lawnmowers in township**

**Category:** Environment

**Goal:** Improve and protect air quality

**Target:** Combustion engine emissions are reduced

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Environment, Engagement Tasks:

1. Create incentive/decrease impediments in ordinances and regulations
2. Create educational program for no-mow strategies using West Vincent Greenway Guide as starting point, promote through events, newsletter, and website
3. Reach out to targeted groups, especially HOAs and developers with educational materials and goals
4. Evaluate municipal mowing practices and create plan for returning designated mowed areas to meadow or woodland
5. When available and possible, replace gasoline mowers with mowers that use alternative energy sources
6. Make reduced mowing a category in annual sustainability fair competition
7. Assess results by periodic survey

**Results: Decrease in gas mower use and consequent decrease in emissions and fuel consumption**

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

WVSC, BoS, Township Manager

*Who should do the work?*

EAC, Township staff, Planning Commission, BoS

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized

*How do we measure this?*

**Target:** Discernible decrease in mowed areas, survey

*How much will it cost?*

\$500 for education

*Funding source?*

Government or foundation grants, General Fund

**Initiative 17: removed in 2017 work plan**

**Initiative 18: Convert municipal maintenance equipment to use biodiesel or DME**

**Category:** Environment

**Goal:** Protect and improve air quality

**Target:** Reduce combustion engine emissions 20% by 2020

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Energy Tasks:

1. Determine whether township vehicles can use biofuel, biofuel blends, DME or need alteration.
2. Investigate grant opportunities for conversion costs and seek funding
3. Make necessary alterations
4. Send out bids for bulk biofuel and biofuel blends if not available under state contract
5. When DME becomes available for diesel engines, specify DME-ready technology.

6. Transition to DME when possible

**Results: Reduced emissions, lower costs**

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

WVSC, Township Manager, Roadmaster, BoS

*Who should do this?*

Township Manager, BoS

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized

*How do we measure this?*

**Target:** All vehicles are fueled exclusively with biofuel or high-biofuel blends or DME; combustion engine emissions reduced correspondingly

*How much will it cost?*

\$10,000 or more

*Funding source?*

Grants

**Initiative 19: Create and implement township multimodal transportation plan**

**Category:** Environment

**Goal:** Protect and improve air quality

**Target:** Reduce combustion engine emissions

**Scope:** Township-wide, with possible regional extension

**Other Categories Affected:** Energy

**Tasks:**

1. Utilize published Township Multimodal Study
2. Modify Zoning Ordinances to promote township-wide non-vehicular pathways
3. Simultaneously promote idea at Northern Federation and Phoenixville Regional Comprehensive Planning Commission
4. Prioritize future actions and conduct further studies as needed.
5. Secure funding for each implementation phase
6. Implement plan recommendations on a phased schedule

**Results: Phased plan and policies created for all appropriate modes of transportation in township, including funding plan. A township-wide network for non-auto transportation, i.e., bike lanes, paths and sidewalks, as appropriate, that will also connect to a regional network, is gradually implemented.**

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

WVSC, Township Manager, BoS

*Who should do the work?*

Planning Commission, BoS, Township Manager

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized

*How do I measure this?*

**Tasks:** Plan created, improvements installed as planned

**Targets:** DVRPC studies show reduced emissions How much will it cost? To be determined, see 5 above

*Funding source?*

State and county grants, developers

**Initiative 20: removed in 2017 work plan**

**Initiative 21: removed in 2017 work plan**

**Initiative 22: Enhance the walkable environment for high density developments/multi-use areas through strategic placement of street furniture, elimination of conflicts with vehicles, unifying crosswalk design, public art, green areas, attractive vistas, timing lights for pedestrians, etc.**

**Category:** Environment

**Goal:** Protect and improve air quality

**Target:** Reduce combustion engine emissions

**Scope:** Any high-density development and multi-use development,

**Other Categories Affected:** Environment, Energy, Engagement, Equity Tasks:

1. Conduct a walking audit to determine what works, what needs improvement in area.
2. Review township ordinances and codes for consistency with goals
3. Negotiate with developers as area is built out
4. Establish a maintenance plan and assign responsibility

**Results:** High-density developments are highly functional for pedestrians

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

BoS, Township Manager

*Who should do the work?*

Planning Consultant, Planning Commission, BoS

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized

*How do we measure this?*

Target: quantify before and after results for each category

*How much will it cost?*

TBD Funding source? Developers, General Fund, grant

**Initiative 23: removed in 2017 work plan**

**Initiative 24: Educate drivers and cyclists to share the road**

**Value Category:** Environment

**Goal:** Protect and improve air quality

**Target:** Reduce combustion engine emissions

**Scope:** Township; possibly regional

**Other Value Categories Affected:** Environment, Energy, Engagement

**Tasks:**

1. Implement Township multi-modal study recommendation.
2. Collect materials from Penn DOT program.
3. Distribute at library, post offices, other local businesses and publish on Websites
4. Install PennDOT “Share the Road” signs/posters.
5. Promote on township website with link to PennDot’s Bicycle Driver’s Manual and feature at annual sustainability fair.
6. Determine cost and funding source.

**Results:** Improved road safety and increased bicycle use Who will be responsible to see this happens? BoS, Township Manager

*Who should do the work?*

Volunteers, Park and Rec Committee

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** Amount of Materials prepared and distributed: number of pamphlets, of signs, of posters

**Target:** Fewer complaints about driver, pedestrian and bicycle conflict, more evidence of cycling

*How much will it cost?*

\$2,000 for road signs, educational materials

*Funding source?*

Grants, bicycle club donations, Business Improvement District, General Fund

**Initiative 25: Reduce vehicle idling time**

**Category:** Environment/Air

**Goal:** Improve and protect air quality

**Target:** Combustion-engine emissions are reduced by

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Environment/ Water and Energy

**Tasks:**

1. Contact PennDOT regarding idling time at traffic lights to determine peak-hour traffic time and after-hour times.
2. Print and distribute educational materials from other sources about the harms of idling for sustainability educational outreach program in library, newsletter, schools and website. Target parents who wait in idling vehicles for bus pickups.
3. Post “No Idling” signs in township parking lots and at schools.
4. Distribute educational material to students at school.
5. Research PennDOT programs, print brochures and distribute
6. Research grants/programs.

**Results:** Reduced emissions from idling

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

BoS, Township Manager

*Who should do the work?*

Township staff, Ludwig’s Corner Business Improvement District

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** Materials and signs created

**Target:** DVRPC vehicle emissions statistics

*How much will it cost?*

\$2000 for signs

*Funding source?*

Ludwig’s Corner Business Improvement District, grant, General Fund

**Initiative 26: Promote DVRPC Share the Ride Program**

**Category:** Environment

**Goal:** Improve and protect air quality

**Target:** Combustion-engine emissions are reduced

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Energy and Engagement Tasks:

1. Promote DVRPC virtual Share the Ride program on township

website, social media, and blast emails, in newsletters, and township events.

2. Identify a park and ride location, such as Township or Township parking lots.
3. Provide designated “Share the Ride” Signs at Parking Lot.
4. Planning Commission incorporate Ride Share needs in development responses.

**Results: More residents carpool thereby reducing the amount of cars on the road, which will reduce emissions.**

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

Township Manager, Planning Commission

*Who should do the work?*

Township staff, Planning Commission

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized and ongoing

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** ensure ride share opportunities are available in Township

**Target:** DVRPC statistics How much will it cost? Cost of Signs

*Funding source?*

Donations, foundation grants, General Fund

**Initiative 27: Establish a phased program of agricultural best management practices (BMPs) on all township-owned lands**

**Category:** Environment

**Goal:** Protect and improve the soil ecosystem

**Target:** All township-owned farmland is farmed in a manner that enhances the physical, chemical, and biological condition of the soil

**Scope:** Township-owned lands

**Other Categories Affected:** Environment/ Air, Water and Wildlife

**Tasks:**

1. Require farmers leasing township land to provide to the township a copy of their Conservation Plan that is mandated by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) [part of US Dept. of Agriculture]
2. Prepare lease contracts on new or renewed leases that adhere to the practices in A and B below. Lease period for the leases may be extended, and the rate for the leases may be reduced from current levels to reflect the transition time and the farmer’s cost for limited yields during the transition:
  - A. Acceptable beneficial practices include but are not limited to: minimal tillage, crop rotation, planting hedgerows, cover cropping, intensive rotational pasture management for livestock, animal grazing as part of the crop rotation cycle, organic fertilizers, and organically approved herbicides, fungicides and pesticides.
  - B. Un-acceptable practices for farming of township lands include but are not limited to: use of synthetic chemical fertilizers, and synthetic herbicides, fungicides and pesticides that are not within USDA Organic standards.
3. Review recommended best practices and update requirements annually.

4. Encourage and support Organic Certification for Township-owned lands

**Results: Township-owned lands are farmed using practices that improve soil health, water quality, biodiversity, pollination, and crop quality/yield while reducing agricultural pollution.**

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

WVSC, BoS, Township Manager

*Who should do the work?*

Township staff, Solicitor

*When does it need to happen to have an impact?*

2017 for Tasks 1, 2, 2018 for Task 3

*How do we measure this?*

Soil tests demonstrate increasing organic matter content

*How much will it cost?*

Staff time, minimal cost for soil tests, short-term revenue loss

*Funding source?*

General Fund, grants for incentivizing organic transition and certification

**Initiative 28: removed in 2017 work plan**

**Initiative 29: Create a viable facility for community composting**

**Category:** Environment

**Goal:** Reduce solid waste disposal 40% by 2020, 80% by 2050

**Target:** 100% of municipal organic waste and 50% of township organic waste is composted and used in agriculture and landscaping

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Environment/Air Quality, Water Quality, Soil Health, Economy, Engagement

**Tasks:**

1. Appoint a Recycling Task Force to:
  - A. Research and evaluate existing options for community composting (for instance, sending our organic waste to neighbouring municipal facilities, private/ public partnerships with farmers or other township landowners). If analysis determines it is most cost effective to build and operate a publicly owned community composting facility, proceed as follows
  - B. Identify any available grants for community composting projects and other funding sources
  - C. Determine scope, design, operation details, suitable locations and costs, and prepare report for the Supervisors.
2. Determine site
3. Secure funding
4. Enact necessary ordinances
5. Acquire location and create facility

**Results: Organic materials collected from municipal activities and homeowners are diverted from the solid waste stream and returned to the soil as compost, which can be sold to the public. Township trash costs reduced**

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

BoS, Township Manager

*Who should do the work?*

BoS, Township staff

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** Facility is online or need is accommodated by other means

**Target:** Number of households using the facility

*How much will it cost?*

0 to \$200,000 for land acquisition, \$50,000 for equipment, \$45,000 per annum for operator

*Funding source?*

Grant, dumping fees, compost sales, General Fund

**Initiative 30: Removed in 2017 work plan**

**Initiative 31: Develop and promote a source separated organic material (SSOM) composting program**

**Category:** Environment

**Goal:** Reduce solid waste disposal 40% by 2020, 80% by 2050

**Target:** 100% of municipal and 50% of township organic waste is composted and used when possible in agriculture and landscape maintenance

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Environment/Soil and Energy Tasks:

1. Evaluate availability of service at a reasonable cost: closeness of composting facility, number of collections per month, cost of start-up supplies (carts, biodegradable bags, etc.), hauler capacity
2. Design a pilot program
3. When feasible to implement, seek grants for start-up costs
4. Promote program and educate residents about participation
5. Encourage restaurants, schools, and institutions not currently composting and not served by township hauler to participate through incentives (e.g., green branding and marketing) either by composting onsite with electric composters or through collection and hauling
6. Evaluate pilot program and make adjustments to program as necessary
7. Expand program to entire township

**Results:** At least 50% of township residents participate in composting program, possibly leading to a reduction in hauling fees

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

WVSC, Township Manager, BoS

*Who should do the work?*

WVSC, BoS, Township Manager, Solicitor, Township staff

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized - assessment and program design, first two years, Pilot program, education and promotion, years 3-5, program modifications and township wide expansion year 8

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** Assessment performed, program designed, funding in place, pilot implemented and assessed

**Target:** Composting facility and hauler reports, number of households participating

*How much will it cost?*

\$25,000-\$50,000 in start-up costs

*Funding source?*

Grants, user fees, and supplies sales

*Note: Check out pilot program in West Chester – institutional food waste is going to Longwood Gardens for active composting*

**Initiative 32: Create a viable facility for community mulching**

**Category:** Environment

**Goal:** Reduce solid waste disposal 40% by 2020, 80% by 2050

**Target:** 100% of municipal wood waste and 50% of township wood waste is mulched and used in agriculture and landscaping

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Environment/Air Quality, Water Quality, Soil Health, Economy, Engagement

**Tasks:**

1. Appoint a Recycling Task Force to:
  - A. Research and evaluate existing options for community mulching (for instance, sending our wood waste to neighbouring municipal facilities, private/ public partnerships with farmers or other township landowners). If analysis determines it is most cost effective to build and operate a publicly owned community mulching facility, proceed as follows:
  - B. Identify any available grants for community mulching projects and other funding sources
  - C. Determine scope, design, operation details, suitable locations and costs, and prepare report for the Supervisors.
2. Determine site
3. Secure funding
4. Enact necessary ordinances
5. Acquire location and create facility

**Results:** Wood waste collected from municipal activities and homeowners are diverted from the solid waste stream and returned to the soil as compost, which can be sold to the public; township trash costs reduced

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

BoS Township Manager

*Who should do the work?*

BoS, Township staff

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** Facility is online or need is accommodated by other means

**Target:** Number of households using the facility

*How much will it cost?*

0 to \$200,000 for land acquisition, \$50,000 for equipment, \$45,000 per annum for operator

*Funding source?*

Grant, dumping fees mulch sales, General Fund

**Initiative 33: Educate Township residents on recycling****Category: Environment**

**Goal:** Reduce Solid Waste Disposal 40% by 2020, 80% by 2050

**Target:** 90% of township households recycle 90% trash by 2022

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Environment/Air Quality, Energy and Engagement

**Tasks:**

1. Survey trash haulers who will service West Vincent Township on current recycling services. Prepare a questionnaire to obtain the information a resident would need to choose his hauler: to which sites does he send his recyclables, what services does he provide at which prices, what categories does he send to recycling, etc.
2. Prepare a brochure with charts displaying the information about various haulers
3. Make a brochure available in the lobby of the township building, at other sites throughout the township as well as on the township web page
4. Feature recycling education and competition at annual township sustainability fair and Community Day enabling residents to choose their provider and understand the broadest scope of recycling
5. Update brochure annually

**Results: Residents increasingly choose the most sustainable trash haulers to provide their service.**

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

BoS, Township Manager  
*Who should do the work?* Township staff, EAC, volunteers  
*When does it need to happen to have an impact?* As prioritized

*How do we measure this?*

Survey Recycler data.

*How much will it cost?*

Township staff time, \$200 for materials

*Funding Source?*

Recycling grant, General Fund

**Initiative 34: Create and implement a municipal paper reduction plan****Category: Environment**

**Goal:** Reduce solid waste disposal 40% by 2020, 80% by 2050

**Target:** Municipal use of disposable materials is reduced 75% by 2020

**Scope:** Township wide

**Other Categories Affected:** Energy Tasks:

1. Collect educational materials
2. Choose a township staff member to lead the municipal paper reduction effort
3. Update township records policy focusing on a comprehensive use of electronic media for mail and storage of documents.
4. Develop a sustained effort to collect resident email addresses to use for most communications, including newsletters

5. Create guidelines for township staff use of paper disposables, reuse of copies for notepaper, duplex printing and copying, etc. When paper must be used, choose compostable and/or recycled.
6. Reduce junk mail using resources such as catalogchoice.org and dmachoice.org
7. Assess results one year after implementation and adjust practices as needed to attain goal

**Result: Township staff uses 75% less paper, with a significant effect on solid waste flow from the township and significant reduction in costs for paper, file storage, copying costs, etc.**

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

Township Manager, BoS

*Who should do the work?*

Township staff

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized and ongoing

*How do we measure this?*

**Target:** Paper, mail, and ink costs, volume or weight of paper refuse and recyclables

*How much will it cost?*

Staff time, software updates up to \$10,000  
Funding source? Grants, General Fund

**Initiative 35: Preserve continuous wildlife corridors throughout township****Category: Environment**

**Goal:** Protect and enhance wildlife diversity

**Target:** Preserve continuous wildlife corridors throughout township

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Environment/Air, Water Tasks:

1. Map township wildlife corridor, including unprotected links
2. Develop a resident education program to show landowners where the wildlife corridor is located on their parcel, how it fits into the township-wide/ region-wide network and how they can maintain and protect it
3. Work with Planning Commission and BoS to ensure that greenway corridors are maintained in the subdivision and land development process (adhere to ordinance requirements)
4. Work with local and regional land trusts to ensure that wildlife corridors are maintained in the conservation easement drafting process
5. Consider using open space funds to purchase corridor easements as necessary.
6. Determine if mapping has been done elsewhere and Integrate effort with local nature conservancies.

**Results: Corridors are protected and extended**

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

BOS, Planning Commission, and EAC

*Who should do the work?*

Township staff, EAC: education program; easement purchase: Open Space Committee, BoS and Planning Commission

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized and ongoing

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** Aerial mapping of corridors, program created coordinated with local nature conservancy. **Target:** Missing links filled in and corridors protected

*How much will it cost?*

Staff time, easement purchase at appraised value with open space funds as available

*Funding source?*

State, county or foundation grants, partnership with land trusts, General Fund, Open Space Fund

**Initiative 36: Restore and enhance plantings of native species and eliminate invasive plants on Township-owned non-agricultural land**

**Category:** Environment

**Goal:** Protect and improve wildlife habitat

**Target:** Restore native habitat on all township owned non-agricultural land by 2020

**Scope:** Township-owned land

**Other Categories Affected:** Environment, Energy, Engagement

**Tasks**

1. Identify areas to be addressed
2. Create landscape plan
3. Secure funding and source for plants
4. Organize volunteers for plant removal and replanting
5. Remove alien species as needed
6. Replant with suitable attractive “showy” native species
7. Monitor and maintain plantings
8. Research different types of habitat gardens and possible funding.
9. Implement and expand sustainable demonstration landscape plan on township grounds

**Results:** Attractive, species appropriate plantings at the Township sites, Beautiful natural landscaping at easily visible sites that will increase resident interest in native species. Providing attractive teaching examples of the gardening possibilities. Insect and animal habitat enhanced

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

EAC, Township Manager

*Who should do the work?*

EAC, landscape consultant (for plan), Road Crew, Township groundskeeper, Volunteer Corps.

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized and ongoing

*How do we measure this?*

**Target:** Acres planted in visually attractive natural gardens, smaller mowed areas, enhanced stream buffers

*How much will it cost?*

\$15,000 + or more on currently owned land plus staff time

*Funding source?*

Plant registry, Tree-Vitalize, State, County, Foundation Grants, fundraising events, General Fund

**Initiative 37: Removed in 2017 work plan**

*Note: The “Greenway Lands Stewardship Guide”, West Vincent Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania, published December 2005 include on pages 117 – 126 a registry of native trees, bushes and plants. This guide is available on the Township website.*

**Initiative 38: Removed in 2017 work plan**

**Initiative 39: Removed in 2017 work plan**

**Initiative 40: Provide easy access to West Vincent Township Greenway Guide**

**Category:** Environment

**Goal:** Protect and enhance wildlife diversity

**Target:** Educate residents about wildlife-friendly practices, such as mixed-species native perennial plantings, integrated pest management, minimal fertilizer use, etc.

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** All Environment, Energy, and Engagement

**Tasks:**

1. Make Greenway Guide easy to find on website, with a link on every Sustainability Environment page
2. Make sure copies are available in Henrietta Hankin Library
3. Promote use of West Vincent Greenway Guide in newsletter
4. Feature at annual sustainability fair and Community Day

**Results:** Residents gradually become better informed about sustainable soil practices

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

Township staff Who should do the work? Township staff, EAC

*When does it need to happen to have an impact?*

2017 and ongoing

*How do we measure this?*

Hits on webpage,

*What will it cost?*

Staff time

*Funding source?*

General Fund

**Initiative 41: Develop a township-sponsored deer management program to reduce deer damage 50% by 2020**

**Category:** Environment

**Goal:** Manage wildlife overpopulation

**Target:** Minimize harmful effects of deer overpopulation

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Environment/ Water, Economy, Engagement, Energy Tasks:

1. Implement a deer management program for township and private lands based on the recommendations in the West Vincent Greenways Guide (pp. 81-82), including managed hunting and tree sheltering
2. Educate landowners, including HOAs, about costs and benefits of participation in the deer management program through website, newsletter and annual sustainability fair. Publish an annual article, lists of plants deer avoid. Highlight Greenway guidelines for landowners

3. Enroll landowners in the program
4. Collect representative baseline photos periodically to track forest undergrowth damage by deer
5. Survey participating property owners annually in newsletter and by email about deer damage and collect photos referenced in task 4
6. Develop metrics i.e. deer/auto accidents per year, deer harvest

**Results: Reduced deer related accidents, increase in native herbaceous plant diversity and quantity, enough tree seedlings to sustain forests, and reduction in invasive species**

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

WVSC, Township Manager, BoS, EAC

*Who should do the work?*

EAC, Police, Volunteer Corps, local hunters, property owners

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized and ongoing How do we measure this?

**Target:** police reports, property owner survey and photos

*How much will it cost?*

Staff time, minimal materials as part of overall sustainability education program and fair

*Funding source?*

Grant, General Fund, donations

**Initiative 42: Removed in 2017 work plan**

**Initiative 43: Removed in 2017 work plan**

**Initiative 44: Removed in 2017 work plan**

**Initiative 45: Create incentives for local businesses, landowners, and property users to use sustainable practices, including a branding program**

**Category:** **Economy**

**Goal:** Provide for diverse, appropriately scaled economic development

**Target:** Businesses that choose to locate in the township become more sustainable in their day- to-day operations

**Scope:** Whole township

**Other Categories Affected:** Energy, Environment, Engagement

**Tasks:**

1. Create a sustainable practices point system to quantify the value of sustainable practices
2. Encourage residents, landowners and local businesses to adopt green practices through a system of incentives, such as through branding, development with codes and ordinances associated with properties meeting Green Standards, etc.
3. Provide recognition to participating businesses and residents for the successes. I.e., A Green Brand
4. Explore ways in which West Vincent Township can create a “Green District” overlay in Zoning Ordinance

**Results: Facilitate businesses and landowners in obtaining value for their sustainability efforts**

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

BoS, Township Manager, WVSC

*Who should do the work?*

WVSC, BoS, Business stakeholders

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

2017 and on going

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** System is created and implemented. Incentives are adopted and in use. Outreach plan created and implemented. Businesses have signed on as Green District participants

**Target:** All township lands, particularly developing areas such as Ludwigs Corner create minimal impact on the environment and offer sustainable features at little or no cost to taxpayers

*How much will it cost?*

Cost of plaque design

*Funding source?*

Local businesses, General Fund, Grants

**Initiative 46: Create a Neighborhood Improvement District for the Ludwigs Corner commercial area to assume responsibility for some maintenance and operating functions**

**Category:** **Economy**

**Goal:** Provide for diverse, appropriately-scaled economic development

**Target:** Encourage businesses that choose to locate in the township to become more sustainable in their day-to-day operations

**Scope:** Ludwigs Corner Area

**Other Categories Affected:** Energy, Environment, Engagement

**Tasks:**

1. Research the functions of Neighborhood/ Business Improvement Districts in other communities and create a list of desired responsibilities.
2. Determine area boundaries.
3. Create a stakeholders group to provide consensus on shared responsibilities, such as maintenance of common open spaces and shared parking facilities.
4. Draft and adopt ordinance for the establishment of a Business Improvement District that will perform functions similar to a Homeowners Association at Ludwigs Corner, such as maintenance of common open spaces and amenities for use by the public.

**Results: The costs of amenities that draw customers to the commercial /mixed use area, such as shared parking areas, street furniture, green areas, are subsidized and shared by the retail community that benefits from them**

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

WVSC, BoS, Township Manager, Solicitor

*Who should do the work?*

PC, BoS, Solicitor, Business stakeholders

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** Ordinance provisions are adopted and in use

**Target:** Ludwigs Corner is attractive, creates minimal impact in the environment and offers sustainable features at little or no cost to taxpayers

*How much will it cost?*

Staff time, \$5,000 in legal fees

*Funding source?*

General Fund

**Initiative 47: Removed in 2017 work plan**

**Initiative 48: Continue land conservation program using multiple approaches**

**Category:** Economy

**Goal:** Provide for diverse, appropriately-scaled economic development.

**Target:** 42%\* of arable and natural land in township is permanently conserved.

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** All Environment Categories and Energy

**Tasks:**

1. Continue to use established Open Space process to purchase development rights.
2. Partner with land trusts on sales of easements and defraying easement costs for easement donors.
3. Pursue municipal conservation easement grants with county and state to leverage diminishing township open space funds.
4. Monitor properties that have sold transferable development rights to the township for contract compliance
5. Monitor township sales of TDRs and the use of resulting funds.
6. Apply TDR sales proceeds to Open Space acquisitions as permitted.
7. Make sure HOAs satisfy their obligation to ease the open space they own.
8. Float another bond using EIT when current bond is repaid.

**Results: Open space conservation goals is met or exceeded.**

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

BoS, Open Space Committee, Township Manager

*Who should do the work?*

BoS, Open Space Committee, Township Manager, Solicitor

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized and ongoing

*How do we measure this?*

Target: Number of acres conserved

*How much will it cost?*

Several million dollars

*Funding source?*

EIT, impact fees and fees in lieu, grants, sales of TRD's in line with Chester County's goal of 42% land in protected open space

**Initiative 49: Create an innovation incubator program**

**Category:** Economy

**Goal:** Provide for diverse, appropriately-scaled economic development.

**Target:** All

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** All Tasks:

1. Create subcommittee to establish program

2. Outline program goals and details (Concept should include housing, stipend for housing and expenses, grant for research on sustainability)
3. Reach out to appropriate institutions, corporations and individuals for participation
4. Refine program with academic partners
5. Implement
6. Promote sustainability innovations stemming from program

**Results: West Vincent benefits from and is synonymous with sustainability innovations**

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

WVSC

*Who should do the work?*

WVSC subcommittee

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized and ongoing

*How do we measure this?*

**Target:** Establishment of program and ongoing participation by fellows and/or students

*How much will it cost the township?*

Funding from external sources Funding source? Donations, grants, innovations marketing

**Initiative 50: Removed in 2017 work plan**

**Initiative 51: Work and coordinate with all local groups to continue to build a publicly accessible, formally protected township-wide trail system that connects to the regional network**

**Category:** Equity

**Goal:** Make community benefits that accrue from prosperity available to all

**Target:** Accessible active and passive recreation opportunities are available township wide

**Scope:** Township with regional connections

**Other Categories Affected:** Energy, Environment, Engagement, and Economy Tasks:

1. Identify missing links by consulting with local governments, state, or local agencies.
2. Secure missing links through easement or fee purchase: negotiate with landowners, get appraisal to establish value, draft acquisition documents, procure funding, complete purchase
3. If necessary, clear trail and blaze; pave selected links if desired
4. Develop maintenance plan
5. Add to township trail map

**Results: Increased sense of community as residents enjoying healthy exercise come in contact with natural environment and have random interaction with other community members.**

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

BoS, Township Manager, EAC, Land Trusts

*Who should do the work?*

Parks and Recreation, EAC, Land Trusts, BoS, Volunteers Corps for clearing, blazing and maintenance of natural surface trails

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized and ongoing

*How do we measure this?*

**Target:** Nearby access to township trail system for all township residents

*How much will it cost?*

1. Trail easements: TBD
2. Cost of paving if and where desired (more likely to be part of land development plan and paid for by developer)
3. Cost of liability insurance for volunteers if necessary

*Funding source?*

Foundation and County grants, Open Space Funds, developers

**Initiative 52: Identify West Vincent space/land to add any non-field all-season active recreation activities**

**Category:** Equity

**Goal:** Make community benefits available to all

**Target:** Accessible active and passive recreation opportunities are available township wide

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Engagement Tasks:

1. Identify locations
2. Getting resident input (survey), Create a master list of possible activities, e.g. sledding, skating, cross-country skiing, fishing, court sports
3. Match sports to features of available facilities, e.g. hill for sledding, pond for skating, flat space for courts
4. Determine costs of accommodating activities
5. Choose sports to be accommodated and implement

**Results:** Township residents enjoy safe public facilities for a wider variety of activities

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

BoS, Park and Recreation Committee, Planning Commission

*Who should do the work?*

Township staff, Park and Recreation Committee

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized and ongoing

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** Plan created and implemented

**Target:** Different recreational activities are available to all residents

*How much will it cost?*

Staff time, facilities dependent on sport

*Funding source?*

Grants, developer fees in lieu, impact fees

**Initiative 53: Create an information resource that includes guidelines for use of public and private trails**

**Category:** Equity

**Goal:** Make community benefits available to all

**Target:** Accessible active and passive recreation opportunities are available township wide

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Engagement

**Tasks:**

1. Create trail map and guidelines for using public trails for distribution to public

**Results:** Township residents are fully informed about available trails and educated about their proper use.

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

BoS, EAC, Township Manager

*Who should do the work?*

Township staff

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized and ongoing

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** Maps created, online access to maps and policies/procedures

**Target:** Maps distributed,

*How much will it cost?*

Staff time, \$500 for map printing

*Funding source?*

General Fund

**Initiative 54: Provide public space for assembly and social engagement as appropriate throughout township**

**Category:** Engagement

**Goal:** Build a sense of place, community connection, & civic engagement

**Target:** A network of appealing public spaces is established in neighborhoods within WVT.

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Equity

**Tasks:**

1. Inventory types of public space available and needed in the township. (HOA-owned spaces do not meet the definition.) Such spaces could include commons, parks and greenways, plazas, amphitheatres, band shells, squares, pedestrian ways, parking lots, etc.
2. Create appropriate ordinance language and mapping for desired public spaces/facilities. Use official map as necessary or appropriate
3. Require/request these features as appropriate during plan review
4. If necessary, educate residents about available public spaces and their use, rights and restrictions

**Results:** Residents have ample public facilities for assembly and social engagement

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

Planning Commission, BoS, Township Manager

*Who should do the work?*

Planning Commission, BoS, Parks and Rec?

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized and ongoing

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** Inventory, mapping, and ordinance amendments completed

**Target:** Number and types of facilities, square footage, acreage  
*How much will it cost?*  
 Staff time, Solicitor review \$2,000.  
*Funding source?*  
 Since facilities will be installed for the most part by developers, installation should not cost the township, although maintenance will become a public responsibility and cost, likely to lead over time to the expansion of the public works department.

**Initiative 55: Develop a public arts program in WVT that promotes walkability and engagement through participation**

**Category:** Engagement

**Goal:** Build a sense of place, community connection and civic engagement

**Target:** A network of appealing public spaces is established within neighborhoods in the Township

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Environment, Energy, and Equity

**Tasks:**

1. Contact or organize a public art committee including local artists and teachers who may take an interest
2. In consultation with township and local businesses, evaluate potential locations for displays
3. Create plan for projects geared to different ages and levels of skill suitable for available locations, e.g. painted planters, Ludwigs Village Green logo, signage
4. Promote program and seek submissions.
5. Contact local schools and businesses to help plan or execute projects

**Results:** Collaborative public arts projects encourage pride in community and promote walking

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*  
 WVSC

*Who should do the work?*  
 Public Arts Committee, Township staff

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*  
 As prioritized and on going

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** Committee formed and program online

**Target:** Program participation, resident comments

*How much will it cost?*  
 Staff time

*Funding source?*  
 Donations, grants

**Initiative 56: Create and implement an annual program of township events**

**Category:** Engagement

**Goal:** Build a sense of place, community connection, and civic engagement

**Target:** A tradition is established of recurring free and low-cost community events that connect residents to West Vincent's distinctive sense of place, history, community and culture

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Energy, Environment, Economy, and Equity

**Tasks:**

1. Compile event ideas from various sources, including WVSC, EAC, Park and Rec, parents and sports organizations
2. Set criteria and evaluate event ideas: audience (have events for all ages and constituencies), personnel needed, uniqueness, need, possible partners, costs, fundraising capability, etc.
3. Create an annual program of events, including Community Day. Movie nights, concert series, 5K run, township yard sale, battle of the bands are possibilities. Consider using one or more events as a fundraiser for a sustainability project.
4. Incorporate educational meetings and events arising from other initiatives, e.g. a local farm tour.
5. Organize event committees for each event. Depending on willingness and capacity, one committee could be responsible for multiple events.
6. Create a promotional plan that covers as many events as possible to keep costs low.

**Results:** Over time, a sense of community grows among residents of all ages. Residents enjoy entertainment and educational programs at no or little cost.

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

BOS, Township Manager, WVSC, EAC, Park and Rec.

*Who should do the work?*

Township staff, WVSC, EAC, Park and Rec, Event Committees and Volunteer Corps

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

As prioritized and ongoing

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** Events evaluated, chosen and scheduled, committees created, events held

**Target:** Positive survey responses, event participation

*How much will it cost?*

Staff time plus cost of events and promotion.

*Funding source?*

General Fund, committee budgets, admission fees.

**Initiative 57: Create and implement a multimedia township communications plan**

**Category:** Engagement

**Goal:** Build a sense of place, community connection, and civic engagement

**Target:** Enhanced sense of community through a broad, transparent communication plan

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Equity

**Tasks:**

1. Organize task force including residents well versed in social media
2. Assess current communications available from township, including website, newsletter, and Facebook
3. Provide citizens with local information by available means, the

- purpose of which is to build a positive sense of community
4. Create plan including individual responsibilities and tasks
  5. Implement

**Results:** Over time, residents feel they are informed by township on regular basis. Township information seems readily available, sense of community grows among residents of all ages.

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

Township Manager, BoS

*Who should do the work?*

Township staff, BoS, volunteer communications taskforce

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

2017 and ongoing How do we measure this?

**Tasks:** Plan created, improvements made.

**Target:** Attendance improved, citizens engaged

*How much will it cost?*

Staff time plus possible cost of specialized consulting:

*Funding source?*

General Fund

**Initiative 58: Create a township civics education program**

**Category:** Engagement

**Goal:** Build a sense of place, community connection, and civic engagement

**Target:** Outreach by government to residents is enhanced through social events, neighborhood meetings, school programs, etc.

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Equity

**Tasks:**

1. Choose specific audiences - for example, school children and new residents - to receive information.
2. Determine method of education for each audience. School children could be reached annually at an assembly at West Vincent Elementary School, new residents through an annual public meeting (called, for example, "West Vincent 101"). Arrange for a display of pertinent materials at Henrietta Hankin Library
3. Create program content for each situation. Could include a short film, slides, and website page.
4. Schedule events and implement program.

**Results:** Citizens are more informed about township processes, goals, and personnel and more able to exercise critical judgement and participate

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

WVSC, BoS, Township Manager

*Who should do the work?*

Township Manager and staff, BoS, EAC When does it need to be done to have an impact? As prioritized and ongoing

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** Program implemented

Target: More attendance at township meetings, more volunteers, more voters in municipal elections

*How much will it cost?*

Staff time plus cost of materials. Funding source? Grant, General Fund

**Initiative 59: Create and maintain a township volunteer corps**

**Category:** Engagement

**Goal:** Build a sense of place, community connection, and civic engagement

**Target:** Create sense of community and involvement through establishment and maintenance of list of volunteers who can support needs of township committees, events and other activities.

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Economy, Environment, Equity, and Engagement

**Tasks:**

1. Create and maintain a list of support tasks needed by township staff and committees
2. Create and maintain schedule of projects requiring volunteers on annual or semi-annual basis.
3. Advertise need for volunteers on township website and in each edition of newsletter, on line postings, and bulletin board in lobby
4. Create database of volunteers and their skills, time constraints, etc. in spread sheet.

**Results:** Group of volunteers is organized to participate in the implementation of township activities

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

WVSC, Township Manager

*Who should do the work?*

WVSC, Township Secretary and staff

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

2017 and ongoing

*How do we measure this?*

**Target:** Number of volunteers sufficiently meets demands.

*How much will it cost?*

\$100-\$500 per annum

*Funding source?*

General Fund

**Initiative 60: Removed in 2017 work plan**

**Initiative 61: Recognize resident volunteer contributions at annual events**

**Category:** Engagement

**Goal:** Build a sense of place, community connection, and civic engagement

**Target:** Local government outreach is enhanced through social events, neighborhood meetings, school programs, etc.

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Equity Tasks:

1. Choose one BoS meeting to serve as Volunteer Recognition Day and one to recognize Emergency Services Volunteers (or First Responders) Recognition Day
2. For each, create slide or video presentation highlighting volunteer achievements

3. Pass proclamation recognizing contributions of all volunteers by name
4. Begin or close meeting with social and refreshments

**Results:** Township volunteers are thanked for their important community efforts, enhancing their connection to the community.

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

BoS, Township Manager

*Who should do the work?*

Township Manager and staff, BoS When does it need to be done to have an impact? 2017 and ongoing

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** Meetings scheduled and planned

**Target:** More community cohesion, positive feelings in those who give their time, greater community awareness of volunteer efforts and opportunities

*How much will it cost?*

Staff time plus cost of food: \$250 per meeting

*Funding source?*

General Fund

**Initiative 62: Create a township sustainability education program**

**Category:** Engagement

**Goal:** Build a sense of place, community connection, and civic engagement

**Target:** Outreach by government to residents is enhanced through social events, neighborhood meetings, school programs, etc.

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Equity Tasks:

1. Provide educational exposure for initiatives 4, 8, 9, 15, 16, 33, 40 and 58
2. Determine method of education for each topic and venue
3. Create program content for each situation.
4. Schedule events and implement program.

**Results:** Citizens are more informed about the township sustainability work plan and are encouraged to contribute to a sustainable future

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

WVSC, BoS, Township Manager

*Who should do the work?*

Township Manager and staff, BoS, EAC When does it need to be done to have an impact? 2017 and ongoing

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** Program implemented

**Target:** School children have annual program, new residents are all informed, progress is made on sustainability initiatives in all neighborhoods.

*How much will it cost?*

Staff time plus cost of materials.

*Funding source?*

Grant, General Fund

**Initiative 63: Establish an Annual Stakeholder Engagement Plan to review and discuss the Sustainability Work Plan with Township Supervisors, Township Planning Commission members, Township Zoning Board members, other Township committees and employees**

**Category:** Engagement, Energy, Environment, Equity, Education

**Goal:** Engagement of West Vincent Township officials, volunteers and personnel in the Implementation of the Sustainability Plan Initiatives into everyday township work practices, business, and decision making

**Target:** Reduce the workload of the Board of Supervisors and the Township manager.

**Scope:** Township

**Tasks:**

1. Establish annual workshop at the beginning of each year to review and discuss with Township officials, personnel, committee members and volunteers their roles and responsibilities in the implementation of the West Vincent Township Sustainability Plan and to evaluate progress
2. Gather materials and experts for these sessions
3. Identify liaisons between the WVSC and the Board of Supervisors, the Planning Commission, all appointed committees and personnel to maintain consistent collaboration with WVSC in implementing the Sustainability Plan.
4. Follow up with additional sessions as needed for individual committees and employee or consultant groups to update and discuss applications of the concepts of the Plan.

**Results:** Incorporation of the plan into everyday governmental life of the Township, simpler and less adversarial relations with builders, developers, contractors and individuals as the concepts become part of the fabric of the Township.

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

WVSC, BoS, Township Manager

*Who should do the work?*

Township personnel, Board of Supervisors, and Committees,

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

2017 and ongoing

*How do we measure this?*

**Tasks:** Create enthusiasm, support and creativity to make the Township a model for sustainability.

**Target:** All employees, consultants and volunteers support and apply the Sustainability Plan in their Township activities.

*How much will it cost?*

\$100-\$500 for labor and supplies.

*Funding source?*

General Fund

**Initiative 64: Review and update as needed the Ludwigs Corner Strategic Vision and Community Design Plan which was originally approved in April 2005**

**Category:** Engagement

**Goal:** Build a sense of place, community connection and civic engagement

**Target:** Further Development in the Ludwigs Corner Commercial District conforms to the “Strategic Vision and Community Design” as updated and approved

**Scope:** Township

**Other Categories Affected:** Environment, Energy, and Equity Tasks:

1. Planning Commission reviews the Ludwigs Corner Strategic Vision and Community Design Plan and recommends an update to the BoS
2. Scope and investigation details are delineated
3. Consultants are engaged in the review
4. Plan is updated, presented and approved.

**Results:** Ludwigs Corner Vision and Community Design Plan is current

*Who will be responsible to see this happens?*

PC, BoS, Township Manager

*Who should do the work?*

PC, Township staff, Consultants

*When does it need to be done to have an impact?*

2017 and ongoing How do we measure this? Updated Plan available

*How much will it cost?*

TBD

*Funding source?*

Township Funds, grants

## PORTFOLIO OF 2017 INITIATIVES INDEX

1. Perform comprehensive energy audits on all township facilities and implement recommendations
2. Create and Implement Alternative Energy Plan for Township Facilities
3. Removed
4. Create a sustainable energy education outreach program for both residents and township employees
5. Removed
6. Revise Township ordinances and building codes to include incentives for, remove obstacles to, and add regulations supporting green building practices, including alternative energy generation and energy conservation.
7. Removed
8. Map township forests and establish forest preservation and reforestation program to protect watershed with an emphasis on riparian buffers
9. Develop identification, testing, and mitigating opportunities for non-point source pollution
10. Ensure that municipal and community wastewater is treated to remove emerging contaminants such as pharmaceuticals and personal care products from treated effluent using techniques such as biofiltration or reverse osmosis
11. Require that on-lot septic systems be pumped every three years
12. Develop a Canada goose control program for township facilities
13. Provide water warnings to residents during flood events
14. Revise township ordinances and building codes to include incentives for, remove obstacles to, and add regulations for green building practices including green roofs, rain gardens, constructed wetlands, and other water quality practices
15. Educate township staff and residents about their role in water quality protection and water conservation
16. Decrease use of gasoline lawnmowers in township
17. Removed
18. Convert municipal maintenance equipment to use biodiesel or DME
19. Create and implement township multimodal transportation plan
20. Removed
21. Removed
22. Enhance the walkable environment for high-density developments/multi-use areas through strategic placement of street furniture, elimination of conflicts with vehicles, unifying crosswalk design, public art, green areas, attractive vistas, timing lights for pedestrians, etc.
23. Removed

24. Educate drivers and cyclists to share the road
25. Reduce vehicle idling time
26. Promote DVRPC Share the Ride Program
27. Establish a phased program of agricultural best management practices (BMPs) on all township-owned lands
28. Removed
29. Create a viable facility for community composting
30. Removed in 2017 work plan
31. Develop and promote a source separated organic material (SSOM) composting program
32. Create a viable facility for community mulching
33. Educate Township residents on recycling
34. Create and implement a municipal paper reduction plan
35. Preserve continuous wildlife corridors throughout township
36. Restore and enhance plantings of native species and eliminate invasive plants on Township-owned non-agricultural land
37. Removed in 2017 work plan
38. Removed in 2017 work plan
39. Removed in 2017 work plan
40. Provide easy access to West Vincent Township Greenway Guide
41. Develop a township-sponsored deer management program to reduce deer damage 50% by 2020
42. Removed in 2017 work plan
43. Removed in 2017 work plan
44. Removed in 2017 work plan
45. Create incentives for local businesses, landowners, and property users to use sustainable practices, including a branding program
46. Create a Neighborhood Improvement District for the Ludwigs Corner commercial area to assume responsibility for some maintenance and operating functions
47. Removed in 2017 work plan
48. Continue land conservation program using multiple approaches
49. Create an innovation incubator program
50. Removed in 2017 work plan
51. Work and coordinate with all local groups to continue to build a publicly accessible, formally protected township-wide trail system that connects to the regional network
52. Identify West Vincent space/land to add any non-field all-season active recreation activities
53. Create an information resource that includes guidelines for use of public and private trails
54. Provide public space for assembly and social engagement as appropriate throughout township
55. Develop a public arts program in WVT that promotes walkability and engagement through participation
56. Create and implement an annual program of township events
57. Create and implement a multimedia township communications plan
58. Create a township civics education program
59. Create and maintain a township volunteer corps
60. Removed in 2017 work plan
61. Recognize resident volunteer contributions at annual events
62. Create a township sustainability education program
63. Establish an Annual Stakeholder Engagement Plan to review and discuss the Sustainability Work Plan with Township Supervisors, Township Planning Commission members, Township Zoning Board members, other Township committees and employees
64. Review and update as needed the Ludwigs Corner Strategic Vision and Community Design Plan which was originally approved in April 2005

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*Sustainability Committee Members  
as of 21 February 2017*

<i>Bernie Couris, Chairman</i>	<i>Jennifer Munson, Vice-chairman</i>
<i>Sam Cantrell</i>	<i>Thomas Kalusky</i>
<i>Barbara Mueller</i>	<i>Bryan Sladky</i>
<i>Thomasina Webb Wilson</i>	<i>David Weber</i>

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