

The following resolution was offered for adoption by Commissioner Hennessy:

**RESOLUTION**

R-14-2-24=117

WHEREAS, the Monmouth County Board of Recreation Commissioners operates and maintains the lands and facilities within the Monmouth County Park System pursuant to N.J. S.A. 40:12-1 et seq. for the public's benefit and enjoyment; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Board of Recreation Commissioners to manage, design, and improve County park properties in a manner that protects valuable resources both within and beyond the Park System lands for current and future generations; and

WHEREAS, it has been the practice of the Board of Recreation Commissioners to consider environmental sustainability in its use of energy, purchase of goods and materials, consumption of potable water, maintenance of diverse and productive biological systems, management of storm water and surface water, and design, renovation and construction of buildings and facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Recreation Commissioners has deemed it advisable to adopt a policy memorializing its environmental sustainability practices.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Monmouth County Board of Recreation Commissioners does hereby ADOPT the MONMOUTH COUNTY PARK SYSTEM ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY as hereunto attached; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said MONMOUTH COUNTY PARK SYSTEM ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY shall take effect immediately, and shall remain in force until amended or rescinded by action of the Board.

Seconded by Commissioner Loud, and adopted on roll call by the following vote:

In the affirmative:	Chairman Rummel, Vice Chairman Mandeville, Commissioners Loud, Harmon, Peters, Hennessy, Horsnall, Hood and Zelina
In the negative:	None
Absent:	None

I hereby certify the above to be the true resolution adopted by the Monmouth County Board of Recreation Commissioners at the regular meeting of the Board on MONDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 24, 2014.

  
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BRUCE A. GOLLNICK, Assistant Director

R-14-2-24=117

**MONMOUTH COUNTY PARK SYSTEM  
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY  
AS ADOPTED BY THE MONMOUTH COUNTY BOARD OF RECREATION  
COMMISSIONERS ON FEBRUARY 24, 2014, BY RESOLUTION NO. R-14-2-24=117**

It is the policy of the Monmouth County Park System (MCPS) to incorporate environmental sustainability principles and concepts in the design and operation of all facilities and infrastructure to the fullest extent possible, consistent with budget constraints and user requirements and with minimal increases in costs as compared to the cost of conventional practices.

This policy is a reflection of the commitment of the Monmouth County Board of Recreation Commissioners and the Monmouth County Park System to environmental stewardship within the lands and resources under its jurisdiction. It is expected that this policy will not only promote environmental sustainability but also lead to substantial improvements in life-cycle operations and reduced life-cycle costs.

This policy shall apply to the maintenance and operations of all Park System facilities and lands, and to renovation and alteration projects as well as new construction. It shall apply to projects regardless of funding source or amount, to projects accomplished for all users, and to projects designed and constructed by both in-house and outside professionals/contractors.

Energy Conservation

The Monmouth County Park System shall reduce its carbon footprint through the continued reduction of energy consumption and the increased use of cleaner fuels and renewable energy sources.

- For new construction of buildings and facilities, design for energy efficiency including but not limited to using alternative energy sources, natural heating, cooling and ventilation, and natural lighting.
- For existing facilities, perform energy audits, convert to cleaner energy sources when feasible, install high energy efficient equipment when systems need replacement, and perform energy improvements including weatherization, insulation, building envelope improvements, domestic water pipe insulation, and conversion to energy-efficient lighting.
- Switch to alternative energy or low emissions vehicles for Park purposes. Use the appropriate sized vehicle for the job and move away from standard size vehicles when feasible.
- Maintain high standards of vehicle maintenance.
- Establish energy conservation practices such as thermostat settings, turning lights and AC off when not in use.
- Encourage public transportation linkages and establish safe alternative transportation options to and between parks including bike lanes, rail/trails and trail connections.
- Adaptively reuse older buildings.

### Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

The Monmouth County Park System shall specify materials and products that have acceptable levels of environmental impact during their manufacture, use and post-use. Materials and products shall be specified that perform well, are highly durable and are not maintenance intensive.

- Eliminate and reduce purchasing of materials hazardous to the environment such as PVC, chlorine, formaldehyde, and hazardous cleaning products.
- Use low or no VOC paint products.
- Purchase products with high percentage of recycled materials.
- Maintain and increase recycling efforts.
- Adopt Energy Star standards for all appliance purchases.

### Water Conservation/Quality Protection

The Monmouth County Park System shall protect, maintain and when possible improve surface and ground water quality within its lands and within the region and reduce its demand on potable water supplies.

- When constructing new facilities or retrofitting old, design to reduce/retain runoff, groundwater infiltration and biofiltration.
- Acquire and maintain adequate vegetative buffers around water bodies and streams to maintain water quality, especially public water supplies.
- Through design and management, stabilize stream channels and restore natural riparian processes along those water bodies within Park System lands.
- Evaluate the need for irrigation, installing only when necessary to maintain the resource/facility. Irrigate only when/where needed and only in the amount required to maintain the resource. Capture and use raw water first when possible, relying on ground or potable water only as backup.
- Reduce water consumption through the use and installation of low flow fixtures, automatic sensing devices, leak detection and repair.
- Switch from inorganic to organic fertilizers when available.
- Maintain and increase no/low-mow areas.
- Continue aggressive tree planting program to conserve water and increase CO2 absorption from the atmosphere.

### Sustainable Design/Construction of Buildings and Facilities

The Monmouth County Park System shall approach design in a holistic fashion considering impacts at all stages of the design and construction process and applying integrated design concepts where possible. Design alternatives shall be evaluated using life cycle costs as well as initial construction costs.

- Follow SITES\* initiative guidelines and achieve at least 1 Star rating.
- For new construction obtain LEED's\*\* certification when possible providing that there is no increase of more than 1.5% of conventional construction cost.
- Utilize sustainable materials in the construction and repair of building and facilities.
- When feasible, salvage reusable materials when deconstructing buildings and facilities.

### Sustainable Landscapes

The Monmouth County Park System shall approach landscape management in a holistic fashion that sustains, restores, protects, enhances and promotes those resources that contribute to the biological, aesthetic, historic and recreational values of the park land.

- Maintain healthy and diverse biological systems and viable habitats, specifically, fields, forests and aquatic resources through the development and implementation of natural resource plans that provide objectives and adaptive management strategies.
- Enhance or restore degraded landscapes to achieve the greatest ecological potential through the development and implementation of restoration plans.
- Enhance or protect desirable species such as Threatened and Endangered species and manage species impacts on landscape health such as invasive species, deer, and Canada goose through the development and implementation of species specific plans.
- Provide appropriate resource utilization and appreciation by the public through the development and implementation of public access plans, sustainable trail design, carrying capacity controls, and opportunities for public involvement in stewardship activities.