

RESOLUTION-2008-3-2

**RESOLUTION FOR TOWNSHIP COUNCIL TO
INSTITUTE A GREEN ACTION PLAN IN ORDER TO MAKE
CHERRY HILL TOWNSHIP A SUSTAINABLE SOCIETY AND TO
PLEDGE SUPPORT FOR THE
U.S. MAYOR'S CLIMATE PROTECTION AGREEMENT**

WHEREAS, the Township Council is aware of the grave environmental condition of our society and wants to take a proactive role in improving our overall quality of life by implementing far-reaching green initiatives that will make Cherry Hill a sustainable community and shrink our carbon footprint through the development of a green action plan. Additionally, Township Council will also endorse the U.S. Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement, and

WHEREAS, the Cherry Hill Township Green Action Plan will have three initiatives that will allow the Township to enact significant changes: 1. Community partnership; 2. Environmental education; 3. Attain specific environmental objectives. These initiatives will make sustainability a priority throughout the Township. These goals will set a new standard for our community to follow and implement on their own, with guidance from Cherry Hill Township and various groups; and

WHEREAS, these initiatives will be pursued by a strong partnership with Sustainable Cherry Hill - a grassroots, community based organization tied to an existing Township environmental advisory board called the Cherry Hill Environmental Advisory Committee (CHEAC). These groups will provide leadership to residents and businesses to make green changes that are beneficial to our Township. This partnership will be critical for developing initiatives, creating community awareness on environmental issues; and

WHEREAS, this Green Action Plan will implement an aggressive education program that will focus on home energy conservation, and several other helpful changes residents and businesses can adopt. The Township will use all the communication mediums at its disposal to disseminate important environmental messages and educate the community. This layered approach to environmental education will enhance our community's quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Township Council believe specific objectives are needed to combat environmental degradation and are necessary in order to be a leader for other municipalities in the State of New Jersey and throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, the Township will strive to meet or exceed a 10-point plan laid out by Mayor Bernie Platt, such as:

1. Create benchmarks through an energy audit and carbon footprint calculation;
2. Increase the overall recycling rate in Cherry Hill Township by installing an incentive-based recycling program;
3. Explore renewable energy resources, including solar energy panels to reduce energy costs in Cherry Hill Township;
4. Conduct green events and educational forums in Cherry Hill and solicit input from residents and businesses;

5. Set an example by becoming Clean Power Community Partner and encourage residents to do the same, in addition exploring the opportunity to become a New Jersey Clean Energy Partner;
6. Replace incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light (CFL) and light emanating diode (LED) bulbs and promote usage throughout the Township;
7. Adopt annual tree-planting program for carbon offsets;
8. Promote E-Waste recycling and analyze a convenient alternative to properly disposing of E-Waste in Cherry Hill Township;
9. Integrate hybrid and fuel efficient vehicles into the Township fleet;
10. Explore green building incentive plans for future Township construction and development;

WHEREAS, the Township will implement all Green Action initiatives in a fiscally conservative manner by utilizing federal, state and county grant money, combined with other forms of revenue that will not impose a negative affect on the taxpayer. All forms of revenue used for these initiatives will be applied in a judicious and austere manner to provide a better quality of life for the Township's community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Cherry Hill, County of Camden, State of New Jersey, that the Township of Cherry Hill does hereby endorse the formulation of a Green Action Plan to improve the environmental quality of life for our community by acting as progressive leaders in the fight to save our environment and reduce our overall carbon footprint.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township of Cherry Hill does hereby endorse the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement as written and urges all other government agencies in Cherry Hill, Camden County, and the great State of New Jersey to join this effort.

ADOPTED: MARCH 10, 2008

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

NANCY L. SAFFOS, RMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK