



Sustainable CT Community Certification Report

This is the Sustainable CT Certification Report of Ashford, a Sustainable CT bronze certified applicant.

Ashford was certified on October 31, 2022 with 225 points. Listed below is information regarding Ashford's Sustainable CT efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable CT contact for Ashford is:

Name:	LORETTA WROBEL
Title/Position:	CHAIR / CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Address:	297 PUMPKIN HILL RD ASHFORD, CT ASHFORD, CT 06278
Phone:	860 429-2629

Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Ashford was approved for in 2022 appears below. Please enjoy this opportunity to view and learn from the information and materials provided.

Notes: Submission content was created by Ashford, and Sustainable CT makes no claims, promises or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the submission, beyond that an individual reviewer approved at least some elements of the action for certification. Further, standards for actions below may have changed, and the documentation listed may no longer satisfy requirements for that action. Finally, approved actions here may include some documents and descriptions in support of action elements that were not approved, in addition to elements that were approved. In preparing your own application, please rely only on the action write-ups for the current certification year to guide your submission. Please contact info@sustainablect.org with specific questions.

1. Inclusive and Equitable Community Impacts

1.1 Optimize for Equity – REQUIRED

10 Points

Approved Information: 1.1 Optimize for Equity (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [ACTION 1.1 AFFORDABLE HOUSING SURVEY](#)

IMAGE: [ACTION 1.1.1 ADVERTISEMENT WITH LINK TO HOUSING SURVEY ON PAGE 14 OF MAY ASHFORD CITIZEN](#)

WORD: [1.1 DISCRPTION OF ASHFORD'S SURVEY ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING AS AN EQUITY ISSUE](#)

WORD: [ACTION 1.1.1 ASHFORD PLANNING AND ZONING 3/14/22 MEETING MINUTES](#)

IMAGE: [ACTION 1.1.1 ADVERTISEMENT WITH LINK TO HOUSING SURVEY ON FIRST PAGE OF JULY ASHFORD CITIZEN](#)

Documentation Details: Attached 3/14/22 Ashford Planning and Zoning minutes item #5 on pages 1-2 describes presentation of information about an Affordable Housing Plan. Attached is a copy of the housing survey that was distributed throughout the town. Attached are photos of pages from the May and June Ashford Citizen showing the notices of housing survey and how to access it.

Partners: Ashford 2022 Affordable Housing Survey was written by Housing Committee with Michael D'Amato, Ashford Certified Zoning Enforcement Officer; Co-Founder, Principal Tyche Planning and Policy Group; Consulting Town Planner; AICP (Amer. Inst. Of Certified Planners) Janet Bellamy Vice-Chair, Ashford Planning and Zoning Commission; Ashford Clean Energy Task Force member; Ashford Conservation Commission member; Sustainable CT team member Jeffrey Silver-Smith Chair, Ashford Planning and Zoning Commission; American Red Cross, senior account manager Richard Williams Ashford Planning and Zoning Commission member; Chair, Economic Development Commission; Ashford, Our Town, Our Future founding member Stephanie Dubinsky Conservation Commission member; Ashford Clean Energy Task Force member; Sustainable CT team member Members of the Ashford Planning and Zoning Commission Members of town boards and commissions

2. Thriving Local Economies

2.1 Support Redevelopment of Brownfield Sites

20 Points

Approved Information: 2.1.4 - Prepare a grant proposal for site assessment or clean-up. (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [ACTION_1.1.4_ASHFORD_WILLINGTON_CADLEROCK_FACTSHEET_GRANT_AWARDED.PDF](#)

PDF: [ACTION_1.1.5_CADLEROCK-PHASE-I-REPORT-NARRATIVE_2019.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: Action_1.1.4_ashford_willington_cadlerock_factsheet_Grant_Awarded.pdf Grant summary. Action_1.1.5_Cadlerock-Phase-I-Report-Narrative_2019.pdf <https://ashfordtownhall.org/documents/cadlerock-phase-i-report-narrative/> Phase 1 report narrative prepared by BL Companies. 2.1. 4 documentation by above narrative and fact sheet still applicable.

Partners: Town of Willington. Cadlerock property is located in both towns. Town of Willington will be a partner on the new grant application.

Additional Information: In one of the latest rounds of State of Connecticut Brownfields funding administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), the towns of Ashford and Willington received a \$200,000 Assessment grant from the Remedial Action and Redevelopment Municipal Grant Program to study 12 parcels referred to as the "Cadlerock Property". The Cadlerock Property is located between 392 and 460 Squaw Hollow Road (Route 44) in Willington and Ashford, CT.

2.3 Inventory and Promote Local Products and Services

5 Points

Approved Information: 2.3.1a Inventory of specific sectors. Inventory includes retail options, restaurants, and farms located within the town of Ashford. All local businesses. (5 points), 2022

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: [ASHFORD BUSINESSES AND RESOURCES](#)

Documentation Details: 2.3 Excel spread sheet updates businesses and resources in Ashford area.

Partners: Kathryn Edison, Sustainable Team member that created the inventory, attended multiple meetings of the Ashford Business Council and conducted outreach to other businesses and organizations in town in order to create the inventory.

Additional Information: This inventory is inclusive of all businesses in Ashford, as well as organizations and associations that would be of interest to Ashford residents. This inventory is meant to be a guide for residents of retail options and much more that are located within the municipality's boundaries. This inventory is intended to be posted to the town website.

3. Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources

3.4 Develop an Open Space Plan

15 Points

Approved Information: 3.4.2 Prioritize resources for protection. (5 points) 3.4.3 Develop an open space plan (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: [LAND GT 25 AC.XLSX UPDATED PARCELS](#)

WORD: [3.4.2_WORKSHEET\(2\).DOCX](#)

PDF: [ASHFORD-OPEN-SPACE-PLAN-REV20150608V20R.PDF](#)

PDF: [NATURAL RESOURCES DATA BASE ASHFORD 2022.PDF](#)

WORD: [3.4.3_WORKSHEET\(1\).DOCX](#)

Documentation Details: 3.4.3 Updated parcels 25 or more in Ashford replaces Open space Plan pages25-35 in Open Space Plan 3.4.2 Worksheet for prioritizing open space resources 3.4.3 Ashford Open Space Plan 3.4.3 Critical habitat map Ashford updated June 2022 replaces Map 8 in Open Space Plan on Page 44 3.4.3 Worksheet Open Space Plan

Partners: N/A

Additional Information: 3.4.3Open space Inventory reviewed by Loretta Wrobel chair, Conservation Commission. Inventory pages14-15 <https://ashfordtownhall.org3/directory/conservation-commission/> remains same with updated 25 or more parcels. 3.4.3 map of Open Space Property Map 6 Page 42Ashford Open Space Plan <https://ashfordtownhall.org3>

3.12 Enhance Pollinator Pathways

20 Points

Approved Information: 3.12.1 Provide education to residents and local businesses (5 points) 3.12.2 Create and upgrade existing pollinator gardens; educate the public about the importance of pollinators to society (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [3.12.1 ASHFORD CITIZEN-2022-03.PDF](#)

PDF: [3.12.1 ASHFORD CITIZEN-2022-04.PDF](#)

PDF: [3.12.1 BABCOCK LIBRARY SEED PROGRAM.PDF](#)

PDF: [3.12.1 ASHFORD POLLINATOR PATHWAY FACEBOOK PAGE.PDF](#)

PDF: [3.12.1 PLANNED COMMUNITY EDUCATIONAL EVENTS.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [3.12.2 SCREENSHOT OF POLLINATOR GARDEN MANAGED BY ASHFORD GARDEN CLUB AT TOWN HALL.JPG](#)

PDF: [3.12.2 ASHFORD POLLINATOR GARDENS.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 3.12.1 The first two documents and the March and April issues of our local municipal newspaper. Both issues include articles written by Jennifer Sterling-Folker, the chair of the Ashford Pollinator Pathway steering committee. The March issue included an introduction to the Pollinator Pathway on page 16, including an overview of practices that are friendly to pollinators, as well as invitation to the community to join us. The April issue includes another article about the initiative on page 26, and includes relevant FAQs, as well as a couple of local educational events regarding native plants and pollinators that are open to the public. The third document includes screenshots of the Babcock Library web pages announcing the Library Seed program, which includes native plant seeds. The Library Seed program is mentioned in the FAQ section of the April PP article and on the Ashford PP facebook page. The fourth document includes a screen shot of our Ashford Pollinator Pathway facebook page. Posts relating to pollinators, native plants, and educational events are made multiple times a week. The fifth document outlines the planned community educational events - flyers and pictures to follow. 3.12.2 The image is of the current Pollinator garden (photo from summer 2021). The final document describes our plans to enhance this garden and the existing flower garden in front of the Ashford Post Office. Pictures to follow

Partners: 3.12.1 - Ashford Garden Center, Claudia Cosgrove, will be selling native plants and supporting our efforts otherwise. Joshua's Trust - TBD 3.12.2 - Ashford Garden Club maintains our town gardens including their demo pollinator garden, which will be enhanced this summer, in support of our Sustainable CT application.

4. Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems

4.2 Support Arts and Creative Culture

20 Points

Approved Information: 4.2.1 - Poet Laureate 4.2.3 - Commit Dedicated Funding To The Arts 4.2.5 - Establish Art Council 4.2.9 - Establish an Annual Recognition Program for Artists 4.2.11a - Develop a Workshop for Artists 5 sub-actions for 20 points total

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [4.2.9.ANNUAL RECOGNITION PROGRAM. DOCX](#)

WORD: [4.2.11A ARTISTS PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOPS.DOCX](#)

WORD: [4.2.3. COMMIT DEDICATED FUNDING DOCX](#)

WORD: [4.2.1 POET LAUREATE](#)

WORD: [4.2.5 ESTABLISH AN ARTS COUNCIL](#)

Documentation Details: all 4.2 documentations are explained at top of document

Partners: Ashford Arts Council: Developed as an offshoot of Our Town Our Future (which is a town group that is an offshoot of the EDC). The AAC's monthly meetings are held in the Knowlton Memorial Hall (Ashford Town Hall). The Ashford Arts Council is also partnered with the Windham Arts Org and CT Office of the Arts. AAC website: <http://ashfordarts.org/> AAC Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ashfordarts/?rc=p> Ashford Citizen: <https://ashfordtownhall.org/about/ashford-citizen/> Ashford Arts council have members from several local area towns

Additional Information: 4.2.1 Poet Laureate workshops in Ashford Citizen April 2022 4.2.3 Grant announcement in Citizen 2022, and grant award for \$5000 will allow video streaming of arts presentations and art exhibits. One scheduled for July 9, 2022 Summer's Palette Art Show. 4.2.5 Establish art Council Bylaws 4.2.11.a Develop professional development for artists +workshops +discussion 4.2.9 Annual recognition Program Total 25 points 20 points (Approved on May 2), applying for 5 more points for action 3.2.3 Provide dedicated funding to the arts

5. Dynamic and Resilient Planning

5.6 Streamline Solar Permitting for Small Solar Installations

20 Points

Approved Information: 5.6.2: Achieve at least Bronze status in the national SolSmart community designation program. (20 Points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [SOLSMART ZONING REVIEW RELATED TO SOLAR PV DEVELOPMENT](#)

PDF: [5.6.2: ASHFORD SOLSMART BRONZE CERTIFICATION FINAL PREREQUISITE SUMMARY AND CREDIT SUMMARY.PDF](#)

WORD: [SOLSMART LETTER OF INTENT](#)

PDF: [CITIZEN-2022-04.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 5.6.2 Ashford's Clean Energy Task Force and Sustainable Committee have received training and have achieved SolSmart Bronze Certification. "SolSmart is a national program led by the International City/County Management Association and the Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC), along with a team of partners with deep expertise in solar energy and local governments." Ashford's First Selectmen signed a letter of intent to work with SolSmart. SolSmart conducted a review of Ashford's zoning and land use regulations. The Zoning Review is attached and is signed by Zoning Enforcement Official, Michael D'Amato. The final prerequisite summary and credit by credit summary is included within the document titled "5.6.2: Ashford SolSmart Bronze Certification Final Prerequisite Summary and Credit Summary"

Partners: 5.6.2 (SolSmart Bronze Certification): SolSmart, Ashford Clean Energy Task Force (ACETF), Ashford Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC), Michael D'Amato, Ashford Certified Zoning Enforcement Officer; Co-Founder, Principal Tyche Planning and Policy Group; Consulting Town Planner; AICP (Amer. Inst. Of Certified Planners)

6. Clean and Diverse Transportation Systems and Choices

6.5 Promote Public Transit and Other Mobility Strategies

5 Points

Approved Information: 6.5.2: Conduct a bicycle education program (5 points) Conducted June 27-July 1, 2022 6.5.2: Board of Education approved bike riding/walking to school Board of Education Minutes 10-3-2019 6.5.2 Ashford Boy Scouts support biking for its members. Picture of bike ride through Yale Forest

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: [BIKE CAMP 2022 PICTURE FRONT PAGE ASHFORD CITIZEN AUGUST 2022](#)

IMAGE: [2022 BIKE PROGRAM VERIFICATION FROM REC DIRECTOR PAGE 1](#)

PDF: [BOE 2019 1003.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [2022BIKE PROGRAM VERIFICATION PAGE 2..JPG](#)

IMAGE: [ASHFORD SCOUTS ON BIKE RIDE THOROUGH YALE FOREST.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [AD FOR BIKE CAMP 2022 JUNE CITIZEN PAGE 30.JPG](#)

Documentation Details: Action 6.5.2 Bike Camp Description - A description of the Bike Camp from Sherry York the Ashford Director of Recreation. The camp is run by Parks and Recreation commission member Garth Bean. <https://ashfordtownhall.org/directory/parks-and-recreation/> through this link under Citizen July 2022 the bike camp is listed as are all other Recreation events run by the Town of Ashford. The bike camp was held during COVID 2020 with 10 children and in 2021 with 17 campers. This year 2022 it ran June 27-July 1 with 19 campers, 2 adults and 1 assistant. Action 6.5.2 Picture Bike Camp page 1 Ashford Citizen August 2022 Action 6.5.2 Details of bicycle camp by Sherry York, Rec Dept. camp has run for 13 years including during COVID Action 6.5.2 Ad for bike camp 6/27-7/1/2 campers practice pedaling, balancing, steering and bike safely June 2022 Ashford Citizen Action 6.5.2 BOE minutes 10-3-2019 adopting biking/walking to school policy page 2 under Old business d. transportation policy amendment draft Action 6.5.2 Picture Boy scouts on bike ride through Yale forest

Partners: Ashford School+ Board of Education ,Ashford Boy Scouts Ashford Parks and Recreation

Additional Information: 6.5.2 - Participants learn to ride, get off training wheels, and eventually ride the trails around the park. They learn about bike safety: helmets, pads, to watch where there going and to stay clear of other riders. They learn to use their brakes, we have them do an agility test to show they can control their bike. They learn the parts of a bicycle, some rules of the road and at the end of the week we issue a bike riders license. Bike camp was held 6-27-22-7-1-22. There were 19 campers, 2 adults and 1 assistant. 6.5.2. Ashford School adopted biking to school policy after much work by parents of students. Reinforces biking for transportation and exercise. 6.5.2 Ashford boy Scouts encourage and support bike riding for pleasure and exercise.

7. Renewable and Efficient Energy Infrastructure and Operations

7.1 Benchmark and Track Energy Use

5 Points

Approved Information: 7.1 Benchmark and Track Energy Use (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: [7.1 DATA REQUEST: SUSTAINABLE CT 2022 FOR ASHFORD BENCHMARKING](#)

Documentation Details: 7.1 Updated benchmarking + energy use of town buildings Uploaded Data Request shows that Ashford has updated their benchmarking to 7/31/2022, including the heating fuel data. We have used the Data Request form in Portfolio Manager, as required and noted in the Comments below.

Partners: Data from Eversource + Ashford Town Hall Ashford Town Government collaborated with the Ashford Clean Energy Task Force, Ashford Sustainable Committee and Eversource, using Portfolio Manager.

7.5 Develop a Municipal Energy Plan

10 Points

Approved Information: 7.5.1 Municipal Energy Plan (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [7.5.1B: PROOF OF 2022 CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE MUNICIPAL ACTION PLAN ADOPTION](#)

PDF: [ACTION 7.5.1A CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE MUNICIPAL ACTION PLAN](#)

PDF: [ACTION 7.5.1A WORKSHEET FOR MUNICIPAL ACTION PLAN](#)

Documentation Details: 7.5.1a The Ashford Clean Energy Task Force developed the Municipal Action Plan (energy focus) and presented it to the Board of Selectmen on June 6, 2022. 7.5.1b It was adopted unanimously by the Board of Selectmen on June 6, 2022. The worksheet details where to find all the references to the required topics in 7.5.1a. We are requesting 10 points.

Partners: Ashford Clean Energy Task Force: The Ashford Clean Energy Task Force ("ACETF") working with the Board of Selectmen ("BOS") other elected and appointed town officials, seeks to identify ways the town and neighbors throughout Ashford can come together to preserve and improve the environment, manage and reduce energy consumption to achieve greater energy efficiency ("EE") and reduce energy costs, including through reduction of energy use during peak demand periods, increase clean, renewable energy sources, and promote energy resiliency and a secure energy supply currently and for the future. Our ultimate goal is for Ashford to become a 100% clean energy community.

8. Inclusive Engagement, Communication and Education

8.1 Hold a Sustainability Event

15 Points

Approved Information: 8.1.1 Hold a sustainability event (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [8.1 FARMERS MARKET MAILER.PDF](#)

PDF: [8.1 ASHFORD FARMERS MARKET IS OPEN! - ANNOUNCEMENT ON TOWN WEBSITE.PDF](#)

PDF: [8.1 TRASH DAY FLYER](#)

EXCEL: [8.1 ART EVENTS.XLSX](#)

EXCEL: [ASHFORD_TRASH_DAY_ACTION_8.1.XLSX](#)

IMAGE: [8.1 YOUNG TRASH PICK UPPER](#)

EXCEL: [8.1 HEALTH FAIR.XLSX](#)

EXCEL: [ASHFORD_FARMER'S_MARKET_ACTION_8.1.XLSX](#)

IMAGE: [REDUCING WASTE AND PLASTIC USE TABLE AT FARMERS MARKET 7-31-22.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [8.1 NEIGHBORS AD TRASH DAY MARCH 2022](#)

Documentation Details: 8.1 Trash Day Cleanup flyer held on March 26, 2022 which was rain date as original date was rained out. Event sponsored by Conservation Commission 8.1 Trash Day picture on youngster holding trash he picked up. Will be in May 2022 issue of Citizen 8.1 Trash Day advertised on Community Connections, Citizen March 2022 and in Neighbors newspaper March 2022 8.1 Farmer's Market announcement from Ashford Town website is located at <https://ashfordtownhall.org/ashford-farmers-market-is-open-sunday-10-am-1pm-at-pompey-hollow-park-across-from-town-offices/> 8.1 Health Fair Senior Center May 22, 2022 vendors providing info about resources for seniors 8.1 Ashford Farmers Market events+ details 8.1 Various art events details showcasing local artists and providing opportunities to sell their art especial during holiday season 8.1 Picture of waste recycle table at farmers market on July 31, 2022

Partners: An array of partners for each event. See document 8.1 Sustainability Event Template. 8.1 Trash Day 3-26-22 partnered with ABA (Ashford Business Association) sponsor local businessman Ian Preston (Preston Family Property Maintenance manned table and picked up filled trash bags 8.1 6-19-22 Farmers Market sponsored by Ashford Conservation Commission, uses town property, 6 vendors seasonal produce + fruit, meat, baked goods, first time using town social worker voucher program, all markets advertised in neighbors newspaper and on Town of Ashford website, markets have Facebook page 8.1 6-26-22 Farmers Market 6 vendors seasonal produce + fruits, Affordable housing survey distributed, 22 surveys collected 8.1 7-3-22 Farmers Market 6 vendors seasonal produce (3 vendors), meat, fruit, jams + jellies, baked goods Neighbors paper distributes paper, first 2 Sundays of month has paper at market, 8.1 7-31-22 Farmers Market, 8 vendors, (4 vendors) seasonal produce + fruits, baked goods, meats, honey + bees wax candles, jams + jellies, educational/information table by Conservation Commission how to reduce waste, recycle more, use less plastic, especially for packaging, only 5% plastic is recycled, high economic + environmental cost of waste 8.1 Vendors at Health Fair displaying services for seniors held at Ashford Senior Center 8.1 Several art events showcasing local artists and demonstrations Ashford Arts Council, Westford Hills Distillery, Eastbrook Mall, Windham Arts Council, supporting local art and providing space for artists to show their artwork

Additional Information: N/A

8.5 Engage in a Sustainable CT Mentorship with Other Municipalities

10 Points

Approved Information: 8.5.2: Implement Sustainable CT actions regionally (10 points).

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [8.5_WORKSHEET_2 FOR JUVENILE REVIEW BOARD MMAC 27JUN22.DOCX](#)

PDF: [8.5 PP - POLLINATOR PATHWAY SPRING 2022 NEWSLETTER - QUIET CORNER COLLABORATION.PDF](#)

PDF: [8.5 PP - QUIET CORNER NEWSLETTER ARTICLE \(6\) FROM PP SPRING NEWSLETTER.PDF](#)

PDF: [8.5 PP - ASHFORD INVITATION TO REGIONAL PP GROUP- POLLINATOR TALK, SAT, JUNE 25.PDF](#)

PDF: [8.5 PP - GMAIL - RE_WILDFLOWER SEEDLINGS FOR DISTRIBUTION.PDF](#)

WORD: [8.5_WORKSHEET_2 FOR POLLINATOR PATHWAY \(PP\) COLLABORATION.DOCX](#)

PDF: [8.5 PP - GMAIL - RE_POLLINATOR PATHWAYS ACTIVITY BOOTH AT CELEBRATE MANSFIELD FESTIVAL .PDF](#)

WORD: [8.5_WORKSHEET_2 FOR HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION.DOCX](#)

PDF: [8.5 HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING INSECURITY IN THE WINDHAM REGION - WHAT IS HAPPENING IN YOUR TOWN.PDF](#)

Partners: 8.5.2: Juvenile Review Board includes Youth Services personnel from Ashford, Mansfield, and Willington. 8.5.2: Joshua's Trust has participated in the regional PP initiatives, planting shrubs and distributing 6" Pollinator Pathway medallions. 8.5.2: Homelessness Prevention - Eastern Coordination Access Network, Windham No-Freeze, Thompson Ecumenical Empowerment Group (TEEG), among others.

9. Strategic Materials Management

9.1 Report Materials Management Data and Reduce Waste

5 Points

Approved Information: 9.1.1 a-c: Review Materials Management Data (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [9.1 BOS MARCH 7 2022 MINUTES NEW BUSINESS B](#)

EXCEL: [HAULING-TONNAGE COMPRSON 2019-2020 2020-2021 2021-2022\(3\)\(1\).XLS](#)

EXCEL: [9.1.1 WORKSHEET FINAL FIGURES.XLSX](#)

WORD: [SUSTAINABLE NEWS.DOCX](#)

EXCEL: [9.1.1 WORKSHEET FINAL JUST TRASH.XLSX](#)

EXCEL: [9.1BFINAL WORKSHEET TRASH.XLSX](#)

IMAGE: [9.1CASHFORD WEBSITE TRASH REPORT.JPG](#)

Documentation Details: Minutes from BOS 3.7-22 regarding Paint program for Ashford residents no cost to town under 8 new business B 9.1.b Worksheet for comparison Of 2021-2022 and 2020-2021 9.1.c Sustainable News Town website <https://ashfordtownhall.org/> 9.1b Updated worksheet for Updated Trash Final worksheet 9.1c Sustainable News Ashford updated website for trash report <https://ashfordtownhall.org/sustainablect-news/>

Partners: Housing data Profiles Willimantic Waste Recommended by MIDNEOC Board and representative Charles Atkins

Additional Information: 9.1 Paint Collection Program-will be run by Ashford Transfer Station. Make paint disposal more convenient by cutting out having to go to Hazardous Waste Disposal in Willington . When program starts will be announced in Citizen and on town web site 5 pts

10. Optimal Health and Wellness Opportunities

10.3 Improve Air Quality in Public Spaces

10 Points

Approved Information: 10.3.4 Anti-idling (New Action credit, 10 points) , May 2021, submitted for 2022 application

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: [ASHFORDTRANSFERANTIIDLING1.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [ASHFORDTRANSFERANTIIDLING2.JPG](#)

WORD: [10.3 2021 MAY GREEN TIP ANTI IDLING.DOCX](#)

IMAGE: [ASHFORD SCHOOL ANTI IDLING SIGN FRONT OF BUILDING](#)

IMAGE: [ASHFORD SCHOOL ANTI-IDLING SIGN FRONT OF SCHOOL](#)

Documentation Details: 10.3.4 Anti-idling campaign (New Action for 10 points) Mrs. Turcotte's third grade class at Ashford Elementary School took on a real challenge - to educate the school community about the damage that idling our vehicles does to our air and water. The children made a short video presentation (link is below and in May 2021 Green Tip) to show to the Board of Education, and they worked with the Administration to put up anti-idling signs around the school. Photos are included in the submitted documentation above. 10.3.4 The Ashford Clean Energy Task Force helped to amplify their message by publishing Green Tips about their campaign and information about idling in the Ashford Citizen, mailed out to all residents of the town. The May Green Tip 2021 is submitted above. The Green Tip includes a link to the video created by the 3rd grade students and presented to the Board of Education. Here is the link again to the 3rd Grade presentation to the BOE: <https://bit.ly/3gqha8P> (Please note that I tried to upload the video but it must have been too large, but the link in the Green Tip works.) 10.3.4 2 Pictures taken showing anti-idling sign at Ashford Transfer Station 8/22 10.3.4 2 Pictures taken showing anti-idling signs at Ashford School 8/22

Partners: Collaboration of Ashford School, the Board of Education, Ashford, Transfer Station and the Clean Energy Task Force.

Additional Information: This is a new action initiated by the school with our support, but it builds on previous anti-idling work described here. Past anti-idling campaign: The Ashford Clean Energy Task Force has been the face of the anti-idling campaign in Ashford. In late 2017, the Task Force purchased anti-idling signs to be placed at strategic locations in town. In December 2017, the First Selectmen approved the placement of signage at the Ashford Transfer Station. In an effort to continue to spread information about the state legislation and promoting cleaner air, members of the Task Force attended other town meetings to discuss anti-idling. Members attended a Board of Ed meeting and also provided anti-idling program information to the Eastford Clean Energy Task Force. An idling info card was included in the town's monthly newsletter, the Ashford Citizen.

10.4 Develop and Promote Community Growing Spaces

15 Points

Approved Information: 10.4 Develop and Promote Community Growing Spaces (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [10.4 ASHFORD GARDEN CLUB FLIER 2022 VERSION 1.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [10.4 ASHFORD TOWN BLDG SIGN AND FLAGPOLE GARDEN 13JUL22.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [10.4 FAR KIDNEY GARDEN 13JUL22.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [10.4 GARDENS AND SEATING IN FRONT OF BABCOCK LIBRARY 13JUL22.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [10.4 NEAR KIDNEY GARDEN IN FRONT OF TOWN HALL 13JUL22.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [10.4 POLLINATOR GARDEN 13JUL22.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [10.4 POLLINATOR GARDEN CLOSEUP 13JUL22.JPG](#)

PDF: [10.4 ASHFORD GARDEN CLUB _ FACEBOOK.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: The flyer describes the Ashford Garden Club's commitment to community commitment and invites residents to participate.

Partners: Ashford Garden Club and Ashford Pollinator Pathway organization collaborate on community educational opportunities regarding growing and grow spaces.

Additional Information: COMMUNITY GROW SPACE - The beautiful Ashford Town Gardens are located on the green space in front of the Babcock Library and the Ashford Town Hall, across the road from where the Ashford Farmer's Market is held. They are in the center of town, so that anyone visiting these municipal locations, or just driving by, can't miss the colorful display. Something is always in bloom all season long. The gardens include two large kidney gardens, a flagpole garden, a pollinator garden (which was refreshed this growing season) and a long bed along the fence in front of the library. There are seating areas in the grounds and many town events happen there - it's our town green. The gardens are planned and maintained for the benefit of the community by the Ashford Garden Club. The club, which currently has 76 members, actively solicits new members, so all residents are encouraged to join and participate in the effort. Ashford Garden Club communicates with the community via their public facebook page and via Ashford Community Connections on facebook, and by distributing fliers at community events. Attached is their current flier, which describes their commitment to community enrichment, and includes pictures of two of the gardens. Attached are additional pictures of the gardens, flanked by the Town Hall and the Library. The kidney gardens are primarily perennial flowers, with annuals added for pops of color. The pollinator garden is filled with native plants, such as goldenrod, milkweed, indigo, etc. In addition to beautifying our town properties and inviting the public to join, the Ashford Garden Club encourages gardening throughout the community. They have made seeds available for residents who want to plant flowers at home. As part of Ashford's tricentennial celebration on the town green, the Garden Club gave away juneberry saplings (a native, early-blooming shrub/small tree), so that the town will be in bloom at the same time in the spring, extending the growing to personal property. This summer the Ashford Garden Club, when thinning out perennials in the kidney gardens, offered free plants to residents to take home and plant. The Ashford Town Gardens are a vibrant and beautiful reflection of our lovely, welcoming and caring Town of Ashford. They are maintained by residents for of the town for the benefit of the entire Ashford community. Much like a community vegetable garden, participation is voluntary but open to all.

11. Healthy, Efficient and Diverse Housing

11.1 Implement an Affordable Housing Plan

10 Points

Approved Information: 11.1.2 - Create, expand or maintain your community's housing data profile (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [11.1 AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN INTO PRESENTATION.PDF](#)

PDF: [11.1 PZC AGENDA 2-14-22](#)

PDF: [11.1 PZC MINUTES 3-14-22](#)

PDF: [11.1.2 PARTNERSHIP FOR STRONG COMMUNITIES: HOUSING DATA PROFILE 2](#)

WORD: [11.1.1 HOUSING COMMITTEE](#)

PDF: [11.1.2 PARTNERSHIP FOR STRONG COMMUNITIES: HOUSING DATA PROFILE 1](#)

PDF: [11.1.1 HOUSING SURVEY](#)

WORD: [11.1.2 WORKSHEET 2: ANALYSIS OF ASHFORD'S HOUSING DATA PROFILE](#)

WORD: [11.1.2 WORKSHEET 1: TEN ADDITIONAL DATA ELEMENTS DESCRIBING ASHFORD'S RESIDENTS AND THEIR EXISTING HOUSING OPTIONS](#)

Documentation Details: 2022 11.1.1 Affordable Housing Power Point presented at PZC meeting on March 14, 2022 (link available on town website for people who were not able to attend PZC meeting). Attached agenda and minutes of PZC meeting on Affordable Housing is number 5 on both documents. Housing Committee file is a list of names and titles of the current Housing Committee, discussion of it's community engagement process and communication strategy. Documentation of meetings attached above. 11.1.2 Housing Data Profiles for Ashford, Windham County and Connecticut were used to fill out Worksheet 2 to analyze the data and describe the implications for Ashford's future housing needs. For Worksheet 1 Housing Data Profiles for Ashford and information from Ashford Assessor and Planning and Zoning Commission Member were used to describe Ashford's housing options.

Partners: Members of the Ashford Sustainability Team held a special meeting on 4/17/2019 with members from the Housing Authority and Social Services to answer questions and gain a better understanding of housing in Ashford. The director of senior housing, town social services, and senior center director, all are on board to continue with forming a housing committee to address areas of concern particularly low income housing, need for more senior housing and more alternative housing options. Members of the housing committee are: Michael D'Amato, Chair Ashford Certified Zoning Enforcement Officer; Co-Founder, Principal Tyche Planning and Policy Group; Consulting Town Planner; AICP (Amer. Inst. Of Certified Planners) Janet Bellamy Vice-Chair, Ashford Planning and Zoning Commission; Ashford Clean Energy Task Force member; Ashford Conservation Commission member; Sustainable CT team member Jeffrey Silver-Smith Chair, Ashford Planning and Zoning Commission; American Red Cross, senior account manager Richard Williams Ashford Planning and Zoning Commission member; Chair, Economic Development Commission; Ashford, Our Town, Our Future founding member Stephanie Dubinsky Conservation Commission member; Ashford Clean Energy Task Force member; Sustainable CT team member Additional data received from Kara J Fishman, CCMAI, MAI, Assessor, Town of Ashford

Additional Information: Town plans to hold public hearing during Fall 2022 to discuss affordable housing in Ashford after PZC housing survey distributed.

12. Effective, Compassionate Homelessness Prevention

12.1 Strengthen Municipal Workforce Capacity to Address Homelessness

10 Points

Approved Information: 12.1.1a Designate an individual as the Ashford Liaison for homelessness services (5 points) 12.1.1b Train the Ashford Liaison for homelessness services (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [12.1.1A UPDATED TOWN DIRECTORY - ASHFORD, CONNECTICUT HOMELESSNESS LIAISON.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 12.1.1a. Melissa's title and contact info is on page 2 of the .pdf. URL for Town Directory - <https://ashfordtownhall.org/contact-us/town-directory/>

Partners: ECAN, Jaime Parker. The primary goal of the CAN is to help communities focus on rapidly ending each person's homelessness by connecting them with appropriate housing and resources as quickly as possible. United Services, Angelica Rodriguez and Richard Elwell, case managers. United Services is a private, nonprofit behavioral health center; it is the major provider of mental and behavioral health treatment, prevention and education programs in the areas they serve (including Ashford), providing critical social services to those in their care. Kit Eves, Ashford Senior Center Director. Kit's primary focus is on Ashford's senior population; she and Melissa coordinate their efforts as appropriate. Ashford Motel. Ashford Motel offers up to 2 fee nights of emergency housing as needed.

Additional Information: Melissa McDonough, has replaced Kit Eves as the Homelessness Liaison, as this responsibility is already part of her official job description.

12.2 Increase Public Awareness and Support for Efforts to End Homelessness

5 Points

Approved Information: 12.2.2 Develop and post information on town website that includes guidance and resources for individuals or families experiencing homelessness and/or housing instability. (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [12.2.2 ECAN FLYER.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [12.2.2 SR. CENTER BULLETIN BOARD WITH 2-1-1 POSTER.JPG](#)

Documentation Details: The attached flyer was provided by the ECAN representative, Jaime Parker. Also attached is a picture of the Ashford Senior Center bulletin board where the flyer has been posted.

Partners: ECAN representative - Jaime Parker United Services - TBD

13. Innovative Strategies and Practices

13.1 Implement Your Own Sustainability Action

15 Points

Approved Information: 13.1.1: Collaborate within your community or take a regional approach to implementing a sustainability action not listed on the Sustainable CT action list. (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [13.1 -JRB REGIONAL YOUTH DIVERSION SVCS MOA FOR SIGNATURES.DOCX](#)

WORD: [13.1 ARTS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS 2022.DOCX](#)

WORD: [13.1 ASHFORD ARTS COUNCIL ARTS SCHOLARSHIPS.DOCX](#)

Documentation Details: JRB - The MOU was signed by the authorized leaders from each participating municipality. Arts Scholarships - \$250 Scholarship each for Literary Arts, Performance Arts, and Visual Arts are awarded annually to accomplished EO Smith graduating seniors who intend to further their education in the arts, as described in the attached document.

Partners: JRB - Town of Willington and the Town of Mansfield Youth Services Bureaus. Regional School District #19 - E.O. Smith High School and Middle Schools from each town. Arts Scholarships - EOSmith, including teacher liaisons