



Sustainable Maryland Community Certification Report

This is the Sustainable Maryland Certification Report of University Park (Prince George's), a Sustainable Maryland certified applicant.

University Park (Prince George's) was certified on October 08, 2020 with 255 points. Listed below is information regarding University Park (Prince George's)'s Sustainable Maryland efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable Maryland contact for University Park (Prince George's) is:

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Sustainability Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which University Park (Prince George's) was approved for in 2020 appears below. Note: Standards for the actions below may have changed and the documentation listed may no longer satisfy requirements for that action. Additionally, points associated with actions prior to 2013 certifications may not be accurate.

Community Action

Innovative Demonstration Projects - Community Action

20 Points

Program Summary:

COMMUNITY ACTION INNOVATIVE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS University Park continues to support a broad array of community action activities, including: (1) Helping Hands UP (HHUP) an aging in place program. The Town provided funding to HHUP in both the 2020 and 2021 budgets, most recently \$5,000 (cell G32 in attached FY2021 budget). HHUP assists seniors to remain safely in their own homes by matching seniors with volunteers to help with tasks. (See pages 17 and 18 of the attached May 2018 newsletter for the volunteer forms, and attached 2019 HHUP Activity Summary) HHUP volunteers responded to 250 service requests during the year with a variety of tasks ranging from household chores to more serious interventions. There are 36 trained and vetted volunteers. (2) Funding and promotion of the Town-wide Porchfest organized by the University Park Civic Association (UPCA). The Town supports the UPCA through the annual budget and promotes Porchfest as a way to build community cohesiveness. (See cell G31 on the attached 2021 budget for UPCA funding of \$8000 in fiscal year 2021 and page 13 of the Town's September 2019 newsletter) University Park Police provide directed patrols by uniformed officers during Porchfest. The 2019 Porchfest had 10 locations and over 23 individual performers. See <https://www.facebook.com/porchfestUP/> for more information. (3) Four Little Free Libraries (<https://littlefreelibrary.org>) are placed throughout the Town. They were constructed and are monitored by UPCA. Residents can take a book or share a book at any location. The Town provides funds to the UPCA (See cell G31 on the attached 2021 budget for UPCA funding) and the Town installed and maintains the structures. (See Council Minutes March 16, 2020) Two of the Little Free Libraries are located on Queens Chapel Road, one at 6707 and one at the Town Soccer Field. The other two are located on Wells Parkway, one at the intersection of Chansory Road and one at the intersection of Beechwood Road near the foot bridge. (4) University Park had a significant role in insuring the environmental sustainability of the Riverdale Park Station development. In January 2012, the Town entered into an agreement with the developer to support zoning reclassification of the property for certain conditions such as including the construction of a hiker-biker trail, stormwater management, environmental design requirements, a transportation program and tree preservation and conservation, 30 to 40 yard buffer along Baltimore Avenue, plus a requirement to apply for LEED-ND certification (currently in process) among other requirements. (See attached Calvert Tract Agreement document)

 [Porchfest Schedule and Little Library Photo](#)

 [May 2018 Newsletter](#)

 [Town Council Minutes March 16, 2020](#)

 [Calvert Tract Agreement](#)

 [September 2019 Newsletter](#)

 [FY2021 Approved Town Budget](#)

Participation in MD Green Schools

5 Points

Program Summary:

COMMUNITY ACTION - PARTICIPATION IN MD GREEN SCHOOLS As noted on the Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education (MAEOE) website, University Park Elementary School (UPES) has been a Green School within Prince George's County, Maryland, since 2016. The MAEOE website (<https://maeoe.org/green-schools-and-green-centers/green-schools-program/program-overview>) states, "The program provides educational opportunities for Pre-K-12 schools that promote responsible environmental stewardship practices and increase awareness of how our relationship with the environment ultimately impacts public health and society. The program is aligned with the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement 2014 goals and supports Maryland State Department of Education graduation requirements and standards." The Town of University Park continues to partner with UPES to introduce the school community to local environmental assets, including Wells Run and the operational solar array on the roof of the school building. The Town, through its Sustainability Action Plan (SAP) (see pages 7 and 8 of attached SAP), also seeks to better engage students and faculty in sustainability lessons and activities at UPES. This could include developing lesson plans and encouraging sustainability-related science fair projects. A key component of engaging University Park Elementary School would be coordinating with science teachers and the Parent Teacher Association to reactivate the solar monitoring function within the school.

 [Sustainability Action Plan](#)

 [List of Current Green Schools MAOE Website](#)

 [Green School Newsletter 2016](#)

 [MAOE Website Screenshot](#)

 [University Park Elementary Listing on MAOE Website Screenshot](#)

Green Team

Complete a Green Team Action Plan

10 Points Mandatory

Program Summary:

COMMUNITY ACTION - COMPLETE A GREEN TEAM ACTION PLAN On June 5, 2017, the Town Council approved the Town of University Park Sustainability Action Plan (see attached SAP and June 5, 2017 Council Minutes). The overall objective of the SAP is to identify practical local government sustainability initiatives to discuss in the budget process and to implement in practice. The SAP is intended to help prioritize Town sustainability investments during the budget process in conjunction with the Town's Strategic Plan. The SAP is a living, ever-changing document that will be periodically updated by the University Park Town Council and its committees in consultation with the public. Initiatives are organized according to the following categories: (1) Fostering Sustainable Leadership, (2) Buildings and Facilities, (3) Transportation, (4) Waste, and (5) Land Management. The Sustainability Committee is the designated Green Team in University Park. This committee is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Sustainability Action Plan and its consideration in the budget process, at least until the Town is able to hire a Sustainability Officer. This may require assigning roles and responsibilities for each Sustainability Initiative and tracking progress. One possibility is to create a Citizen Chief Sustainability Officer position to involve the public in Town decision making and implementation of the SAP.

 [Council Minutes June 5, 2017](#)

 [Sustainability Action Plan](#)

Create Green Team

10 Points Mandatory

Program Summary:

COMMUNITY ACTION - CREATE GREEN TEAM On December 16, 2013, The Mayor of University Park and the Common Council adopted Resolution 13-R-15 Supporting Participation in the Sustainable Maryland Municipal Certification Program. The University Park Green Team (committee name was changed to the Sustainability Committee in 2017, see page 4 of attached November 20, 2017 Town Council Minutes) has been active since then, as documented in the minutes of the Sustainability Committee meetings (attached). See, for example, page 8 of the attached minutes for the August 12, 2019, Town Council meeting, where Joe Schultz was approved as the chair of the Sustainability Committee that includes Leslie Jenkins, Joe Thompson, Roy Alvarez, Dave Brosch, Mary Sue Twohy and Steve Hurtt as members. The Committee typically meets on the first Wednesday of each month. As noted in the University Park Sustainability Action Plan (attached, see page 5), the Sustainability Committee vision statement is "In order to sustain its small town character and quality of life, University Park will have to be increasingly vigilant to the consequences of poorly planned growth. It will require focused and sustained citizen action to help the Town remain an oasis from the encroaching urban development. The goal is not to slow economic progress in the area, but to help mold this change to ensure communities are livable and sustainable." The University Park Sustainability Action Plan assigns the Sustainability Committee the ongoing role of overseeing implementation of the plan and its consideration in the budget process.

 [Town Council Minutes August 12, 2019](#)

 [Sustainability Action Plan](#)

 [Two Agendas from Sustainability Committee \(Green Team\) Meetings](#)

 [Town Council Meeting Minutes of November 20, 2017](#)

 [Sustainability Committee \(Green Team\) Agenda and Minutes May 6, 2020](#)

 [Sustainability Committee \(Green Team\) Agenda and Minutes March 4, 2020](#)

Participate in SM Green Team Training

5 Points

Program Summary:

COMMUNITY ACTION - PARTICIPATE IN GREEN TEAM TRAINING On December 4, 2019, Mike Hunninghake from Sustainable Maryland updated the Green Team on the Sustainable Maryland Certified program and then walked the participants through how to appropriately submit the Town of University Park's accomplishments through the program's web portal. The training attendees discussed how the Town's application for recertification in 2017 would differ from the original application in 2014 and charted a path forward.

 [Green Team Training Attendance Sheet](#)

 [Photo of Sustainability Committee](#)

 [Sustainability Committee Agenda 12/4/19](#)

 [Green Team Training Powerpoint](#)

Community Based Food System

Innovative Demonstration Projects - Community Based Food

10 Points

Program Summary:

COMMUNITY BASED FOOD SYSTEM - INNOVATIVE DEMONSTRATION PROJECT In the Fall of 2011, the Town of University Park launched its food waste compost pilot with 50 volunteers using resources from a U.S. Department of Energy grant and an outsourced vendor. The current compost

program is now open to all residents on a voluntary basis and currently accepts meats and dairy kitchen waste in addition to fruit and vegetable scraps (see February 5, 2020 Sustainability Committee minutes and page 5 of the June 2020 Newsletter). As of June 2018 the number of households using the Town composting program has grown to 274 out of the Town's 915 residences, about 30% of the Town households. Food scraps are collected at the curb every Monday. On March 11, 2019, Prince George's County has begun accepting food scraps with yard waste from University Park. When that change occurred, it was not possible to track the amount of food waste or participation rates in Town. However, 24 more families joined the food waste composting program in July, 2020. All supplies are provided by the Town. (See Tree Reimbursement and Compost Programs on the Town Public Works website and the attached compost program guide for specifics about the program). In the fall of 2018, approximately 67% to 76% of participating households recycle compost on a weekly basis and 200 to 1420 pounds of compost is picked up per week. (The variation is likely caused by seasonal changes and holidays.) See the attached "An Analysis of the University Park Pilot Composting Program" completed in the fall of 2018 by students from the University of Maryland in cooperation with the Town for further information. Besides extending the life of the County's limited landfill space an equally important benefit is the reduction in landfill methane. Further, as detailed in the attached University Park Sustainability Action Plan, expanding the successful food waste compost program to the entire Town is a key priority. Combining the effort with a reduction in trash pickup from twice a week to once per week has resulted in cost savings through reduced maintenance, vehicle miles traveled, and tipping fees, and frees time for other priorities.

 [Reimbursement and Compost Programs of the Town public works website](#)

 [Compost Program Guide](#)

 [An Analysis of the University Park Pilot Composting Program](#)

 [Sustainability Committee Minutes February 5, 2020](#)

 [June 2020 Newsletter](#)

 [Sustainability Action Plan](#)

Local Food Consumption

Promote Local Farmers Market

5 Points

Program Summary:

PROMOTE LOCAL FARMERS MARKET The Town Newsletter provides a list of the dates and times of local farmers markets as seen in the Town Newsletters of May 2018 on page 15, September 2018 on page 16 and January 2019 on page 13. There are several farmers markets in the surrounding areas of College Park, Riverdale Park and Takoma Park that are convenient for residents of the Town.

 [Town Newsletter May 2018](#)

 [Town Newsletter September 2018](#)

 [Town Newsletter January 2019](#)

Energy

Innovative Demonstration Projects - Energy

10 Points

Program Summary:

ENERGY - INNOVATIVE DEMONSTRATION PROJECT The Town of University Park partnered with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and Prince George's County Public School System (PGCPS) to pay for an install a photovoltaic (PV) solar system on the roof of University Park Elementary School. University Park proposed using \$250,000.00 of the larger Step Up Program grant from USDOE to build a community solar system. Because the grant regulations stipulated that the solar PV had to be installed on a public building and the town's elementary school had a perfect roof for such an installation, the town and the County school system (PGCPS) agreed to a partnership where the town would use the school roof in exchange for a portion of the revenue generated from the solar electricity. Under that arrangement PGCPS receiving 40% of the income. To date this is the largest solar array on any County school. The solar system is tied to the grid and a meter placed on a line that connects with the grid records the electricity generated since the time it became operational around the beginning of 2014. It has offset 100% of the electricity required to power all University Park's town functions in its two public buildings. Excess energy (on average about 24% annually) is sold to PEPCO at the wholesale rate. During its 4 years of operation the 60 kw system has produced more than 225,000 kwhr of electricity. Some of the project income is being set aside by the town in an escrow account to pay for future maintenance. The solar project has been able to take advantage of the Maryland SREC (Solar Renewable Energy Credit) Program and sold SERC valued at more than \$21,000.00. It is hoped at the project can also spur student and teacher interest in solar and renewables and result in enhanced teaching opportunities. Please see the attached PEPCO spreadsheet for the latest information on the solar energy system. With schools closed due to the pandemic, obtaining information about outreach and engagement of students is unavailable.

 [UP Solar LLC](#)

 [University Park Elementary Solar Roof and Photo](#)

 [PEPCO kWh Usage for Solar Roof on UPES](#)

Greenhouse Gas

Innovative Demonstration Projects - Greenhouse Gas

25 Points

Program Summary:

GREENHOUSE GAS - INNOVATIVE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS To reduce greenhouse gases and improve walkability and bikeability, the Town (1) funds a Shuttle Bus to/from the nearest metro station; (2) installed two bikeshare stations; and (3) purchased three hybrid police vehicles. Although the Town has not calculated the emissions reductions of these activities, each takes cars off the street and/or reduces emissions. (1) The town's shuttle bus service runs weekdays to/from the Metro. With 15,000 annual riders, the program reduces gasoline usage and idling. (See Town Shuttle Bus page from Town website and also cell G25 on page 4 of the attached FY 2021 Town Budget.) University students completed a project on the shuttle—see The Terrapin Transporters' Analysis of University Park's Public Transportation System, spring 2019, for full details. (2) On May 19, 2017, the Town of University Park installed 2 mBike bikeshare stations. When the program ended, University Park joined local leaders in adopting VeoRide to supply electric bicycles and scooters (see page 5 of July 15, 2019 Council Meeting minutes) as a zero-emissions option for residents. University Park entered into Memorandum of Understanding with the University and College Park (attached) and obtained funding for the stations (see cell R26 on page 3 of the attached 2018 budget), which are located to enable safe connections with neighboring municipalities, in accordance with the Town's bike plan. The Town painted sharrows to direct bikers to the safest, most direct routes. The Mayor of University Park, Len Carey, reports that the VeoRide system is well used in Town. As of March 2, 2020, the Mayor reported that the VeoRide Bike Share Program had 40 new customers signing on every day during the month of February. Also during February, it was reported that scooters had 16,222 rides, 279 bike rides and 2,142 e-bike rides for the entire system. (see attached minutes of March 2, 2020 Town Council minutes) VeoRide is responsible for maintenance of the bikes and scooters. VeoRide does not have data for use of the program in University Park by itself. However, according to Mayor Carey, Matt Briggs of VeoRide estimated that University Park hosted about 7.5% of the total rides, or 7,875 rides from September 2019 through July 5, 2020 (see attached email dated August 2, 2020). See also the VeoRide dashboard at <https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrljoiY2YwNjUxODktYzIxYS00ZDNiLTg3MzktZjBmNWNiMGQ2YTMyXmliwidCI6IjFjZTViNTM1LTl1mNDktNDA1Ni04ZDBiLWJlMmZkMzkwZDJhOSIsIm> (3) On May 20, 2010, the Town brought their first hybrid police vehicle into service, which is expected to save at least 1,276 gallons of fuel and 22,000 fewer pounds of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere per year. The University Park Police Department has three marked hybrid Ford Interceptor sport utility vehicles, only one is fully operational as the other two are in the process of being outfitted with emergency equipment. The SUV currently in use has the lowest idling cost of any of the current police vehicles as measured by the Geotab GPS system installed in all police vehicles.

[Town Shuttle Bus Page from Town Website](#)

[The Terrapin Transporters' Analysis of University Park's Public Transportation System](#)

[FY2018 Town Budget](#)

[July 15, 2019 Council Meeting Minutes](#)

[Mbike Bikeshare MOU with the University of Maryland and College Park](#)

[UPPD Hybrid Vehicle, March 2, 2020 Council Minutes, August 2, 2020 Email](#)

Municipal Carbon Footprint

15 Points Priority

Program Summary:

To complete the municipal carbon footprint, the Town of University Park partnered with a student at the University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center. The Town provided all data on 2019 energy and fuel usage. However, the GHG Inventory did not address Scope 3 emissions. Total 2019 Total MT CO₂e 464.9 which includes: energy used by the two municipally-owned buildings (Town Hall and Public Works); 231 street and area lights paid for by University Park; and, the Town fleet of about two dozen vehicles, which are a mix of gasoline and diesel-fueled. While Approximately 60,000 kilowatt hours of the Town's total electricity use is supplied by a solar array that the Town owns, the Town sells all of the REC associated with the system. Thus, University Park is unable to include any GHG reductions from this renewable energy source. Mobile combustion makes up the largest percent of emissions, 80% this is likely because a number of the Town's vehicles are older – the average fleet age is about 10 years, and some of the oldest vehicles are trucks or heavier-duty equipment that likely have higher emissions. This inventory was completed using the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Local Greenhouse Gas Inventory Tool: Government Operations Module. Data on pounds of CO₂ emitted per MWh of electricity was provided by Pepco, the local utility. Other emissions factors are from the EIA's State Electricity Profiles database. The Energy Star Portfolio Manager Greenhouse Gas Emissions Technical Reference provided guidance on how to account for the solar renewable energy consumed by the Town. All other assumptions and calculation methodologies are from the inventory tool.

[University Park 2019 GHG Inventory](#)

Health & Wellness

Innovative Demonstration Projects - Health & Wellness

30 Points

Program Summary:

HEALTH AND WELLNESS - INNOVATIVE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS University Park supports many health and wellness programs for residents, including: (1) The Azalea Classic. The Town contributes \$6,000 annually to the Azalea Classic (see cell G38 on page 8 of attached 2019 budget and page 14 of the April 2019 Town Newsletter). See the Azalea Classic webpage (<https://raceroster.com/events/2019/20117/azalea-classic-2019> and <http://www.azaleaclassic.com/>) for more information. In 2019, the Azalea classic had 273 registered runners. The University Park Police Department (UPPD) and the local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) assist in setting up the race course and monitoring the roads to

reroute traffic during the race and provide help when needed. The 2020 Azalea Classic was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. (2) The Community Mosquito Control program (formerly called Take Back Our Yards). The initiative began several years ago as a small pilot program and has since expanded to include the entire Town. It began with the assistance of Rutgers University during the summer of 2016 and 2017. It was a pilot program for the first major mosquito trapping initiative in the continental United States. The goal is to reduce mosquito populations through non-pesticides means. More than 500 traps have been purchased by Town residents and the traps are deployed in hundreds of yards. Residents are trained to remove breeding sites. In the spring of 2017 Sustainable Maryland hosted a webinar that explained how the Town's mosquito program was developed and its objectives. (See page 4 of attached May 2020 newsletter). More information at (<https://www.upmd.org/222/Community-Mosquito-Control>). (3) In May 2018, the Town dedicated a new playground at Wells Parkway near the Town park. The playground was funded through a Community Parks and Playgrounds grant and from Town funds (See page 2 of May 2018 Newsletter, photo and 2018 budget line W17). (4) Safe Route to School Plan (see attached) was developed by the University Park Police Department (UPPD) in cooperation with the University Park Elementary School (UPES) administration and Parent Teacher Association (PTA). The UPPD Chief worked with the Town Treasurer and the Director of Public Works to successfully obtain a "Safe Route to School" grant. The national Safe Route to School program was used as a model (<https://www.saferoutespartnership.org>). Town residents were consulted about the painted parking spaces and drop-off area at UPES. Parents of school children were sent notification of the program and a were asked to provide feedback on the plans. The plan was also discussed with parents on "Back to School Night." The plan addresses the issues and community concerns associated with traffic congestion, parking and pedestrian safety. Two part-time crossing guards were hired, parking and drop off spaces were painted and a solar powered radar speed sign was deployed as a traffic calming measure. "Walking School Buses" were planned, but due to the school closure because of the pandemic, they have not yet been implemented. (See attached September 2019 Town Newsletter, page 3)

 [FY2019 Town Budget](#)

 [April 2019 Newsletter](#)

 [May 2020 Newsletter](#)

 [FY2018 Town Budget](#)

 [May 2018 Newsletter, Page 2, Photo of Playground and Safe Route to School Plan](#)

 [September 2019 Newsletter](#)

Local Economies

Innovative Demonstration Projects - Local Economies

10 Points

Program Summary:

LOCAL ECONOMIES - INNOVATIVE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS University Park Initiatives for local economic sustainability include: (1) Funding and promoting spring and fall townwide yardsales organized by the University Park Civic Association (UPCA). The town gives UPCA an annual subsidy (\$8000 in FY 2020, see attached budget G32) and promotes the yardsales (e.g., newsletter, April 2019) to reuse clothing and home goods and reduce the overall waste stream. Forty households participated in the 2019 yardsale (June 3), which featured a food truck and a collaborative sale location at the elementary school, and several hundred people visited/shopped. (2) Funding and publicizing an electronics recycling and paper shredding day twice a year at a cost to the Town of \$1200 each. All electronic items collected are reused, refurbished, or recycled through Turtle Wings Inc. (<https://turtlewings.com>), in accordance with local, state and federal regulations. Paper shredding is done by EcoShred (<https://ecoshredllc.com>) at a cost to the Town of \$600. Two Town Public Works employees help with setup and breakdown and check ID's for certain items. These well-attended but costly events keep some of the most toxic materials out of the landfills, demonstrating the Town's commitment to waste reduction and recycling. Old paint in cans was added to the list of acceptable items and collected by Yuck Old Paint (<https://yuckoldpaint.com>), with a minimal \$5 charge per can paid for directly by the residents who participate. (See attached list of acceptable items from the Town website, October 2019 newsletter notice, and budget cell W4, p 5.) The spring 2020 event had to be cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic (March 2020 newsletter, p. 13).

 [2020 Town Budget](#)

 [April 2019 Newsletter](#)

 [October 2019 Town Newsletter](#)

 [March 2020 Town Newsletter](#)

 [Electronics Recycling on Town Website](#)

Green Purchasing

Green Purchasing Policy

15 Points Priority

Program Summary:

LOCAL ECONOMIES - GREEN PURCHASING POLICY In 2013 the Common Council of the Town of University Park adopted Resolution 13-R-08 called the University Park Renewable Energy Policy (see attached). This policy declared University Park's intent to take a leadership role in renewable energy generation and to partner with the Maryland Energy Administration, becoming a Maryland Smart Energy Community. The resolution still stands. In addition, in 2014, the Common Council and the Mayor of University Park adopted a broader Sustainable Procurement Policy (see attached) that not only addresses the purchase of renewable energy by the town but states that: "University Park employees will procure materials, products or services in a manner which integrates fiscal responsibility, social equity, and community and environmental stewardship." The sustainable

procurement policy was highlighted again in the Sustainability Action Plan adopted by the Common Council on June 5, 2017. University Park continues to implement the sustainable procurement policy under the watchful eye of resolute advocates for this commitment to sustainability at the Town Hall. The Mayor, the Director of Public Works and the Chief of Police (all long-term University Park employees) have strong records of choices and actions that exemplify this commitment. This is the type of leadership that is important for adhering to such policies. The Common Council's unanimous vote to adopt the Sustainable Procurement Policy also demonstrates the town government's desire for University Park employees to consider and balance factors of sustainability whenever possible in making decisions for the town. Further, the mayor periodically reminds staff about the policy as part of staff meetings. A copy of a recent email from the Town Administrator circulated to the Town staff, reminding them of the green purchasing policy, is attached. The Sustainable Procurement Policy document (<https://www.upmd.org/DocumentCenter/View/541/University-Park-Sustainable-Procurement-Policy-Memo-PDF>) is posted on the Sustainability Committee page (<https://www.upmd.org/193/Sustainability-Committee>) on Town website (upmd.org).

 [Green Purchasing Policy](#)

 [Memo to Staff about Purchasing Policy](#)

 [Sustainable Purchasing Email Reminder](#)

 [University Park Renewable Energy Policy](#)

Natural Resources

Innovative Demonstration Projects - Natural Resources

15 Points

Program Summary:

NATURAL RESOURCES - INNOVATIVE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS (1) The Town Tree Reimbursement Program may offer reimbursement of up to \$300.00 toward the price of any tree in the official Shade Tree list and \$100.00 toward the purchase price of any tree in the official Understory Tree List with some restrictions. Fourteen trees were planted by residents on private property this year using this rebate program. (Description of the program is on the Town's Public Works website (<https://www.upmd.org/164/Public-Works>) and see cell B4 on page 5 of the attached 2020 Town budget for funding) (2) The University Park Committee on Trees, Parks, and the Environment (TPE) is a standing the committee comprised of ten members including a Council Liaison. It is a separate committee from the Sustainability Committee (Green Team) but the two committees work closely together at times. Chris Aubry has served as Chair since 2013. One of the Committee's functions is to organize residents to remove invasive species from public property. This activity is informally known as the "Ivy League." (Page 5 of attached March 2020 newsletter displays notification of a recent Ivy League event along with page 1 of March 11, 2020 meeting notes for the TPE. See also the TPE 2019 annual report) Members of the Ivy League (groups of 4-7 about 10 times per year) volunteered more than 54 hours in 2019, clearing ivy from 100+ trees. The Ivy League typically convenes the second Saturday of the month 8 or 9 times a year. In addition, the TPE planted 24 trees on public property with help from volunteers in 2019. Under the Tree Steward program, the Committee members updated the list of distressed and dead trees for the Department of Public Works. The TPE webpage (<https://www.upmd.org/194/Trees-Parks-Environment-Committee>) on the Town website (<https://www.upmd.org>) lists other activities of the Committee along with an interactive map of notable trees in the community and the Committee's annual report. (3) A Stormwater BMP cell was constructed on Town property by Soltesz, LLC. The construction of a Stormwater BMP cell in the Town park was part of the County's Clean Water Partnership (CWP) Plan. "The goal is to put the 'submerged gravel wetland' in place." (See attached page 1 of July 9 Town Council minutes) The project was completed and has been filtering water that goes into Wells Run for almost two years (see attached photo). This BMP cell provides mitigation for an area of 2.43 acres or about 8% of the Town. There are another 5 bioretention areas within the park. (4) Pollinator Meadow Restoration. The Town, the Anacostia Watershed Society and the University of Maryland vanEngelsdorp Bee Lab have established a pollinator meadow on a previously open Town field. The cost to the Town was minimal as WSSC had used the property for storage during some repair work and agreed to restore the area to the Town's specifications upon completion of their work. AWS provided complimentary landscape design and the Bee Lab provided the seed for the wildflowers and plated bluestem bunchgrass. The Town has purchased two interpretive signs and two benches that will be installed. The Town is responsible for the ongoing maintenance with advice from the Bee Lab and AWS for the first few years. Volunteers from the Town will help remove invasive species and plant appropriate native species when recommended. The Town will spend about \$40,000 on a permeable paved path alongside the meadow connecting the Town park to Adelphi Road. The meadow provides a habitat for bees, butterflies and other native pollinators (See attached article from the Town website). Public reception has been favorable as noted by a featured story in the "Hyattsville Wire" (<https://hyattsvillewire.com/2020/06/29/university-park-adelphi-field-meadow/>) and a soon to be published article in the "Washington Gardener." (5) Promoting the Prince George's County Rain Check Rebate Program via the Town website and newsletter (March 2018, insert, attached) to lessen/slow stormwater runoff and improve quality of life. The program gives property owners rebates for installing Rain Check approved stormwater management, helping both the local economy and the environment.

 [March 2020 Town Newsletter](#)

 [March 11, 2020 Minutes from TPE and 2019 Annual Report of the TPE](#)

 [July 9, 2018 Town Council Minutes, page 1 and Photo of Stormwater](#)

 [September 2019 Town Newsletter](#)

 [Adelphi Meadow Article on Town Website and Rain Check Flyer](#)

 [FY2020 Town Budget](#)

Tree City
USA

15 Points

Program Summary:

NATURAL RESOURCES University Park has been a TREE CITY since 2004. This has been a source of pride and stewardship for the Town. Both old and newly planted trees help to prevent run-off and slow down erosion. The Town is especially mindful of replacing any trees that have died. The Town park and the stream that runs through it provide habitat for wildlife and birds, as well as a place for recreation and relaxation for the Town's residents. The Town's annual budget includes \$20,000 for tree planting. This money is expended, in full, every year. The Town has also had a very active Tree Committee since 2004. These activities and others helped the Town earn the Tree City USA certification and the People Loving and Nurturing Trees (PLANT) awards yearly (see attached documentation).

-  [.2021 Town Budget](#)
-  [Tree City Application](#)
-  [PLANT Award and PLANT Award Certificate](#)
-  [Arbor Day Program](#)
-  [Tree City Award Notice](#)
-  [Arbor Day Proclamation](#)

Pet Waste

Adopt a Pet Waste Ordinance

5 Points

Program Summary:

NATURAL RESOURCES - ADOPT A PET WASTE ORDINANCE The University Park Town Code (section 3-102 B of the attached Code) states that "No person owning, keeping or having custody of a dog, except a seeing eye dog, shall allow or permit excrement of such dog to remain on any property within the Town limits other than that owned and/or occupied by said person." This includes all Town public areas and all private property. Bags of waste must be disposed of properly in one's own trash bins. The penalty for this infraction is covered in Section 5-107 Penalties- "A failure to comply with this chapter shall constitute a municipal infraction and will subject the offender to a penalty of two hundred dollars per violation." This ordinance currently remains in effect.

-  [University Park Code](#)

Develop a Pet Waste Program

5 Points

Program Summary:

NATURAL RESOURCES - DEVELOP A PET WASTE PROGRAM The Town supports and publicizes the University Park Civic Association (UPCA) Mutt Strut (see page 9 of the attached May 2017 Newsletter and the attached Mutt Strut flyer). University Park supports the UPCA through the annual budget process and promotes the Mutt Strut to highlight the town's friendliness towards pets and to raise funds for pet waste stations in the Town Park. See cell G33 on page 4 of the attached budget for UPCA funding of \$8000 in fiscal year 2018 and page 3 of the attached June 20, 2016 Council minutes for approval of the first pet waste station in town. The station is operational and very popular with park users, so the Town plans to add more pet waste stations after subsequent Mutt Strut events (see photos). Costs for installation were supported by the Mutt Strut event, and maintenance will be seen to by a combination of the UPCA and the town DPW.

-  [June 2019 Town Newsletter](#)
-  [Photo of Pet Waste Stations](#)
-  [2018 Town Budget](#)

Implement a Pet Waste Education Program

5 Points

Program Summary:

NATURAL RESOURCES - IMPLEMENT A PET WASTE EDUCATION PROGRAM The Town of University Park has two ongoing efforts on pet waste education: (1) University Park periodically publicizes pet waste awareness materials in the newsletter. For an example, please see the attached insert of the March 2019 Town Newsletter. (2) The Town supports and publicizes the University Park Civic Association (UPCA) Mutt Strut (see page 14 of the attached April 2019 Newsletter and the Helping Paws Website). University Park supports the UPCA through the annual budget process (see line G31 in attached 2021 Budget) and promotes the Mutt Strut to highlight the Town's friendliness towards pets and to raise funds for pet waste stations in the Town Park.

-  [March 2019 Town Newsletter](#)
-  [April 2019 Town Newsletter](#)
-  [Helping Paws Website](#)
-  [2021 Town Budget](#)

Watershed Stewardship

Provide Voluntary Opportunities for Citizen Engagement in Watershed Stewardship

10 Points

Program Summary:

NATURAL RESOURCES - PROVIDE VOLUNTARY OPPORTUNITIES FOR CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT IN WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP The Town of University Park funds and promotes the annual Stream Clean UP which was organized in 2019 by the University Park Civic Association (UPCA). The Town supports the UPCA through the annual budget process (See cell G33 on page 4 of the fiscal year 2019 budget and cell G31 on page 4 of the fiscal year 2021 budget for UPCA funding of \$8000) and promotes the Stream Clean UP to help citizens take an active role in promoting stewardship of the stream and park and to stretch municipal capacity resources by engaging volunteers in watershed stewardship activities. The volunteer efforts of community members will reduce municipal watershed protection and restoration costs. Assistance is also provided by the Town of University Park Police and the Public Works departments (traffic and trash disposal). See page 14 of the attached April 2019 newsletter for Town notification of the event. In 2020, the Town Sustainability Committee (Green Team) organized the Stream Clean UP which was held on June 6. More than 25 volunteers collected 26 bags of trash from Wells Run (see attached photos).

 [2019 Town Budget](#)

 [April 2019 Town Newsletter](#)

 [2020 Stream Clean UP Announcement](#)

 [Stream Clean UP Photo #1](#)

 [Stream Clean UP Photo #2](#)

 [FY 2021 Town Budget](#)

Planning & Land Use

Innovative Demonstration Projects - Planning & Land Use

30 Points

Program Summary:

PLANNING AND LAND USE - INNOVATIVE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS (1) Three University Park documents, the Sustainability Action Plan, the Three Year Strategic Plan and a Town Park Conceptual Plan are efforts to better integrate a long-term vision for sustainability with short-term budgeting priorities. All three planning documents envision a Town Park Plan as a key future priority to help the Town make public lands more useful to citizens. On June 5, 2017, the Town Council approved the comprehensive Sustainability Action Plan (SAP). The SAP was initiated by the University Park Green Team, and is based, in part, on a May 2, 2016, draft plan prepared by Allison Harwick, Graduate Student at Harvard Extension School, for her Sustainability and Environmental Management (SEM) Graduate Capstone Project. The draft plan was edited by the Green Team, particularly its chair at the time, Joe Thompson, with public input. The SAP is intended to help prioritize Town sustainability investments in conjunction with the Town's Strategic Plan. The SAP is a living, ever-changing document. Initiatives are organized according to the following categories: (1) Fostering Sustainable Leadership, (2) Buildings and Facilities, (3) Transportation, (4) Waste, and (5) Land Management. On June 17, 2019, the Town Council accepted the Three Year Strategic Plan developed by the Mayor and Council when they met at the Friends Community School On March 23, 2019, to participate in a strategic planning retreat. In addition to the Mayor and Councilmembers, the Town Clerk, Treasurer, Police Chief, and Public Works Director participated in the retreat. The strategic planning document identifies Environmental Sustainability and Resiliency as a Town value. The strategic plan indicates that the Town should carry out the park concept plan and explore public-private partnerships to support park investment. The Three Year Strategic Plan was discussed in Town Council meetings was available for residents to review at the June 17, 2019 Council meeting (see attached documentation) and is on the Town Website (see attached documentation). All staff who were at the retreat, the Mayor and Councilmembers received a copy. In the spring of 2020, a report was written by Christophe Beaumier, a graduate student in the School of Public Policy at the University of Maryland titled University Park Town Park Project Developing a Conceptual Plan. The Town contacted the School of Public Policy through an emeritus faculty member who is a resident of the Town. A scope of work was supplied by the Sustainability Committee and Mr. Beaumier chose to work on the report his class. The report was done with the cooperation of the Town as the first step in developing a comprehensive Town Park Plan. (Please see attached report). The Town hopes more University of Maryland students will work with the Town to develop a foundation for a good long-range park plan. The Town hopes to connect with more students and faculty in the School of Public Policy, and also in disciplines such as landscape architecture, urban and environmental planning. (2) A Capstone project on Town transportation services by students in Environmental Science and Policy (ENSP) program at the University of Maryland in conjunction with the Town was completed in the spring of 2019. A previous study had been done on the Town food-waste composting program by students of Professor Caroline Boules. Through that contact this project was developed focusing on reducing the Town's greenhouse gas emissions. After the Sustainability Committee (Green Team) developed a scope of work in early 2019, the students did most of the data collection in March. Representatives of the Town Sustainability Committee met with the students and ENSP staff three times during the project. Final results were presented to the Committee, the Mayor and Town staff in May 2019. The report is providing information for the Town's planning on transportation services. Currently an ad hoc committee on transit is working to develop a plan for the Town's commuter/shuttle bus that will, among other things, reduce its climate footprint. According to the report, "The Terrapin Transporters have made it their mission to help UP's residents take advantage of the community's many public transit networks, and to suggest alternative or improvements that may increase said network's efficiency and accessibility." (Please see the attached report, The Terrapin Transporters' Analysis of University Park's Public Transportation System, spring 2019, for full details).

 [Sustainability Action Plan](#)

 [Strategic Plan](#)

 [.Christophe Beaumier Report](#)

 [Town Council Meeting Minutes of June 17, 2019](#)

 [Agenda and Documents for June 17, 2019 Town Council Meeting](#)

 [Terrapin Transporters' Analysis of University Park's Public Transportation System](#)