

Upper Providence Township

Sustainable Pennsylvania
Community Certification Audit



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TABLE OF CONTENTS



5 GOVERNANCE AND
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

11 HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

13 DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND
INCLUSION

14 EDUCATION

15 ENERGY USE, CONSERVATION
AND GREEN BUILDING

18 ENVIRONMENTAL
STEWARDSHIP

22 HOUSING

25 LAND USE AND
TRANSPORTATION

31 LOCAL ECONOMY

What is Sustainability?

Sustainability is “the ability to be maintained at a certain rate or level; avoidance of the depletion of natural resources in order to maintain an ecological balance.”¹ Simply put it means meeting the needs of the current generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It encompasses more than just environmental issues.² Sustainability includes topics such as social equity, natural resources and economic development spanning over systems economic, environmental, societal and personal.



Environmental Sustainability: Making sure that the natural resources we use can be replenished while keeping all environmental systems in balance.

Economic Sustainability: Making sure that residents have access to the financial and other resources they require to meet their needs and allow them to access sources of livelihood.

Social Sustainability: Giving residents access to basic resources to keep their families healthy and secure while maintaining universal human rights.³

As we continue to grow in social and economic regions, environmental concerns increase. Issues such as pollution, climate change, efficient and affordable energy continue to arise. In order to guarantee resources are available for our future generations, actions must be taken.

What is Sustainable PA?



The Sustainable Pennsylvania Community Certification, a project of the Pennsylvania Municipal League and Sustainable Pittsburgh, is a voluntary performance recognition program designed to help municipalities achieve sustainability goals, which in turn will allow them to save money, conserve resources, and encourage innovation.

¹ <https://www.lexico.com/en/definition/sustainability>

² World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED). Our Common Future. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1987, p.43

³ <https://www.mcgill.ca/sustainability/files/sustainability/what-is-sustainability.pdf>



Lock 60, Schuylkill Canal Trail

Mont Clare, PA

Governance and Community Engagement

Municipal Operations:

1A: Professional staff are employed or retained, in the areas of budgeting and finance.

Summary: Upper Providence Township Finance Department handles all financial transactions, budgeting, payroll and benefits. The department is managed by the Director of Finance.

Evidence: [Finance Department, Township Website](#)

1B: A revenue-expenditure trend analysis is conducted annually.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

1C: Funds for capital-related borrowing are not used for day to day expenses.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

1D: Municipality routinely evaluates ability to ensure that revenue is sufficient to maintain public infrastructure, (community has an asset management-based budget system).

Summary: An annual budget is prepared by administration and finance and approved by the Board of Supervisors on an annual basis, including a budget for capital expenditures.

Evidence: [2020 Operating Budget](#)

1E: Pensions/post-employment obligations are funded for the long-term to at least 8-%.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

1F: 5-10 percent of operating funds are carried over year to year.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

1G: Taxation takes a balanced approach applicable to all sectors of municipal services provided and fees satisfy cost recovery.

Summary: An annual budget is prepared by administration and finance and approved by the Board of Supervisors on an annual basis, including real estate taxes separated into various municipal services, Earned Income Tax, Local Service Tax, and Real Estate Transfer Tax.

Evidence: [2019 Operating Budget, Section 301 and 310 of General Fund Budget.](#)

1H: Green vehicle fleet assessment has been initiated toward: using greener fuels and/or vehicles, vehicle rightsizing for the job/trip, retrofit or replace older diesel trucks or equipment with cleaner technology, or driver education about driving techniques for fuel economy.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

Community Engagement:

2A: Civic engagement, public participation and transparency are regularly assessed and facilitated.

Summary: The Municipality holds meetings that are open to the public. Videos, agendas, minutes, related information, community events, and newsletters are posted and mailed to our residents to help keep them informed.

Evidence: [Board of Supervisors Meetings](#)

2B: A Historic Review Commission is active.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

2C: An Environmental Advisory Council is active.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

2D: Municipality communicates with the public via a regularly scheduled newsletter or regularly updated web-based communications.

Summary: The Municipality actively communicates with the public in many forms. Social Media accounts, the municipal website, and quarterly newsletters contain many upcoming events, ideas and information about things that are happening in and around Upper Providence Township.

Evidence: [Website](#), [Newsletter](#), [Social Media](#)

2E: All municipal-sponsored events have a sustainability awareness component.

Summary: Upper Providence strives to integrate sustainability awareness components into all municipal-sponsored events. Partnerships that help provide sustainability awareness to municipal events include Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy, Schuylkill Canal Association, Montgomery County, and DCNR.



Evidence: National Pennsylvania Day, 7/20/2019

2F: A program exists to actively pursue and match residents and local businesses to volunteer opportunities to better the community and assist the local government.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

Local and Regional Cooperation:

3A: Municipality is an active participant in a Council of Governments.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

3B: The municipality utilized Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreements (ICA) to engage in multi-municipal endeavors.

Summary: Upper Providence possess multiple agreements with neighboring municipalities. The link provided shows an Intermunicipal Agreement between Upper Providence Township and the neighboring community of Trappe Borough arranging the purchase of portable radios to help Trappe Fire Company better serve our municipality.

Evidence: [April 1 2019 Agenda, Old Business, #5](#)

3C: Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreements include conflict resolution provisions.

Summary: Upper Providence Township shares borders with many different municipalities. This often results in many intergovernmental Agreements with the neighboring municipalities. Whenever the Township enters into these agreements, the parties agree the terms of the agreement which can include resolution through the Court of Common Pleas of Montgomery County or to the Eastern District of Pennsylvania federal courts.

Evidence: [License Agreement pages 60-67, page 67, section 15: Governing Law](#) On pages 60-67 of this Agenda document, you will find a Licensing agreement between Upper Providence and Montgomery County. In section 15 of this document, labeled Governing Law on page 67, the two parties will sign to agree to handle any conflict within County or Federal Courts.

Sustainability:

4A: The municipality is committed to passing a resolution (within six months of enrolling) to affirm participation in the Sustainable Community Essentials Certification Program.

Summary: On December 2, 2019, the Township passed Resolution 2019-60 to reaffirm the Municipality's commitment and participation to the Sustainable Pennsylvania Program.

Evidence: [Resolution 2019-60, page 191](#)

4B: A municipal sustainability program (in name) has been developed and departmental goal setting and budget processes are used to advance it.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

4C: Sustainability policies, goals, and principles have been adopted.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

4D: A sustainability assessment has been conducted to evaluate municipal facilities, operations, plans and regulations relative to conserving resources, saving money, and implementing policies and procedures that simultaneously advance the environment, economy, and social equity.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

4E: There is on-going training for municipal employees and officials and the HR function closely engaged in advancing objectives of the municipal sustainability program.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

4F: Procedures are in place to measure and track the impacts of the sustainability program (and yearly reporting to the public on results is conducted).

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

4G: An executive/management level municipal staff person has responsibility for management of the municipal sustainability program expressly included in their job description.

Summary: Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation, Sarah Sato, is responsible for management of the Municipal Sustainability Program and is helping to make sure Upper Providence continues to move in the direction of sustainability.

Evidence: Sustainability Audit

4H: Professional development for municipal personnel and officials included participating (at a minimum, per year) in quarterly Local Government Academy, PA DCED or other professional training association programs.

Summary: Each year the township supervisors attend many different seminars to gain professional training. The Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors is a training that is attended yearly by one or more of the Township Supervisors.

Evidence: [Supervisor Higgins announces she attended PSATS Conference at the end of 10/7/19 meeting](#)

4I: Newly elected officials participate in Local Government Academy or other orientation training for public officials.

Summary: All newly elected municipal officials participate in PSATS Boot Camp to help prepare them for their newly held position.

Public Safety:

5A: Municipality maintains updated public safety mutual aid agreements with neighboring municipalities and shares resources.

Summary: Upper Providence Township maintains an intergovernmental agreement with Montgomery County and any other governmental agency participating with the Montgomery County Mutual Aid Plan. This allows Upper Providence Township to receive police protection from any participating governmental agency and provide police protection to said agencies.

Evidence: [Chapter 33, Article 1: Intergovernmental Police Assistance](#)

5B: Municipality maintains an updated Public Safety comprehensive plan to be sure staffing and financial resources keep pace with municipal needs for Police, Fire, and Emergency Medical Services.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

5C: Municipality participates in a regional service program or contracts services to or through other municipalities for Fire, Police, or EMS.

Summary: Upper Providence Township has multiple fire and EMS companies responding to calls within the municipal boundaries. These companies include Black Rock Volunteer Fire Company, Trappe Fire Company, Trappe Ambulance Company, Collegeville Fire Company, Royersford Fire Department, Friendship Ambulance, Upper Providence Township Fire and EMS, and Lower Providence Community Center Ambulance Corps.

Evidence: [Fire and Emergency Services Assessment and Strategic Plan](#)

Healthy Communities

Local Food:

6A: Incentives exist for establishment of farms and gardens within the municipality.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

6B: The municipality supports a program (or cooperates with neighboring communities) to engage residents in strengthening sustainable food systems to link local foods, farms and people.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

6C: Education programs are made available for residents on the benefits of organic, locally purchased food; farmers' markets and farm stands are facilitated.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

6D: A community produce garden(s) is available.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

Healthy People:

7A: Programs by local government, or in cooperation with the non-profit and private sector, exist to address community health concerns.

Summary: The Upper Providence Township Police Department consistently updates their crime watch website to inform the residents of any safety and health concerns in and around the Municipality. Residents can also opt to receive notifications when a new alert has been posted on the Crime Watch website or Facebook page.

Evidence: [Crime Watch](#)

7B: Outdoor recreation opportunities, amenities, and lifestyles are promoted.



Summary: The Upper Providence Township Parks and Recreation Department provides year-round programming for residents and non-residents of all ages with summer camps, exercise classes, kids programs and special events.

Evidence: [UPT Parks and Recreation Website](#)

7C: A program to promote safe walking to school is in place.

Summary: The Municipality provides crossing guards to help direct traffic near schools. They help promote and allow safe walking to and from school by directing both pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

Evidence: [2019 Operating Budget, page 27, line 410-142](#)

7D: The use of pesticides and herbicides is being monitored and reduced by all municipal departments which use them.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**



Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Human Resources:

8A: Measures are taken to ensure a wide range of candidates are interviewed for all municipal job openings.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

8B: The municipality has a written municipal policy prohibiting discrimination and valuing diversity and inclusion.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

8C: The municipality has provided diversity training for municipal employees.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

8D: The municipality annually assess, and reports to the public, diversity of all boards, employees, volunteers, committees, etc.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

8E: The municipality reports annually to the public on progress in creating a more diverse workforce.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

Economy:

9A: There is a municipal policy ensuring Minority Business Enterprise and Women Business Enterprise are considered in municipal purchasing, bids and contracts.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

9B: The municipality is engaged in programs to communicate that the community is welcoming to persons who represent diversity.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

Education

Cooperation:

10A: Municipal planning is coordinated with the school district and the two meet together at least once per year.

Summary: Upper Providence Township meets with the Spring Ford School District to discuss developments that are coming to the Municipality. One example of the issues which are discussed is the possibility of over crowding within schools due to new developments.

10B: The municipality and local public schools cooperate to share facilities and other resources.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

Engagement:

11A: Municipality works with schools and local nonprofits/community organizations to engage students about community issues such as waste reduction and recycling, public safety, wellness, conservation, nature, etc.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

Energy Use, Conservation and Green Building

Municipal Energy Use:

12A: The municipality has recently completed an energy audit of all municipal buildings and operations. The audit includes findings and recommendations and establishes a baseline of energy usage.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

12B: The municipality has established goals from the energy audit findings and is methodical implementing the energy audit findings.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

12C: Municipal energy use has declined overall at least 15% from the baseline year established in the energy audit.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

12D: Municipality is reporting yearly to the public on progress and results made in implementing recommendations/findings contained in the municipal energy study.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

12E: Municipality has or is in the process of retrofitting streetlights and traffic signals to LED bulbs.

Summary: As part of a grant, Upper Providence Township has replaced all the traffic signals to LED bulbs. This will help the Township in their efforts in energy conservation.

Evidence: [LED Traffic Signal Article](#)

12F: As part of the energy audit, a greenhouse gas inventory and mitigation plan has been established for municipal functions.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

12G: Positive progress on the greenhouse gas inventory and mitigation plan is reported annually to the public.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

12H: Energy performance of key municipal buildings is tracked using ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager and is reported yearly to public.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

Community Energy Use:

13A: The municipal comprehensive plan contains an energy conservation element.

Summary: Goal 9 of the 2010 Comprehensive Plan discusses the Township's effort to conserve energy. By promoting the use of alternative energy sources both on the Township level and by the residents, energy conservation can be achieved.

Evidence: [2010 Comprehensive Plan, pages 49-55](#)

13B: Municipal support is provided to a public program (throughout the community and for business) to conserve energy, promote renewable energy sources, and mitigate carbon emissions.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

13C: The greenhouse gas inventory has been expanded to include the entire community (not just the municipality) and a mitigation plan has been developed.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

Green Buildings:

14A: There is a written green building policy/standard for new construction/major renovations of municipal buildings such as the International Green Construction Code (IgCC).

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

14B: New construction and major renovations at municipal facilities incorporate (sufficient to achieve) LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver principles.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

14C: Municipal building operation could meet LEED O&M Silver principles or better.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

14D: The municipality has reviewed ordinances, resolutions, and other policies to remove impediments to the use of alternative energy (wind, solar, geothermal) installations or green buildings.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

14E: LEED certification is required for development projects receiving a public incentive.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

Renewable Energy:

15A: Municipality purchases energy for municipal facilities from renewable energy sources (or installed renewable energy sources) such that at least 10% of all municipal energy comes from renewable sources.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

15B: Municipality purchases energy for municipal facilities from renewable energy sources (or installed renewable energy sources) such that at least 40% of all municipal energy comes from renewable sources.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

Environmental Stewardship

Water Use, Conservation and Quality:

16A: The municipality utilizes an Integrated Municipal Stormwater and Wastewater Planning Approach (as described by EPA) to identify the municipality's priorities for projects and includes a description of how the proposed priorities reflect the relative importance of adverse impacts on human health and water quality and the municipality's financial capability.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

16B: The municipality actively encourages water conservation and efficiency measures in the community and among business.

Summary: Upper Providence Township actively encourages water conservation within its borders. By offering workshops and information about water conservation to its residents, the municipality is helping conserve resources for future generations.



Evidence: [Rain Barrel Workshop](#)
[Rain Garden Brochures](#)
[Stormwater Management](#)

16C: Low impact development and onsite stormwater infiltration is encouraged.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

16D: Water provider(s) prioritize improvising service to existing developed areas as opposed to opening up new areas to development.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

16E: Drinking water and sanitary sewer rates are based on the real cost of providing service.

Summary: Upper Providence Township provides sanitary sewer collection via Lower Perkiomen Valley Regional Sewer Authority and the Township's own sanitary sewer collection system. Rates are based on the Lower Perkiomen Valley Regional Sewer Authority rates and the cost of maintaining the Township's own sewer collection system.

Evidence: [Press Release 4/9/2019](#)

16F: Sufficient investments are being made to the water, sewer, and stormwater systems per real costs and keeping pace with maintenance and operations.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

16G: Cooperation is occurring with neighboring municipalities to manage water and sewer supply, treatment and distribution, sewage and stormwater, in the most cost-efficient way.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

Air Quality:

17A: PA State anti-idling law is enforced, and compliance is promoted.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

17B: Municipality supports public education regarding reducing air pollution and emissions.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

17C: A clean construction emissions policy for all publicly subsidized projects has been adopted and is enforced.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

17D: A burn ban has been formally adopted and made part of municipal ordinance, and State or County outdoor wood fired boiler construction and operation is in accordance with state law.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

17E: The municipality and its municipal waste hauler service are exploring ways to reduce emissions from vehicles and trucks beyond anti-idling.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

Green Infrastructure:

18A: Policies, plans and ordinances protect wetlands and waterways and their buffers.

Summary: Upper Providence Township has adopted and follows the model ordinance for Flood Plane conservation. The Steep Slope Conservation District (Chapter 182-128) and the Floodplain Conservation District (Chapter 182-25) protect the environmentally sensitive land. In conjunction with oversight of the Planning and Zoning director, environmental features are well regulated within the municipality.

Evidence: [Chapter 182-25 of Township Code](#)
[Chapter 182-128 of Township Code](#)

18B: Written policies exist, and ordinances and incentives have been enacted to conserve environmentally and ecologically sensitive places in order to protect public safety and nature resources while using green infrastructure for stormwater management.

Summary: Upper Providence Township Planning Commission and Zoning Hearing Board will not approve a land development plan unless they meet Montgomery County Conservation District's rules and regulations. Ordinances regarding open space requirements can be found in Chapter 182-70, 182-71, 182-117 and 154-40 of Township Code.

Evidence: [Chapter 154 of Township Code](#)
[Chapter 182 of Township Code](#)

18C: Low impact and green development projects, as well as techniques are fostered through incentives, ordinances and design guidelines.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

18D: Tree and woodlands protection and management policies are in place.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

18E: A natural resource inventory has been developed for the community within the last 7 years as part of the comprehensive plan.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

18F: Sustainable landscape maintenance practices are in place for parks and municipal grounds.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

Housing

Affordability:

19A: The Zoning ordinance provides for or accommodates a full range of housing opportunities throughout the community.

Summary: There are various zoning districts that range from high density multi-family housing to lower density single family detached housing in cluster development with the aim of conserving open space.

Evidence: [Chapter 182 of Township Code](#)

19B: The comprehensive plan addresses the community benefits of and need for expanding housing choice.

Summary: The Housing section in the Comprehensive Plan addresses the current and future needs of a broad range of housing and housing types for the current population and future population through 2035.

Evidence: [2010 Comprehensive Plan, pages 43-48](#)

19C: The zoning ordinance has inclusionary housing provisions/incentives.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

19D: A program exists to facilitate home ownership: homebuyer incentives, employer-assisted housing, community land trust, etc.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

19E: The community is tracking and reporting annually to the public on results toward affordable housing for residents.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

Sustainable Neighborhoods:

20A: A current inventory of vacant and blighted/blighting properties is maintained and managed.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

20B: A program is being implemented to put blighted, abandoned properties back into productive use.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

20C: The municipality has elected to administer and enforce PA's statewide Uniform Construction Code (UCC).

Summary: Chapter 60-2 of the Township Code states: In accordance with the Pennsylvania Construction Code Act, Act 45 of 1999, Chapter 5, Section 501(a)(1), the Township of Upper Providence situate in Montgomery County Pennsylvania hereby elects to administer and enforce the Uniform Construction Code as their municipal building code and the International Fuel Gas Code for purposes described in Section 302(A) of said Act 45.

Evidence: [Chapter 60 of Township Code](#)

20D: The municipality has adopted the International Property Maintenance Code within the last 6 years per good, safe rental housing.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

20E: Staffing is in place sufficient to enforce building and maintenance codes.

Summary: The municipality has an appointed Township Building Code Official and a Building Inspector, whose jobs are to enforce ordinances and ensure the safety of the Township residents. The current Township Building Code Official is Bryan Bortnichak and the current Building Inspector is Matthew Light.

Evidence: [Appointed Township Officials](#)

20F: The municipality utilizes a system for collection of delinquent taxes and fees in order to mitigate blight and abandonment.

Summary: Upper Providence Township utilizes the Montgomery County Tax Claim Bureau for the collection of delinquent taxes. This is reflected in line 301-400 of the Municipal Operating Budget.

Evidence: [2019 Municipal Operating Budget](#)

Land Use and Transportation

Mobility:

21A: Trails for walking and bicycling are being developed or maintained.

Summary: Trails are a very important part of Upper Providence Township. Both the Schuylkill River Trail and the Perkiomen Trail run through the municipality helping connect our residents to Valley Forge and Philadelphia. Our most recent trail completion is a small trail connecting Route 29 and the Municipal Campus to the Schuylkill River Trail via Lock 60.

Evidence: [Schuylkill River Trail](#)
[Perkiomen Trail](#)



21B: Alternate transportation are accommodated and promoted.

Summary: Upper Providence Township was recently awarded the “PA WalkWorks” grant which focuses on Complete Streets policies and an active transportation plan that will run parallel with the Municipality’s Comprehensive Plan update and promote alternative methods of transportation such as biking.

Evidence: [9/3/2019 BOS Meeting Minutes pages 12-13](#)

21C: Public transportation and ride sharing are promoted and facilitated, as is transit-oriented development.

Summary: Meetings have been held between the municipality and representatives of large corporations to investigate ride sharing, alternative transportation and mass transit usage.

Evidence: [422 Transit Task Force](#)
[422 Corridor Coalition](#)

21D: Bicycle lanes or shared roadways are being developed and a “Share the Road” education campaign is being advanced.

Summary: The Township recently received the “PA WalkWorks” grant for the development of a Complete Streets Policy. This will include bicycle lanes and shared roadways located within the municipality. Developments should be complete by August 2020.

Evidence: [9/3/2019 BOS Meeting Minutes, page 22](#)

21E: Police are trained on the rights and responsibilities of bicyclists and state law on passing bicycles.

Summary: The Upper Providence Township Police Bike Patrol participate in Bike safety training once a year, and the Township Police Officers are well versed in rights of and state laws for bicyclists.

21F: Traffic calming techniques, “complete streets” projects, access management and congestion management programs have been evaluated and are being implemented.

Summary: In 2019 Upper Providence received the “PA WalkWorks” grant in order to help maintain the Complete Streets project. The Township is implementing current adopted policies to ensure traffic congestion is managed efficiently.

Evidence: [9/3/2019 BOS Meeting Minutes pages 12-13](#)

Community:

22A: Professional staff are employed or retained to manage the land use program.

Summary: Upper Providence Township has appointed Geoffrey Grace to the position of Township Zoning Officer and Director of Planning and Zoning. The Township follows its 2010 Comprehensive Land Use Plan and evaluates each application based on each adopted zoning ordinance.

Evidence: [Appointed Officials of Upper Providence Township](#)

22B: Comprehensive land use/development plan is current, addresses impacts to neighboring communities, and incorporates sustainability principles.

Summary: The Municipal Comprehensive Plan goes in depth to discuss the impacts the plan has on neighboring municipalities and how any impacts, if any, will be handled between the neighboring municipalities and Upper Providence Township. The plan also incorporates sustainability principles through its goals to improve traffic issues, preserve historic places and open space.

Evidence: [Comprehensive Plan pages 99-106](#)

22C: A multi-municipal comprehensive plan has been adopted and has an official map.

Summary: In 2015 Montgomery County adopted the Montco 2040 Comprehensive Plan. The Plan is a collaborative effort between local municipalities and the county to showcase the vision for the entire region for the future.

Evidence: [Montco 2040](#)

22D: Up-to-date ordinances for zoning and subdivision/land development are in place to implement the comprehensive plan.

Summary: Upper Providence Township consistently updates its subdivision/land development and zoning ordinances to aid in the implementation of its 2010 Comprehensive Plan.

Evidence: [Chapter 154 of Township Code](#)
[Chapter 182 of Township Code](#)

22E: The comprehensive plan and ordinances promote pedestrian-oriented, dense, walkable, mixed-use development (in existing and proposed development), and redevelopment in the core or town center.

Summary: The general aim of the subdivision and zoning ordinances are to promote pedestrian-oriented, dense, walkable mixed-use development and redevelopment.

Evidence: Chapters [182-67](#), [154-21 of Township Code Comprehensive Plan pages 96-97](#)

22F: A Transfer Development Rights (TDR) program is in place to incentivize development where infrastructure currently exists and to protect important green space.

Summary: Upper Providence strives to preserve and protect lands with unique and valuable environmental features and reduce the negative impacts of suburbanization. To help do this, there are specific zoning ordinances in place to guide future development to work in tandem with the Township's goals.

Evidence: [Chapter 182-71 of Township Code](#)

22G: Developers are required to submit a comprehensive and detailed fiscal impact analysis including long-term fiscal impacts such as road repairs, school infrastructure needs and other public services with their development applications.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

22H: Land use and development decisions are assessed to ensure they do not have negative fiscal, stormwater, traffic, infrastructure, or service demands, or quality of life impacts on neighboring municipalities.

Summary: Chapter 182 of the Township Code along with the Upper Providence Township Planning Commission help to regulate land use within the municipality. Specific criteria are laid out for each zoning district to help ensure that developments and proposed land uses do not negatively impact fiscal, traffic, infrastructure and environmental conditions in Upper Providence and neighboring municipalities.

Evidence: [Chapter 182-2 of Township Code, Community Development Objectives](#)

Green Space:

23A: The Comprehensive Plan identifies environmentally sensitive, ecologically significant, and civic/historic places.

Summary: Upper Providence Township is rich with places of environmental and historical significance. Goals 3 and 4 of the Municipal Comprehensive Plan establish the importance and priority of protecting natural features and historical places.

Evidence: [Comprehensive Plan pages 21-27](#)

23B: The Comprehensive Plan and ordinances protect farmland and/or promotes community gardens and infill green space.

Summary: Upper Providence Township participates in an agricultural security area plan with other municipalities within Montgomery County. Montgomery County has preserved farmland within Upper Providence Township through the Montgomery County Farmland Preservation Program.

Evidence: [Montgomery County Farmland Preservation Comprehensive Plan page 24](#)

23C: The Comprehensive Plan includes a parks/recreation and open space component with proposed passive or active greenways, parks and trails and the zoning and subdivision ordinances support the vision.

Summary: Pages 36-42 of the 2010 Upper Providence Township Comprehensive Plan address, in detail, the vision for Black Rock Park and Anderson Farm Park. The Plan also includes detailed plans for a township-wide trail network. Upper Providence strives to give its residents and surrounding communities places to get outside and enjoy nature. By conserving these parks, trails and tracts of open space, the municipality can provide for families and individuals to enjoy their community.

Evidence: [Comprehensive Plan pages 36-42](#)
[Open Space Ordinance, Chapter 154](#)
[Open Space Ordinance, Chapter 182-70](#)

23D: The green space/open space plan has benchmarks, and results are reported annually to the public.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

23E: The municipality has a PA Dept of Agriculture Agricultural Security Area (ASA).

Summary: There are a total of 19 parcels that are deemed Agricultural Security Areas (ASA). Defined in the Township code, an ASA is “a tract of land that has been officially designated as an agricultural district by the local municipality.”

Evidence: [Comprehensive Plan, page 24](#)

Local Economy

Thriving Local Green Business:

24A: The municipality has assessed Main Street program options and opportunities for possible applicability and implementation.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

24B: Owners and tenants in the retail area are engaged with the municipality to provide attractive sidewalks, trees, and street furniture and make the area safe for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

24C: The municipality maintains and supports an initiative to encourage residents to buy local.

Summary: Upper Providence Township encourages its residents to support farming and visit the local farms that sell produce and plants. During the Township's annual community day, local small businesses are invited to participate in the craft fair.

Evidence: [Township Newsletter Spring 2018, page 6](#)

24D: Municipal action plans for promoting minority and women-owned business are being advanced, including seeking proposals from the same for purchasing, services, etc.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

24E: A program is in place to encourage businesses to be aware of innovative sustainable business approaches and to recognize achievement.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

Material Use, Waste and Recycling:

25A: Waste and recycling ordinances and regulations are in compliance and enforced per Act 101, or if not a mandatory-Act 101 municipality, a municipal recycling program is conducted.

Summary: In the Upper Providence Township Code Chapter 148-12 and 148-15, waste and recycling regulations are defined. They state that any rules or regulations adopted by the municipality will not be in violation of or inconsistent with Act 101. This refers to ordinances and regulations on hazardous, nonprocessible, unacceptable, and municipal waste.

Evidence: [Chapter 148 -12 of Township Code](#)

25B: There is a curbside and/or drop-off recycling program.

Summary: Curbside collection of recyclable materials from residents of Upper Providence Township is provided by all licensed municipal waste collectors. Any leaf waste or yard waste can be dropped off at the municipal compost site.

Evidence: [Chapter 148-4 of Township Code](#)

25C: The municipality contracts for solid waste collection as opposed to individual homeowners contracting for the same.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

25D: There is a written waste reduction and recycling ordinance for residential, commercial and institutional facilities.

Summary: In the Upper Providence Township Code Chapter 148-4 and 148-5, it states that there are recycling options who are licensed municipal waste collectors.

Evidence: [Chapter 148-4 of Township Code](#)
[Chapter 148-5 of Township Code](#)

25E: There is an active public informational program to encourage citizens to reduce waste and recycle.

Summary: Once a year Upper Providence Township offers an opportunity for the residents and surrounding locals to recycle their electronic waste through our eRecycling program. The Township also provides a new recycling bin for every new house that is built within the municipal borders. Any resident in need of a new recycling bin can purchase one at the Administration Building for \$10.

Evidence: [eRecycling Program](#)
[Recycling Bins](#)

25F: All municipal buildings have an active recycling program.

Summary: All municipal buildings in Upper Providence Township have recycling bins placed throughout to help maintain our active recycling program. The township encourages their employees to recycle on a daily basis.

Evidence: [Chapter 148-5 of Township Code](#)



25G: For municipal facilities, a recent waste management assessment has been conducted with municipal employees trained in waste reduction and recycling.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

25H: An Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program has been implemented for municipal operations.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

25I: Municipality has an active litter prevention/clean-up program.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**

25J: An expanded material recycling program is being advanced.

Summary: Upper Providence Township has programs available for both pharmaceuticals and yard waste. These programs include a pharmaceutical drop off site at the Upper Providence Township Police Station and Compost Site located on Longford Road. The Compost site collects yard waste including leaves, grass clippings, branches and even Christmas trees.

Evidence: [Pharmaceutical Drug Take-Back](#)
[Compost Site](#)

25K: A community-wide recycling program is maintained at 5% above the state stipulated goal of 35%.

Summary: **Not applicable at this time.**



Don't send chemicals into our waterways.
PLANT A TREE
Trees provide food and fuel for many organisms.
They save energy and help cool the planet.
Change in the climate can affect the food chain.
PLANT A TREE

Recycling helps reduce the amount of trash that ends up in landfills.
Recycling also saves energy and helps protect the environment.
Recycling helps reduce the amount of trash that ends up in landfills.
Recycling also saves energy and helps protect the environment.

Don't use pesticides and herbicides.
Pesticides and herbicides can harm the environment and the people who use them.
Pesticides and herbicides can harm the environment and the people who use them.

Use energy wisely.
Turn off lights and electronics when you're not using them.
Use energy wisely.

Use water wisely.
Take shorter showers and turn off the tap when you're brushing your teeth.
Use water wisely.

Use less plastic.
Bring reusable water bottles and shopping bags.
Use less plastic.

Use less paper.
Recycle paper and use both sides of the page.
Use less paper.

Use less oil.
Turn off the car engine when you're waiting in traffic.
Use less oil.

Use less gas.
Drive responsibly and avoid idling the car.
Use less gas.

Use less electricity.
Turn off lights and electronics when you're not using them.
Use less electricity.

Use less water.
Take shorter showers and turn off the tap when you're brushing your teeth.
Use less water.

Use less food.
Eat less meat and dairy products.
Use less food.

Use less meat and dairy products.
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Use less meat and dairy products.
Eat less meat and dairy products.

2019 Earth Day



UPPER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP



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