The Cranbury Environmental Commission and the Cranbury Township Committee wrote and adopted the Green Team Resolution in early 2012. The resolution indicates that Environmental Commission would be appointed as the Green Team, to lead and coordinate sustainability activities for the community. In the following months, additional members who are not part of the Environmental Commission joined the Green Team (see entire member list below).

The Green Team’s priority for the past year was to become a certified Sustainable Jersey town at the Bronze level. It was an opportunity to find out what the town has already accomplished in the area of sustainability and areas that still need improvement. Action items were selected by the Green Team from the Sustainable Jersey Website. These items were researched by individuals of the Green Team and employees of the township. Supporting documents were obtained and particular actions that needed to be accomplished to complete an action item were pursued. For instance, a member of the Green Team helped guide the Shade Tree Commission in adopting a Tree Canopy Goal..

Green Team members attended Cranbury Business Association (CBA) meetings to suggest ways the CBA’s annual event, Cranbury Day, could become more “green”. The CBA adopted the slogan, “Cranbury Day Goes Green”, for their t-shirts and flyers. Vendors’ applications were re-written to include litter prevention and reuse, local businesses and artists were highlighted, alternative fuel cars were on displays, and the environmental commission, public works and a local watershed association had tables publicizing ongoing projects that support open space, improving water quality and recycling to protect the environment. The EC table established a “personal environmental pledge tree” where hundreds of adults and children wrote and hung their personal sustainability pledges.

In addition, a local citizen along with township employees and a Green Team member initiated a farmers market, held in the village throughout the summer, which provided an opportunity for local farmers to sell their products in Cranbury. It was a successful event and all participants are looking forward to the farmers market being held in future summers.

Additional activities by Green Team members include educating the public about open space and water resource issues (i.e. rainbarrel workshops and giveaways and Cranbury’s Annual Stream Clean-up), coordinating with the public works department about publicity for recycling activities (i.e.Shred-It event, Cut It and Leave It and Recycling Depot) and utilizing the Open Space and Recreation Plan and Environmental Resource Inventory Elements of the Cranbury Master plan to guide reforestation of Cranbury (i.e..No Net Loss Reforestation) and future developmental plans.

Members of the Green team include:

Barbara Rogers Environmental Commissioner Chair and Parks Commissioner

Paul Mullen Environmental Commission

John Persico Environmental Commission

John Reinfelder Environmental Commission

James Gallagher Environmental Commissioner and Planning Board Member

Anna Drago Environmental Commission

Paul Givoux Environmental Commission

Susan Goetz Township Committee liaison to Environmental Commission

Kathy Easton Shade Tree Commission

Linda Scott Public Works Dept. Recycling Coordinator