



# SUSTAINABLE PENNSYLVANIA – COMMUNITY CERTIFICATION AUDIT

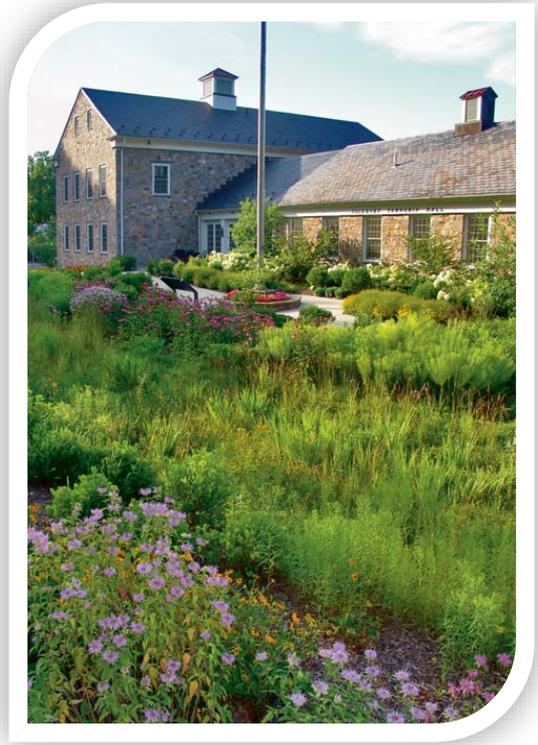
Solebury Township, Bucks County, PA

## OVERVIEW

The Pennsylvania Sustainable Communities Certification is awarded to communities implementing sustainability related policies and practices. There are 5 possible levels of certification, each having separate point and validation requirements. Points are awarded based on 129 criteria separated into 9 categories (see below).

Out of a possible 300 points, Solebury Township earned a score of 206 and qualified for a platinum level certification. As of December 2020, Solebury Township is one of only eight municipalities in the entire state to have achieved such a high recognition for its implementation of sustainability policies and practices.

The following pages include a breakdown of each criteria, summaries of the policies and practices used to satisfy each requirement, and links to supporting evidence. To learn more about the certification process, the different levels of certification, or explore the library of best practices, please visit <https://www.sustainablepacommunitycertification.org>.



### Sustainability Criteria Categories

Governance and Community Engagement (*Earned 66/66, 100%*)

Healthy Communities (*Earned 11/16, 69%*)

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (*Earned 12/20, 60%*)

Education (*Earned 7/7, 100%*)

Energy Use, Conservation, and Green Building (*Earned 21/56, 38%*)

Environmental Stewardship (*Earned 27/37, 73%*)

Housing (*Earned 14/24, 58%*)

Land Use and Transportation (*Earned 44/70, 63%*)

Other Sustainability Innovation (*Earned 4/4, 100%*)



**206 POINTS  
EARNED**

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## CATEGORY: Governance and Community Engagement

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### SECTION 1: Municipal Operations

**Criteria 1A: Professional staff are employed or retained, in the areas of budgeting and finance. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: Consisting of two (2) dedicated professionals headed by the Director of Finance, the Solebury Township Finance Department conducts all financial transactions related to cash collections, cash disbursements, employee benefits, and employee payroll in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. Effective controls are maintained to safeguard Municipal assets.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Finance Department Webpage](#)

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**Criteria 1B: A revenue-expenditure trend analysis is conducted annually. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: Every year, the Solebury Township Finance Department works with a third-party auditing firm to review the Township's overall financial position. Audits provide assurance that financial information is reliable and demonstrates to constituents that government functions are carried out ethically and efficiently.

EVIDENCE: [2019 Solebury Township Financial Statements](#)

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**Criteria 1C: Funds for capital-related borrowing are not used for day to day expenses. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township maintains several capital funds including a land preservation fund and a debt service fund for borrowing. These funds are designated as restricted or committed funds in accordance with GASB54. These funds are separate from the Township's operating funds for day-to-day expenses.

EVIDENCE: [2020 Solebury Township Budget](#)

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**Criteria 1D: Municipality routinely evaluates ability to ensure that revenue is sufficient to maintain public infrastructure, i.e., road, water, sewer, stormwater (community has an asset management based budget system). (1 point)**

SUMMARY: Every year, the Solebury Township Finance Department works with a third-party auditing firm to review the Township's overall financial position. Part of this process is a comprehensive review of Municipal assets and liabilities.

EVIDENCE: [2019 Solebury Township Financial Statements](#)

**Criteria 1E: Obligations for pensions/other post-employment benefits are funded for the long-term to at least 80%. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township maintains a total of three pension plans for municipal employees. Through found financial practices and fiscal stewardship, the Township has funded approximately 89% of the police pension plan, 99% of the non-uniform pension plan, and 93% of the non-uniform cash balance plan. (See pages 56 – 60)

EVIDENCE: [2019 Solebury Township Financial Statements](#)

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**Criteria 1F: 5-10 percent of operating funds are carried over year to year. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: At year-end 2019, Solebury Township had approximately \$1,305,300, or 17.8% in General Fund operating revenue that would have been carried over to 2020. The Township used that excess revenue to build reserve balances in other funds such as Capital Reserve, Park Capital and Capital Equipment. Additionally, the Township maintained 42.8% of its annual operating expenses as a reserve balance in the general fund, and has a policy that this ratio must always be between 25-50%. (See page 10)

EVIDENCE: [2019 Solebury Township Financial Statements](#)

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

SUMMARY: Ensuring that the cost of providing public services to the citizens of Solebury is balanced with the taxes and fees levied on the population is a critical component of the Municipality's cost recovery efforts. In 2019, the Township made a reallocation to direct revenue to continue to pay down its debt services. The Township maintains a conservative approach by holding tax revenues consistent with prior years' receipts and modestly increasing overall township expenses. (See page 15)

EVIDENCE: [2019 Solebury Township Financial Statements](#)

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**Criteria 1H: Green vehicle fleet assessment has been initiated toward: using greener fuels and/or vehicles, vehicle right-sizing for the job/trip, retrofit or replace older diesel trucks or equipment with cleaner technology, or driver education about driving techniques for fuel economy. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: As with the growing trend in municipal operations and its long-standing dedication to promoting sustainability, Solebury Township has begun to replace its vehicle fleet with cleaner, more environmentally friendly models. In 2019, the Solebury Township Police Department purchased two hybrid vehicles, and will continue to trade in their older vehicles for hybrid option in the future (see line item 22.410.435.333 on page 13). The Public Works Department also purchased its first electric chainsaw in 2019.

EVIDENCE: [2020 Solebury Township Budget](#)

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## SECTION 2: Community Engagement

**Criteria 2A: Civic engagement, public participation and transparency are regularly assessed and facilitated. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township actively promotes engagement, participation, and transparency through our municipal website and calendar. We post meeting agendas & minutes, community events, and other news items to engage our residents and keep them informed.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Calendar](#)

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**Criteria 2B: A Historic Review Commission is active. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: The Historical Architectural Review Board comprises of six voting board members, a board supervisor liaison, and an administrator. The Commission is responsible for designating historical resources in the Township and advocating for the preservation of those sites.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Historical Architectural Review Board](#)

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**Criteria 2C: An Environmental Advisory Council is active. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: The environmental advisory council comprises of seven voting board members, a board supervisor liaison, and an administrator. The council promotes education about issues relating the to the management, promotion, use and protection of the Solebury Township environment.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Environmental Advisory Council](#)

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**Criteria 2D: Municipality communicates with the public via a regularly scheduled newsletter or regularly updated web based communications. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township produces and distributes a seasonal newsletter electronically containing pertinent information written by staff and Township staff. The Township also utilizes its website to post community news and announcements.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Newsletters](#)

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**Criteria 2E: All municipal-sponsored events have a sustainability-awareness component. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: All municipal events take sustainability into consideration during the planning phase. Solebury Township saves money by reusing parks and recreation equipment for its annual summer camp program, winter fest event, Halloween night, and other community events. The Township will also occasionally host events on this topic, such as a 2018 forum on agriculture and sustainability, as well as annual e-waste recycling events.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Agriculture and Sustainability Forum](#)

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**Criteria 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. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township oversees the activities of nearly a dozen citizen boards and committees that the public can volunteer to serve on and provide recommendations on a variety of topics. Board and committee vacancies are posted to the Township website's news and announcements section. In addition, the Township Parks and Recreation director has a network of organization, local businesses, and volunteers that are called upon depending on the nature of the event. Volunteers can sign up by visiting the Solebury Township Volunteer Page on the website.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Volunteer Webpage](#)

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## SECTION 3: Local and Regional Cooperation

**Criteria 3A: Municipality is an active participant in a Council of Governments. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township is an active participant in the Bucks County Consortium, a council of governments comprised of municipalities in Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

EVIDENCE: [Bucks County Consortium 2020 Members List](#)

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**Criteria 3B: The municipality utilizes Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreements (ICA) to engage in multi-municipal endeavors. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township possesses multiple cooperative agreements with Bucks County and neighboring municipalities. One such agreement with Buckingham Township provides for the purchase and maintenance of an asphalt paver. See Ordinance 2017-002.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Ordinance 2017-002](#)

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**Criteria 3C: Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreements include conflict resolution provisions. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: All of the ICAs entered into on behalf of Solebury Township include conflict resolution provisions that require the settling of dispute by arbitration or legal process. One such example can be found in Item 7 of the ICA with Buckingham Township concerning a shared asphalt paver.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Ordinance 2017-002](#)

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## SECTION 4: Sustainability

**Criteria 4A: The municipality is committed to passing a resolution (within six months of enrolling) to affirm participation in the Sustainable Community Essentials Certification Program. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: On September 15, 2020, the Solebury Township Board of Supervisors passed Resolution 20-125, which re-affirmed the Municipality participation in the Sustainable Community Essentials Certification Program.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Resolution 2020-125](#)

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

SUMMARY: Sustainability became a Solebury Township goal with the creation of the 2002 comprehensive plan, and has continued to rise as a priority with each revised plan that has been released. Department leaders consider sustainability when creating goals and evaluating their budget. A Sustainability Steering Group exists to determine social, economic and environmental goals for the Township to achieve. They are responsible for overseeing sustainability initiatives amongst the Township's committees. In 2021, a new fund was created for Sustainability projects and initiatives. (See page 13)

EVIDENCE: [2021 Solebury Township Budget DRAFT](#)

**Criteria 4C: Sustainability policies, goals, and principles have been adopted. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: The Solebury Township Comprehensive Plan identifies goals to establish and maintain a Sustainable Community. The distribution and nature of land uses must maintain, restore or enhance the natural and historical character of the township. Additional plans containing sustainability also exist including the Act 53 Plan, Open Space Plan, and Parks and Recreation Master Plan. (See page 11)

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Comprehensive Plan](#)

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**Criteria 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. (4 points)**

SUMMARY: In addition to utilizing the Sustainable Community Essential Certification Program to review where Solebury Township can improve, a sustainability assessment is performed as part of each Comprehensive Plan update. In addition, the Township recently passed Resolution 2020-98 to evaluate energy usage in the township.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Resolution 2020-98](#)

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

SUMMARY: Public Works Employees are regularly enrolled in courses from the Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) through PennDOT. Employees take courses directly related to our sustainability goals, such as courses in stormwater management and pesticide application.

EVIDENCE: [PennDOT LTAP Course Catalog](#)

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**Criteria 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). (4 points)**

SUMMARY: One way that Solebury Township is tracking its economic and environmental sustainable goals is through an energy audit being conducted by the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC). The Township will measure and track energy consumption in accordance with Resolution 2020-98 - Ready for 100 Renewable Energy Movement. Solebury Township also has a history of focusing on its social sustainability goals, such as when the Board of Supervisors read a statement of inclusion at their November 15, 2016 Board Meeting signaling their welcoming of every person regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, political affiliation or nationality.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Resolution 2020-98](#)

**Criteria 4G: An executive/management level municipal staff person has responsibility for management of the municipal sustainability program expressly included in their job description. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: The Township Manager is responsible for overseeing the development and implementation of the Township Comprehensive Plan, which includes sustainability goals and objectives for the Township. He is also a member of the Solebury Township Sustainability Steering Group (SSG).

EVIDENCE: [Township Manager Job Description](#)

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**Criteria 4H: Professional development for municipal personnel and officials includes participating (at a minimum, per year) in quarterly Local Government Academy, PA DCED or other professional training association programs. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township personnel are educated by a variety of institutions including the Delaware Valley Trust, Pennsylvania Municipal League, and universities offering advanced degrees pertaining to municipal management. See line items 01.400.401.421 on page 2, 01.410.401.421 on page 3, and 01.430.401.419 on page 5, of the 2020 Township Budget.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township 2020 Budget](#)

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**Criteria 4I: Newly elected officials participate in Local Government Academy or other orientation training for public officials. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township elected officials are enrolled in PSATS' Boot Camp, a three-part comprehensive introduction to Township governance and operations.

EVIDENCE: [PSATS Boot Camp](#)

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## SECTION 5: Public Safety

**Criteria 5A: Municipality maintains updated public safety mutual aid agreements with neighboring municipalities and shares resources. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township has several mutual aid agreements with neighboring municipalities to share resources related to public safety. One agreement establishes a response team to respond to high-risk emergency situations across 8 municipalities. Another establishes uniform procedures for all law enforcement agencies in Bucks County when contributing aid or assistance during a mutual aid or emergency situation. Several mutual aid policies also exist with the three municipalities along Solebury Township's borders concerning officer responses to law infractions.

EVIDENCE: [Public Safety Mutual Aid Agreements](#)

**Criteria 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. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: In 2019, Solebury Township updated its Emergency Operations Plan that protects the lives and property of citizens in the event of a natural or human caused emergency or disaster. The plan is maintained by the Township Emergency Management Coordinator. The Township also allocates tax revenue to fund three regional fire organizations and two regional EMS organizations for their services.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Emergency Operations Plan](#)

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**Criteria 5C: Municipality participates in a regional service program or contracts services to or through other municipalities for fire, police, or EMS. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Solebury works with three regional fire organizations and two regional EMS organizations. Separate funds are setup in the Township budget to fund these services. See Fire Fund (page 7) and EMS Fund (page 17) of the Township Budget.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township 2020 Budget](#)

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## CATEGORY: Healthy Communities

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### SECTION 6: Local Food

**Criteria 6A: Incentives exist for establishment of farms and gardens within the municipality. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: The Solebury Farm Committee was formed in July 2016 to strengthen and provide support to the farms in our community. Qualifying farms are encouraged to pursue property tax benefits through Act 319.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Farm Committee](#)

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**Criteria 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 (ex. Buy Fresh Buy Local initiative, Good Food Neighborhood, etc.). (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Through the Solebury Farm Committee, the Township is implementing a farmer match program to connect farmers with land owners. The program will engage in strengthening local food systems. See item V.A in attached agenda.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Farm Committee Agenda](#)

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**Criteria 6C: Education programs are made available for residents on the benefits of organic, locally-purchased food; farmers' markets and farm stands are facilitated. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Through the Solebury Farm Committee, the Township holds public forums educating residents on the benefits of food from local farms. See item V on agenda link regarding the October 3 Farm Committee Community Presentation.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Farm Committee Minutes](#)

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**Criteria 6D: A community produce garden(s) is available. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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## SECTION 7: Healthy People

**Criteria 7A: Programs by local government, or in cooperation with the non-profit and private sector, exist to address community health concerns, i.e. exercise programs, feeding programs for children and the elderly, crime watches, accessible health care, exercise away from areas of air pollution, etc. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: The Solebury Township Parks and Recreation Department partners with DelVal Senior Partners to provides an annual educational seminar on Medicare related decisions. The seminar for 2020 has been delayed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Medicare Seminar Event](#)

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**Criteria 7B: Outdoor recreation opportunities, amenities, and lifestyles are promoted. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: The Solebury Township Parks and Recreation Department provides programming year-round for local youth, families and seniors with competitive sports leagues, community events, and educational seminars. The Township Park system and trails are open to all residents without a fee.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Facilities, Parks and Trails](#)

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**Criteria 7C: A program to promote safe walking to school is in place. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 7D: The use of pesticides and herbicides is being monitored and reduced by all municipal departments which use them. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Pesticide use is monitored by the Public Works Department. Staff are certified with the Department of Agriculture and take training courses to learn how to apply pesticide in a safe and appropriate manner. The Township also uses natural pest and weed management products whenever applicable, including an organic biodegradable non-toxic weed killer approved by the USDA whose active ingredient is citrus oil.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Herbicide Purchase and Pesticide License](#)

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## CATEGORY: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

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### SECTION 8: Human Resources

**Criteria 8A: Measures are taken to ensure a wide range of candidates are interviewed for all municipal job openings i.e., the Rooney Rule. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: In addition to being posted on the Township website, municipal job openings are advertised in the local paper as well as through the Delaware Valley Trust, Bucks County Consortium, and Montgomery County Consortium. The Township strives to collect a large, diverse group of applicants by also utilizing well known and easily accessible national job websites including Indeed.com and Monster.com.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Job Opportunities](#)

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**Criteria 8B: The municipality has a written municipal policy prohibiting discrimination and valuing diversity and inclusion. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township is an equal opportunity employer and adheres to the provision of all applicable state and federal laws. The Township pledges to provide equal opportunity without regard to race, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, age, national origin, ancestry, citizenship status, disability, veteran status, genetic information or any other characteristic protected by law.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Handbook](#)

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**Criteria 8C: The municipality has provided diversity training for municipal employees. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: The Township works with its insurance provider (Delaware Valley Trust) to provide on-site seminars on a variety of topics. (See page 23 – Valuing Diversity)

EVIDENCE: [Delaware Valley Trust 2020 Training Catalog](#)

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**Criteria 8D: The municipality annually assesses, and reports to the public, diversity of all boards, employees, volunteers, committees, etc. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 8E: The municipality reports annually to the public on progress in creating a more diverse workforce. (4 points)**

SUMMARY: In 2020, Solebury Township hired two full time employees and recruited thirteen volunteers to its various boards and committees. Solebury Township continues to welcome all job candidates and volunteers regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, political affiliation, or nationality.

EVIDENCE: [2020 Solebury Township Achievements](#)

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## SECTION 9: Economy

**Criteria 9A: There is a municipal policy ensuring Minority Business Enterprise and Women Business Enterprise are considered in municipal purchasing, bids and contracts. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 9B: The municipality is engaged in programs to communicate that the community is welcoming to persons who represent diversity (sister city relations, diversity sensitivity training, multilingual signage, etc.). (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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## CATEGORY: Education

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### SECTION 10: Cooperation

**Criteria 10A: Municipal planning is coordinated with the school district and the two meet together at least once per year. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: A Board Supervisor is selected annually during every Reorganization meeting to accompany Township Administration for quarterly coordination meetings with the public-school district. (See page 3)

EVIDENCE: [BOS Reorganization Meeting Minutes 010620](#)

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**Criteria 10B: The municipality and local public schools cooperate to share facilities and other resources. (For example, the municipality assists with the cost of evening lifeguards for community use of a school swimming pool or for provision of crossing guards.) (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Every year, Solebury Township sends an insurance agreement to the public-school district before scheduling dates to use their athletic fields and facilities for Township-run sports and summer camp program. The Township also has a form on its site that the school district (or any other organization) can complete if they wish to utilize township facilities such as its athletic fields or pavilions.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Parks & Recreation Rental Form](#)

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### SECTION 11: Engagement

**Criteria 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. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: The Solebury Township Police Department has a Community Policing Division that is committed to the education of Solebury Township residents regarding crime prevention, home safety and identity theft protection. The Division works closely with the public school on special events regarding public safety in the Township.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Police Department Divisions](#)

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## CATEGORY: Energy Use, Conservation and Green Building

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### SECTION 12: Municipal Energy Use

**Criteria 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. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 12B: The municipality has established goals from the energy audit findings and is methodically implementing the energy audit findings. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 12C: Municipal energy use has declined overall at least 15% from the baseline year established in the energy audit. (4 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 12D: Municipality is reporting yearly to the public on progress and results made in implementing recommendations/findings contained in the municipal energy study. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 12E: Municipality has or is in the process of retrofitting street lights and traffic signals to LED bulbs. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township retrofitted all of its traffic signals to use LED bulbs in 2007. Any new land development projects that involve traffic signals are expected to use LED bulbs in street lights and traffic signal per the Township's Technical Specification for Traffic Control Signalization Guidelines.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Technical Specs for Traffic Controls](#)

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**Criteria 12F: As part of the energy audit, a greenhouse gas inventory and mitigation plan has been established for municipal functions. (4 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 12G: Positive progress on the greenhouse gas inventory and mitigation plan is reported annually to the public. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 12H: Energy performance of key municipal buildings is tracked using ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager and is reported yearly to the public. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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## SECTION 13: Community Energy Use

**Criteria 13A: The municipal comprehensive plan contains an energy conservation element. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: The Solebury Township Comprehensive Plan outlines the four energy conservation goals, which include the reduction of energy demand, the reduction of utilized non-renewable and consumptive sources of energy, the improvement of energy efficiency, and the promotion of renewable energy resources. (See pages 19-20)

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Comprehensive Plan](#)

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**Criteria 13B: Municipal support is provided to a public program (throughout the community and for businesses) to conserve energy, promote renewable energy sources, and mitigate carbon emissions. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Resolution 2020-98 established a 'Ready for 100' subcommittee within the Environmental Advisory Council to draft an energy transition plan to achieve clean renewable goals set by the resolution.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Resolution 2020-98](#)

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**Criteria 13C: The greenhouse gas inventory has been expanded to include the entire community (not just the municipality) and a mitigation plan has been developed. (4 points)**

SUMMARY: Connections 2045 is the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission's comprehensive plan for the Greater Philadelphia Area. Section 3 of the plan covers various strategies to sustain the environment, including a regional approach to reducing GHG emissions (See pages 49-52). Data from 2010 shows Solebury Township recorded between 9 and 10 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions per its population plus municipal employment.

EVIDENCE: [DVRPC Connections 2045 Report](#)

## SECTION 14: Green Buildings

**Criteria 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). (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 14B: New construction and major renovations at municipal facilities incorporate (sufficient to achieve) LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver principles. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 14C: Municipal building operations could meet LEED O&M Silver principles or better. (4 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 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. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township has few impediments to the use of alternative energy installations. The Township Comprehensive Plan encourages developers to follow green building standards. The Township permit applications have also been frequently used for geothermal well and solar installations.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Permit Applications](#)

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**Criteria 14E: LEED certification is required for development projects receiving a public incentive (TIF, abatement, etc.). (4 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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## SECTION 15: Renewable Energy

**Criteria 15A: Municipality purchases energy for municipal facilities from renewable energy sources (or has installed renewable energy sources) such that at least 10% of all municipal energy comes from renewable sources. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: In 2019, 15% of Solebury Township's energy came from renewable sources, which was made up of 8% hydro energy, 2% biogas energy, 1% solar energy, and 4% wind energy. The Township's energy provider, Constellation New Energy, provides annual reports indicating energy supply by state.

EVIDENCE: [Constellation New Energy 2019 CO2 Emissions](#)

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**Criteria 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. (4 points)**

SUMMARY: Starting on December 21, 2020, Solebury Township will utilize 100% renewable energy per its contract with their energy supplier, Constellation Newenergy, Inc.

EVIDENCE: [Constellation Energy Contract](#)

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## CATEGORY: Environmental Stewardship

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### SECTION 16: Water Use, Conservation and Quality

**Criteria 16A: The municipality utilizes a 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. See: <http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/integratedplans.cfm> (4 points)**

SUMMARY: Chapter 23 of the code addresses stormwater management. The chapter includes stormwater management guidelines, plan requirements, inspections, fees and expenses, maintenance responsibilities, prohibitions, and enforcement and penalties related to management.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Code - Chapter 23](#)

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**Criteria 16B: The municipality actively encourages water conservation and efficiency measures in the community and among businesses. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township works alongside the Aquetong Watershed Association to encourage water conservation and improve water quality for the entire region (see page 15).

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Comprehensive Plan](#)

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**Criteria 16C: Low impact development and onsite stormwater infiltration is encouraged. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: Per item #2 of chapter 22-513 of the Solebury Township code, all subdivisions and land developments shall comply with the Low Impact Development Practices as outlined in the Pennsylvania Stormwater Best Management Practices Manual.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Code - Chapter 22, Part 5](#)

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**Criteria 16D: Water provider(s) prioritize improving service to existing developed areas as opposed to opening up new areas to development. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: While the majority of properties in Solebury Township use private well and septic services, both Bucks County Water and Sewer (BCWAS) and Aqua PA provide services to two residential developments. Per an agreement with BCWAS from June 23, 1983, the authority is designated exclusively to that area in the Township and cannot open new areas to development. Aqua PA has committed \$323 million to replace aging water mains in Pennsylvania.

EVIDENCE: [Bloomberg Press Release - Aqua America](#)

**Criteria 16E: Drinking water and sanitary sewer rates are based on the real cost of providing service. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 16F: Sufficient investments are being made to the water, sewer, and stormwater systems per real costs and keeping pace with maintenance and operations. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township pays annual maintenance and operating costs for its stormwater system out of its Natural Resources fund (See pages 10-11).

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township 2020 Budget](#)

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**Criteria 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. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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## SECTION 17: Air Quality

**Criteria 17A: PA State anti-idling law is enforced and compliance is promoted. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: In addition to the Solebury Police Department enforcing Act 124 of 2008's anti-idling law, the Township prohibits activities generating excessive vibrations, dust, fumes and vapors which are detrimental to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Township.

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**Criteria 17B: Municipality supports public education regarding reducing air pollution and emissions. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: The Township's Environmental Advisory Commission (EAC) promotes public awareness of environmental issues such as energy conservation, carbon emissions, and renewable energy. Most recently, the Board of Supervisors passed a resolution in support of the 'Ready for 100' Renewable Energy Movement, and a subcommittee of the EAC has begun work on an energy audit of the Township. These efforts are discussed at EAC meetings, and accomplishments are shared at Board of Supervisor meetings which are open to the public, recorded, and published on the Township website.

EVIDENCE: [Resolution 2020-98 - Ready For 100](#)

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**Criteria 17C: A clean construction emissions policy for all publicly subsidized projects has been adopted and is enforced. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 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. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 17E: The municipality and its municipal waste hauler service are exploring ways to reduce emissions from vehicles and trucks beyond anti-idling. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Waste haulers in Solebury Township are privately contracted by property owners. Despite this, the municipality does what it can to reduce its vehicle emissions and carbon footprint. In 2019, the Township Police Department replaced two of its department vehicles with hybrids. The department expects to continue replacing older vehicles with hybrids in future budget years.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Newsletter - December 2019](#)

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## SECTION 18: Green Infrastructure

**Criteria 18A: Policies, plans and ordinances protect wetlands and waterways and their buffers. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township's Comprehensive plan recognizes the importance of its water resources due to its large dependence on ground water for water supply. (See page 75) Part 22 of the Solebury Township Zoning Code lists requirements on how to best protect wetlands and floodplains within the Township.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Comprehensive Plan](#)

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**Criteria 18B: Written policies exist and ordinances and incentives have been enacted to conserve environmentally and ecologically sensitive places (for example, slopes over 25%, slide prone soils and geology, springs and vernal pools, mature woodlands, Natural Heritage Areas, etc.) in order to protect public safety and natural resources while using green infrastructure for stormwater management. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: Part 22 of the Solebury Township Zoning Code outlines the Code's purpose to preserve natural features such as woodlands, steep slopes, wetlands, and floodplains and provide open space for residents of each development.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Code - Chapter 27, Part 22](#)

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**Criteria 18C: Low impact and green development projects, as well as techniques (pervious pavement, bioswales, cisterns, woodland and steep slope protection) are fostered through incentives, ordinances and design guidelines. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: All proposals for development in Solebury Township must include an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to effectively evaluate the environmental consequences or effects of certain projects proposed in the Township.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Code - Chapter 27, Part 26](#)

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**Criteria 18D: Tree and woodlands protection and management policies are in place (for example, community forestry plan and canopy goal; tree planting programs; tree maintenance programs; Shade Tree Commission, tree hazard and health assessment projects; computerized assessment of municipal trees, Tree/woodland replacement criteria in ordinances, etc.). (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Chapter 22 of the Solebury Township Zoning Ordinance dictates a tree replacement plan for all new development within the Township.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Code - Chapter 22, Part 5](#)

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**Criteria 18E: A natural resource inventory has been developed for the community within the last 7 years as part of the comprehensive plan. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: Adopted in 2014, Chapter 4 of the Solebury Township Comprehensive Plan inventories the natural resources of the Township.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Comprehensive Plan](#)

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**Criteria 18F: Sustainable landscape maintenance practices are in place for parks and municipal grounds. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Landscape maintenance practices for Solebury Township parks and municipal grounds are dictated by area use. Some park areas are mowed on a regular schedule, while others are mowed once or twice each year. Township Municipal Building also features a large rain garden at its entrance to promote the use of rain gardens in the Township for stormwater management.

EVIDENCE: [Sustainable Parks Development and Maintenance Plan](#)

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## CATEGORY: Housing

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### SECTION 19: Affordability

**Criteria 19A: The zoning ordinance provides for or accommodates a full range of housing opportunities throughout the community. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township’s Zoning Ordinance provides for and accommodates a full range of housing opportunities including single family dwellings, multifamily dwellings, condominium dwellings and many more. The Township’s Table of Use Regulations shows which dwelling types are allowed in which Township zones (see pages 2-3)

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Zoning Code – Table of Use Regulations](#)

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**Criteria 19B: The comprehensive plan addresses the community benefits of and need for expanding housing choice. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Adopted in 2014, Chapter 2 of the Solebury Township Comprehensive Plan outlines several goals and objectives to encourage housing diversity and housing upgrades that reflect an aging rural population. (see page 17). The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Keystone Principles and Criteria (Appendix B) were also considered in the development of the Solebury Township Comprehensive Plan, including the concept to expand housing opportunities to meet the needs of people of all incomes and abilities (see page B-4).

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Comprehensive Plan](#)

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**Criteria 19C: The zoning ordinance has inclusionary housing provisions/incentives. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: According to the Solebury Township Zoning Code, the Residential Development (RD) district allows for the development of multifamily dwellings such as apartment complexes and mobile home parks.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Code - Residential Development District](#)

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**Criteria 19D: A program exists (perhaps in partnership with an outside agency) to facilitate home ownership: homebuyer incentives, employer-assisted housing, community land trust, etc. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Through the Bucks County Housing Services Department, eligible home-buyers purchasing a home in Solebury Township are able to receive assistance with payment and closing costs. The HOME Programs seeks to expand the availability of affordable housing for low income residents through partnerships between the public and private sectors, while the Bucks County Housing Trust Fund provides a first-time home buyer assistance program.

EVIDENCE: [Bucks County Housing and Human Services](#)

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**Criteria 19E: The community is tracking and reporting annually to the public on results toward affordable housing for residents. (4 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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## SECTION 20: Sustainable Neighborhoods

**Criteria 20A: A current inventory of vacant and blighted/blighting properties is maintained and mapped. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 20B: A program is being implemented to put blighted, abandoned properties back into productive use: smart rehab code, conservatorship, demolition, acquisition, green lot strategies, etc. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 20C: The municipality has elected to administer and enforce PA's statewide Unified Construction Code (UCC). (1 point)**

SUMMARY: Chapter 5 of the Solebury Township Code adopts the most recent version of the Pennsylvania Construction Code and Uniform Construction Code.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Code - Chapter 5](#)

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**Criteria 20D: The municipality has adopted the International Property Maintenance Code within the last 6 years per good, safe rental housing. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 20E: Staffing is in place sufficient to enforce building and maintenance codes. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township has a building and code enforcement department that is responsible for ensuring the safety and well-being of the general public through strict enforcement of housing the property related regulations.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Planning, Code Enforcements & Permits](#)

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**Criteria 20F: The municipality utilizes a system for collection of delinquent taxes and fees in order to mitigate blight and abandonment. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township utilizes the Bucks County Tax Claim Bureau for the collection of delinquent taxes. The systematic collection of delinquent taxes is reflected in line 01.300.301.300 of the Solebury Township Operating Budget.

EVIDENCE: [Bucks County Finance Department](#)

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## CATEGORY: Land Use and Transportation

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### SECTION 21: Mobility

#### **Criteria 21A: Trails for walking and bicycling are being developed or maintained. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: The Solebury Trail traverses a portion of the electric company power line along U.S. Route 202, providing an excellent walking, bicycle and jogging path that connects to the athletic fields at New Hope-Solebury high school. The Solebury Trail is currently undergoing plans for expansion. It begins at the intersection of Sугan Road next to the Eagle Fire Company building and provides excellent walking, bicycle and jogging paths that eventually connects to the athletic fields at New Hope-Solebury high school, to the Canal Park trail, and to Magill's Hill Park.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Facilities, Parks & Trails](#)

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#### **Criteria 21B: Alternate transportation (e.g. transit, inter-modal, multi-modal, bicycle/pedestrian) are accommodated and promoted. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: The portion of Route 202 that runs through Solebury Township has been highlighted as a priority connection to be developed for pedestrian and bicyclist use by the Bucks County Bicycle Plan. The connection is recommended for a variety of reasons, including creating a link to the Delaware River from Doylestown, Montgomery County and points to the west, as well as connecting major tourist destinations, and providing access to major regional and bicycle trails. Much of the trail has already been developed and is referred to within the Township as the Solebury Gateway Trail. Solebury Township is actively seeking grants through state programs to continue developing pieces of this trail.

EVIDENCE: [Bucks County Bicycle Master Plan](#)

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#### **Criteria 21C: Public transportation and ride sharing are promoted and facilitated, as is transit-oriented development (where applicable). (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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#### **Criteria 21D: Bicycle lanes or shared roadways are being developed and a "Share the Road" education campaign is being advanced. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 21E: Police are trained on the rights and responsibilities of bicyclists and state law on passing bicycles. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township Police Department personnel are trained on the rights and responsibilities of bicyclists and state law on passing bicycles. The department also has an active bicycle patrol, and purchased an additional bicycle for its officers in the Spring of 2019.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Newsletter - Spring 2019](#)

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**Criteria 21F: Traffic calming techniques, complete streets projects, access management and congestion management programs have been evaluated and are being implemented. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Traffic calming measures are used to address speeding and high cut-through traffic volumes on local road and neighborhood streets (See page 159). Solebury Township annually budgets for traffic engineering costs to perform traffic calming studies along US Route 202 and in other congested areas of the township.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Comprehensive Plan](#)

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## SECTION 22: Community

**Criteria 22A: Professional staff are employed or retained to manage the land use program. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: The Township's Planning, Code Enforcement & Permit Department is responsible for ensuring that Solebury develops and grows in ways that are consistent with our vision of the community as embodied in the Comprehensive Plan. The Planning Commission Administrator works with the Land Preservation Committee on open space projects within the Township.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Planning, Code Enforcements & Permits](#)

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**Criteria 22B: Comprehensive land use/development plan is current, addresses impacts to neighboring communities, and incorporates sustainability principles. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Adopted in 2014, the Solebury Township Comprehensive plan incorporates sustainability principles through its goals to preserve historic buildings, implement traffic calming, improve pedestrian crossing, improves streetscapes, and more.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Comprehensive Plan](#)

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**Criteria 22C: A multi-municipal comprehensive plan has been adopted as has an official map. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Adopted in 2011 by Bucks County and endorsed by Solebury Township, the Bucks County Comprehensive Plan reflects a collaborative effort between the County Planning Commission and the numerous local municipalities to set a clearly defined vision for the entire region.

EVIDENCE: [Bucks County Comprehensive Plan](#)

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**Criteria 22D: Up-to-date ordinances for zoning and subdivision/land development are in place to implement the comprehensive plan. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: The Township frequently updates its zoning and subdivision / land development ordinances to assist in the implementation of the comprehensive plan. One recent amendment to the Zoning ordinance occurred in 2018 with the additional special provision regarding backyard composting facilities and their compliance with Department of Environmental Protection regulations.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Code - Chapter 27, Part 26](#)

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**Criteria 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. (4 points)**

SUMMARY: The Solebury Township Comprehensive Plan identifies trails as a vital component of the recreation and transportation networks in Bucks County. The plan identifies trails as a way to preserve and protect open space and create walkable communities, both of which are priority implementation goals.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Comprehensive Plan](#)

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**Criteria 22F: A Transfer Development Rights (TDR) program is in place to incentivize development where infrastructure currently exists and to protect important green space. (4 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 22G: Developers are required to submit a comprehensive and detailed fiscal impact analysis including long-term fiscal impacts such as road repair, school infrastructure needs and other public services with their development applications. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 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. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: The Solebury Township Zoning Ordinance regulates land use and development decisions in the Municipality. Establishing zoning districts based on land use, the ordinance stipulates specific criteria for each district to ensure that proposed land uses and developments do not have a negative impact on fiscal, environmental, or traffic conditions within the Township.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Code - Chapter 27](#)

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## SECTION 23: Green Space

**Criteria 23A: The Comprehensive Plan identifies environmentally sensitive, ecologically significant, and civic/historic places. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: The Comprehensive Plan's Goals for a Sustainable Community establish the protection of natural and historic resources as a major priority for the Township (see page 11).

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Comprehensive Plan](#)

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**Criteria 23B: The Comprehensive Plan and ordinances protect farmland and/or promotes community gardens and infill green space. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township Zoning Code references several districts which were created to protect farmlands. Many districts in the Township promote preserving and maintaining open space in their design guidelines. The Comprehensive Plan also includes an entire chapter regarding agriculture and farmland in the Township.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Code - Chapter 27](#)

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**Criteria 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. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: Chapter 8 of the Comprehensive Plan addresses maintaining and enhancing existing parks, trails, and open spaces. (See page 105)

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Comprehensive Plan](#)

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**Criteria 23D: The greenspace/open space plan has benchmarks and results are reported annually to the public. (4 points)**

SUMMARY: The Land Preservation Committee works with a Township Administrator to maintain its open space program. Results are reported on the Township website and are shared during public meetings.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Land Preservation Achievements](#)

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**Criteria 23E: The municipality has a PA Dept of Agriculture Agricultural Security Area (ASA). (1 point)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township has 5,477 acres of established agricultural security area. (See page 144)

EVIDENCE: [Commonwealth of PA Agricultural Security Area Handbook](#)

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## SECTION 24: Thriving Local Green Business

**Criteria 24A: The municipality has assessed Main Street program options and opportunities for possible applicability and implementation. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: Chapter 23 of the Solebury Township Comprehensive Plan reviews local economic assets and identifies the Route 202 corridor (Lower York Road) as the most concentrated commercial use in Solebury Township. Per Chapter 15's recommendation regarding economic development, the Township continues to focus sustainable commercial and employment enterprises along Route 202 in areas where higher-intensity development patterns exists and where sewer and water infrastructure is available.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Comprehensive Plan](#)

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**Criteria 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. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township code includes design standards that encourage development projects build sidewalks and to follow landscaping design guidelines.

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**Criteria 24C: The municipality maintains and supports an initiative to encourage residents to buy local. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: One of the Solebury Farm Committee's principal responsibilities is to provide opportunities for local farmers to serve the local market and to supply nearby regional markets.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Farm Committee](#)

**Criteria 24D: Municipal action plans for promoting minority and women-owned business are being advanced, including seeking proposals from the same for purchasing, services, etc. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 24E: A program is in place to encourage businesses to be aware of innovative sustainable business approaches and to recognize achievement. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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## SECTION 25: Material Use, Waste, and Recycling

**Criteria 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. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Chapter 20 of the Solebury Township code establishes a mandatory recycling program. All Township recycling activities must comply with any applicable requirements set by Act 101.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Code - Chapter 20](#)

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**Criteria 25B: There is a curbside and/or drop-off recycling program. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township allows for the drop off of woody waste and Christmas trees during the winter season. All other recycling is handled through individual property owner contracts. The Township also hosts an annual e-waste drop-off event for property owners to recycle old electronics.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Recycling](#)

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**Criteria 25C: The municipality contracts for solid waste collection as opposed to individual home owners contracting for the same. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 25D: There is a written waste reduction and recycling ordinance for residential, commercial and institutional facilities. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Chapter 20 of the Solebury Township Code outlines the written waste reduction and recycling ordinance for all properties.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Code - Chapter 20](#)

**Criteria 25E: There is an active public informational program to encourage citizens to reduce waste and recycle. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: The Solebury Township website includes information for residents to reduce waste and recycle properly. The Environmental Advisory Committee also holds educational events on waste reduction as well as e-waste recycling events annually.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Recycling](#)

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**Criteria 25F: All municipal buildings have an active recycling program. (1 point)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township actively recycles all paper, glass, cardboard, and aluminum waste collected at the Township Buildings through a single-stream recycling process.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Recycling](#)

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**Criteria 25G: For municipal facilities, a recent waste management assessment has been conducted with municipal employees trained in waste reduction and recycling. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 25H: An Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program has been implemented for municipal operations. (3 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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**Criteria 25I: Municipality has an active litter prevention/clean-up program. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: The Aquetong Watershed Association (AWA) and Solebury Township partner for an annual litter cleanup of its streams and tributaries. Solebury Township provides supplies such as gloves and bags for the event.

EVIDENCE: [Aquetong Watershed Association](#)

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**Criteria 25J: An expanded material recycling program is being advanced, i.e., e-waste, composting, pharmaceuticals, and household hazardous waste for community-wide collection. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: The Township held an e-waste collection event in 2019 and has added line item 01.400.400.500 to its budget for future events. The e-waste event scheduled for 2020 was postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic. (See page 2)

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township 2020 Budget](#)

**Criteria 25K: A community-wide recycling program is maintained at 5% above the state stipulated goal of 35 percent. (4 points)**

SUMMARY: Not applicable at this time.

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## CATEGORY: Other Sustainability Innovation

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### SECTION 26: Additional Initiative

**Criteria 26A: Provide an on-line link to description of a sustainability innovation that the Municipal Manager/Secretary feels strongly is deserving of additional recognition and is not covered by any of the above criteria options. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: In May of 2020, the Township adopted a new schedule for its administrative offices to be open for longer hours Monday through Thursday, while remaining closed to the public Friday through Sunday. This allows the Township to power down it's building for three full days, reducing both its carbon footprint from Township operations as well as the gasoline usage of approximately 15 cars commuting to and from the Township Building one day each week.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Limits Operations to Reduce Carbon Footprint](#)

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**Criteria 26B: Provide an on-line link to description of a second sustainability innovation that the Municipal Manager/Secretary feels strongly is deserving of additional recognition and is not covered by any of the above criteria options. (2 points)**

SUMMARY: Solebury Township adopted a Deer Management Program to reduce crop and property damage, minimize the threat of disease, reduce deer related accidents and re-balance the regional ecosystem by managing the white-tailed deer population. The goals of this program align with other sustainable goals outlined in the Solebury Township Comprehensive Plan.

EVIDENCE: [Solebury Township Deer Management Program](#)

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