

Figure 1: Water Issues and list of Sustainable Jersey actions (*by action category*) to address them

Concerns about drinking water quality	<a href="#">Removing Lead in Drinking Water</a> ( <i>Health</i> ) - encourage outreach; testing and if testing – required action <a href="#">Private Well Outreach and Testing</a> ( <i>Health</i> ) – analyze existing well data, educate and promote regular testing of private drinking water wells
Areas of repetitive flooding after heavy rain	<a href="#">Green Infrastructure Planning</a> ( <i>Land Use &amp; Transportation</i> ) – locate and quantify impervious surfaces and develop a plan with short and long-term goals and projects to reduce impervious cover. <a href="#">Green Infrastructure Implementation</a> ( <i>Land Use &amp; Transportation</i> ) – undertake and complete projects towards achieving short- and long-term goals to reduce impervious cover <a href="#">Enhanced Stormwater Management Control Ordinance</a> ( <i>Land Use &amp; Transportation</i> ) –adopt a model ordinance to go beyond state minimum requirements for managing stormwater
Concerns about water supply	<a href="#">Water Conservation Education Program</a> ( <i>Natural Resources</i> ) - educate the local community on the ways and importance of reducing water use <a href="#">Water Conservation Ordinance</a> ( <i>Natural Resources</i> ) – limit outdoor irrigation and require smart meters
Urban flooding and pollution due to combined sewer overflow	<a href="#">Green Infrastructure Planning</a> ( <i>Land Use &amp; Transportation</i> ) – locate and quantify impervious surfaces and develop a plan with short and long-term goals and projects to reduce impervious cover. <a href="#">Green Infrastructure Implementation</a> ( <i>Land Use &amp; Transportation</i> ) – undertake and complete projects towards achieving short- and long-term goals to reduce impervious cover <a href="#">Enhanced Stormwater Management Control Ordinance</a> ( <i>Land Use &amp; Transportation</i> ) –adopt a model ordinance to go beyond state minimum requirements for managing stormwater
Impaired surface water quality	<a href="#">Enhanced Stormwater Management Control Ordinance</a> ( <i>Land Use &amp; Transportation</i> ) –adopt a model ordinance to go beyond state minimum requirements for managing stormwater <a href="#">Community Forestry Management Plan and NJUCF Accreditation</a> ( <i>Natural Resources</i> ) - achieve and maintain accreditation with the New Jersey Urban and Community Forestry Program (NJUCF) as trees play a role in as water filtration and management.
Equity Issues related to public access to water	<a href="#">Open Space Plan</a> ( <i>Natural Resources</i> )- promote the development of a comprehensive plan for opens space based on analysis of need, and access to recreational and natural resources including bodies of water.

municipality will have a corresponding Sustainable Jersey action, therefore, consider the development and submission of an [Innovative Community Project action](#). If developing an innovative project ensure it meets the action requirements such as: the approach is not outlined in another water action; demonstrates an impact on sustainability; serves as a model that is replicable in other towns; and ideally contains a corresponding educational component.

Table One - Issues and Actions:

<b>Water Issues:</b>	<b>Corresponding Action Date</b>
<i>List at least two highly ranked water concerns with a brief description as identified in the Municipal Water Story:</i>  Protecting against fluvial flood hazards, coastal storm surge in relation to climate change, and ecosystem services.	<i>List at least two Sustainable Jersey Action, or other innovative community project approaches to address the water concerns identified.</i> Open Space Plans & Watershed Masterplan (innovative)
Impervious surface run-off & improvement to ecological water quality	Green Infrastructure Implementation (higher level of conduct), Comprehensive Drainage System Maintenance (Innovative), Open Space

**Step 2 – Evaluate potential actions:** From the list of potential actions, the municipality will select at least two to undertake to maintain the gold star in water and complete for submission by the next municipal re-certification in the Sustainable Jersey program. As a municipality evaluates potential actions, consider capacity either in staff and or volunteers, time available, importance of the issue or other criteria. In addition, consideration should be given to insure the municipality is completing actions that balance – planning for changing and making change as listed in Figure 2 - below. Finally, to ensure steady progress towards a sustainable water approach, municipalities will be asked to demonstrate they are working on actions that addressing the Sustainable Jersey water goal and address the five indicators shown in Figure 3 below. This is especially important when applying for recertification for the Water Gold Star, as over time, municipalities will need to demonstrate they are working on actions that address each of the five indicators to measure the water goal.

Figure 2: Focus of actions

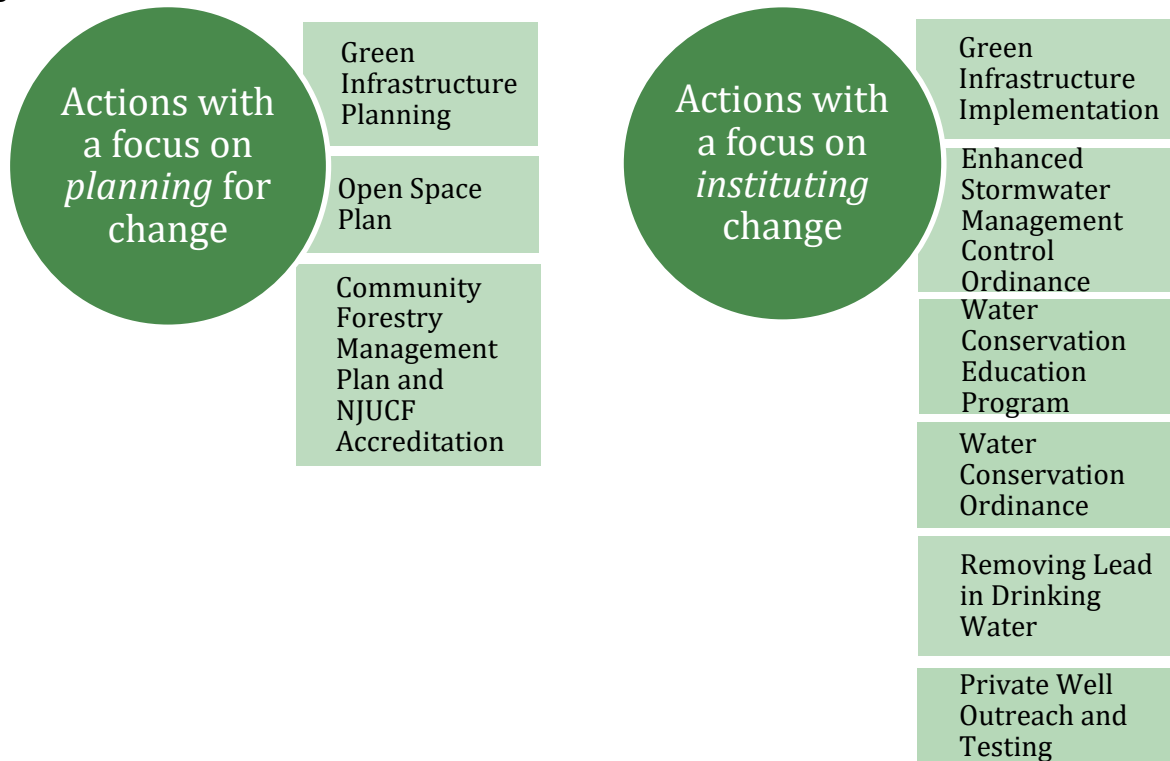


Figure 3 – Sustainable Jersey Water Goal

**Sustainable Jersey's Water Goal:** *New Jersey's water system provides an adequate and affordable supply of clean and safe drinking water for everyone, while also safeguarding water sources to ensure sufficient quality and supply to support healthy ecosystems and biodiversity.*

*Source: The New Jersey State of the State Report, 2018, Sustainable Jersey*

Sustainable Jersey has identified **five indicators** for measuring progress towards our water goal:

- 1.** *Drinking water from wells and public water systems is clean and safe for human consumption.*
- 2.** *Water quality in streams, lakes, and wetlands is sufficient to support native species and ecosystem functions, and safe for human recreation and fish consumption.*
- 3.** *Water supply, including stream flow and groundwater recharge, is sufficient both for human uses (household, agricultural, and recreational) and for ecosystems, providing for healthy aquatic and riparian habitat and biodiversity.*
- 4.** *The water system, including infrastructure for water supply, stormwater and wastewater, provides adequate capacity and functions at needed standards. It is resilient to climate change, taking future demands and vulnerabilities into account.*
- 5.** *Access for all New Jerseyans to water resources for all necessary uses is universally affordable and fairly distributed now and across generations.*

**Step 3 – Develop an action work plan:** With at least two additional actions identified, the municipality will then develop a work plan for completing the actions. The work plan will identify the action, proposed steps for undertaking the action, lead individual or organizations involved in completing the work and timeframes for completion. Sharing a draft work plan with organizations involved in implementation or subject matter knowledge experts can assist in refining the work plan and potentially solicit assistance in its completions. With a work plan in hand, the final step is to secure municipal support for the Navigational Path.

Table Two – Water Action Work Plan:

Action:	Proposed Time Frame for Action Completion
<i>List of actions to be undertaken to address water issues as identified in the Municipal Water Story:</i>	<i>For each action, identify the resources and partners involved and time frame for completing the steps and the overall action.</i>
<b>New Actions</b>	
Open Space Plans	Partners: Rutgers University Cooperative Extension Program / RCE Water Resources Program; Timeframe to implement is approximately 18 months from June 2021, as concept plans have already been developed, and engineering and detailed planning can begin. Further concept planning for additional locations is needed as well.
For further explanation of said next steps regarding how this action will address the issues noted please see page 43 and 44 of the Woodbridge Township Municipal Water Story.	
Innovative Project: Watershed Masterplan	Partners: Najarian Associates, Timeframe to implement is approximately 18 months from June 2021, as modeling has already been developed in order to ascertain impact goals for planning associated with climate change and heavy precipitation events.
For further explanation of said next steps regarding how this action will address the issues noted please see page 43 and 44 of the Woodbridge Township Municipal Water Story.	

*Add addition rows as needed:*

Maintaining certification for four water actions:	
Natural or Environmental Resources Inventory (NRI or ERI)	Completed and approved through 2028
Municipal Water Story + Navigational Path	Completed and Council approved on October 5, 2021
High Impact Action – Green Infrastructure Planning (Tier 3)	Completed and approved through 2022 (Municipal GI team meetings occur monthly)
Fourth Action – Innovative Community Project 2 (SWM Problem Site Maintenance Program)	Completed and approved through 2021 (Reviewed by municipality quarterly)
<i>Add addition rows as needed: Community Forestry Management Plan &amp; NJ Urban Forestry Program Accreditation</i>	Completed and approved through 2021
<i>Fifth Action: Green Infrastructure Implementation</i>	Completed and approved through 2023
<i>Sixth Action: Water Conservation Education Program</i>	Completed and approved through 2023

**Step 4 -Municipal Endorsement:** A presentation to the municipal governing body that includes the rational for selecting and evaluating the actions included in the workplan to secure their support is the final step of the Navigational Path. All municipalities seeking points for the Municipal Water Story are required to present findings from completing the action including the narrative, results of the public engagement and highly ranked actions. Additionally, municipalities pursuing the Gold Star Standard in Water will need to secure endorsement for their continued work in water as described in this Navigational Path template. The presentation of the findings of the Municipal Water Story with the results of the Navigational Path - can be combined into one appearance before the governing body. Figure 4 provides a sample resolution a municipality can use to secure the governing body support of the Navigational Path and to be submitted as part of the Municipal Water Story.

**Gold Star Standard Review of Navigational Path:** The municipality will submit the completed Navigational Plan template as part of the Municipal Water Story submission for certification by Sustainable Jersey during the regular municipal certification cycle. Key to the Sustainable Jersey review, will be an evaluation of the link between the highly ranked issues identified in the Municipal Water Story and the actions selected by the municipality to address them. To maintain the Gold Star, municipalities will need to update their Navigational Path. Updates to the Navigational Path, will include reporting on completed actions as well as identify new actions or advancement to higher tiers in previously approved water actions to be completed by the next municipal recertification. Municipalities will also need to maintain certification for all of their previously completed water actions.