

**Green Business  
Recognition  
Program**

**2017**

**Ridgewood  
New Jersey**

## **OVERVIEW:**

The Village of Ridgewood's Green Team Advisory Committee has created a voluntary Green Business Recognition Program to promote green practices and increase the visibility of those entities that have successfully demonstrated a commitment to sustainability.

## **ELIGIBILITY:**

All privately owned businesses with a physical location within the bounds of the Village of Ridgewood may participate in the Green Business Recognition Program. Participation in the program is entirely voluntary.

## **REQUIREMENTS:**

Interested parties may download and complete Ridgewood's Green Business Application and checklist from the Village website. The completed checklist and any supplemental application materials should be submitted to the attention of the Green Team electronically ([ridgewoodgreenteam@gmail.com](mailto:ridgewoodgreenteam@gmail.com)). Businesses are encouraged to contact the Green Team for assistance—a team member will be dispatched for an in-person meeting to facilitate the application process.

## **RECOGNITION:**

Businesses that satisfy the requirements for recognition (completion of one action in each of eight categories OR 25% of the total green checklist actions) will be designated a Green Business by Ridgewood's Green Team. Members of the New Jersey Sustainable Business Registry (<http://registry.njsbdc.com/about>) shall be awarded five points towards certification in Ridgewood's Green Business Recognition Program. A representative from the Green Team will present each recognized business with a certificate suitable for public display. The name of each recognized business will be posted on social media sites administered by the Green Team as well as other websites deemed appropriate.

As the program gains traction recognition will be awarded on a rolling basis with the intent to transition to a semi-annual recognition model by 2018. Designation as a Green Business will be valid for two calendar years. Continued recognition will require demonstrated improvement from prior submissions.

## **CONTACT:**

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# GREEN BUSINESS RECOGNITION PROGRAM APPLICATION

RIDGEWOOD, NJ  
2016/17 Application Cycle

## BASIC INFORMATION

<b>Business Name</b>
<b>Business Address (Physical Location)</b>
<b>Type of Business (Retail, Food Service, Medical, etc.)</b>
<b>Number of Employees</b>
<b>Primary Contact Name</b>
<b>Primary Contact Email Address</b>
<b>Has the Green Team recognized you as a Green Business previously?</b>

## BUSINESS OVERVIEW

Please provide a short narrative to describe your interest in Ridgewood's Green Business Recognition Program. Please include any relevant information about your business (i.e. mission statements, core values, etc.).

## GREEN BUSINESS CHECKLIST

Please complete the checklist below to indicate which sustainability actions your business has already implemented. To earn designation as a Green Business you must complete at least one action in each of the eight categories OR at least 25% of the total actions (10/40). Five points shall be automatically awarded to any participant/member of the New Jersey Sustainable Business Registry.

For further information, please review the “how to guide” (*coming in 2017*) which provides a detailed description of each action as well as suggestions and resources for successful implementation.

### New Jersey Sustainable Business Registry

Action Description	Yes	No
Member of New Jersey Sustainable Business Registry ( <a href="http://registry.njsbdc.com/join-here">http://registry.njsbdc.com/join-here</a> ) -- Automatic 5 Points!		

### Waste Management

Action Description	Yes	No
Reduce waste generated		
Reduce product packaging		
Reduce paper use		
Increase recycling / landfill diversion		
Purchase recycled-content materials		
Manufacture or sell recycled-content materials		
Compost food scraps and/or yard waste		

### Energy Use

Action Description	Yes	No
Purchase electricity generated from renewable sources		
Invest in on-site solar or wind energy		
Install a geothermal heating and cooling system		

Conduct an energy audit		
Install high efficiency light bulbs and appliances		
Earn an ENERGY STAR rating for a commercial or industrial facility		

## Water Conservation

Action Description	Yes	No
Install low-flow toilets		
Install aerators on lavatory faucets		
Use native, drought-tolerant plants to reduce landscape watering		
Serve drinking water only by request		
Recycle grey water		

## Green Building and Landscaping

Action Description	Yes	No
Install a green roof		
Implement sustainable landscaping practices (IPM, organic, etc.)		
Actively maintain tree wells in front of storefront		
Use no or low volatile organic compounds (VOC) paints and sealants		
Achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification		

## Transportation

Action Description	Yes	No
Administer a commute modes survey for employees		
Outline a trip reduction strategy		
Facilitate employee participation in		

carpools/vanpools		
Subsidize public transit for employees		
Provide secure bicycle storage and shower facilities		

### Pollution Reduction

Action Description	Yes	No
Eliminate the use of toxic chemicals in production/manufacturing		
Use green cleaning supplies		
Purchase green products (recycled content paper, etc.)		

### Social Responsibility

Action Description	Yes	No
Offer employee welfare and benefit programs		
Ensure equitable hiring practices		
Pay living wages		
Sell fair-trade food and beverages		
Participate in corporate philanthropy		

### Commitment to the Local Economy

Action Description	Yes	No
Purchase products from local suppliers		
Offer job training and/or apprentices for local residents		
Hire workers from local schools		
Mentor local entrepreneurs and new businesses		

**(BONUS) Innovation**

<b>Action Description</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Innovation 1		
Innovation 2		
Innovation 3		

Please describe up to three innovative sustainability actions that your business has implemented within the past year. These actions should be distinct from those listed in the checklist. Please use additional pages and/or attach supplemental materials to provide a more comprehensive explanation.

## Results

<b>At least one action achieved in each category?</b>	
<b>Total Actions Possible</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Total Actions Achieved (sum "YES" column)</b>	
<b>New Jersey Sustainable Business Registry Participant (add 5 points)</b>	
<b>Innovation Actions Achieved</b>	
<b>Combined Total</b>	
<b>Percentage Achieved</b>	

If your business has completed at least one action in each category OR 25% of the total actions (at least 10 actions), you will be designated a Green Business by Ridgewood's Green Team Advisory Council.

## FUTURE PLANS:

How will your business continue to demonstrate its commitment to sustainability in the future? Please describe your three biggest "green" goals for the next year?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

If the Ridgewood Green Team has previously awarded you the Green Business designation, please comment on the status of all goals described in your most recent application. Attach supplemental information if necessary.