

## HOW GREEN IS MY TOWN? Local Government Evaluation Workbook

**LG1.** Does the town have an established (i.e., proposed, debated and passed) **comprehensive environmental policy** covering the following areas? (Check all that apply)

- energy
- green procurement
- green cleaning
- building/development
- land management
- water conservation
- transportation
- recycling
- environmental toxins
- communications

**GreenPoint:** *An effective policy announces the town's commitment to action, and sets out its goals and implementation strategies. It also provides a focus for the efforts of local agencies and departments, as well as school systems, community groups, business organizations and individual activists.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

**Total Points: \_\_\_\_\_ (out of 10)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

### ENERGY:

**LG 2.** Has the town had an **energy audit** performed on all town-owned facilities? *"All town facilities" shall mean all year-round facilities with HVAC systems. An energy audit should be conducted by an independent consulting firm or utility. GreenPoint: An energy audit is a method of determining exactly where and how a building's energy is being used, and what opportunities exist for improvement. The energy audit provides the baseline of information against which future improvements can be measured.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

**Total Points: \_\_\_\_\_ (out of 4)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 3.** Has the town mandated **energy reductions** with percentages and/or dates? **GreenPoint:** *Municipalities can use the results of an energy audit to set targets for reduction and timetables for implementation.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_\_ higher or \_\_\_\_ lower municipal level.

**Total Points: \_\_\_\_\_ (out of 2)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 4.** Has the town investigated **sustainable energy sources**, including solar, wind, bio-fuel and biomass, and utilized them where appropriate? Score should be based on the town's commitment to these efforts. **GreenPoint:** *Municipal options for sustainable energy are rapidly expanding as new technologies are developed and new companies come to market with solutions. See web site.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_\_ higher or \_\_\_\_ lower municipal level.

**Total Points: \_\_\_\_\_ (out of 3)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 5.** Has the town implemented measures to fast-track **renewable energy installations**? Installation of renewable energy locations is not required for full credit if the town has adopted measures to encourage installations. **GreenPoint:** *Widespread deployment of small, distributed energy systems would decrease our reliance on polluting centralized power plants, avoid continued dependence on fossil fuels and reduce the need for nuclear power plants, but local decision makers need to amend codes and establish procedures to speed their implementation.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_\_ higher or \_\_\_\_ lower municipal level.

\_\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 6.** Has the town mandated the installation of **electronic thermostats** in town buildings? Award full credit if all thermostats have been changed; partial credit may be awarded for a policy to change thermostats over time. **GreenPoint:** *Efficient electronic thermostats are inexpensive to install and can be programmed to save energy.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_\_ higher or \_\_\_\_ lower municipal level.

\_\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 7.** Has the town replaced (where possible) incandescent bulbs with **energy efficient bulbs**? *Replacement bulbs can be either CFLs (with appropriate disposal warnings) or LEDs.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**     \_\_\_ **Partial credit**     \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 8.** Has the town adopted an effective **outdoor lighting code**? Award full credit only if the code has been officially adopted, communicated and enforced. **GreenPoint:** Properly designed light fixtures and lighting codes can help reduce the expense and the amount of energy used to keep public and private areas lighted at night. They can also minimize glare for motorists and pedestrians, prevent light from trespassing into private areas, and improve habitat for wildlife.

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**     \_\_\_ **Partial credit**     \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 9.** Has the town encouraged efficiency in **outdoor lighting** at town facilities? Award full credit if all fixtures/bulbs have been replaced; partial credit may be given for an on-going replacement program.

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**     \_\_\_ **Partial credit**     \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

## **GREEN PROCUREMENT:**

**LG 10.** Does the town have a comprehensive **Green Purchasing Policy**? **GreenPoint:** *A comprehensive policy should address the lifecycle costs, the sustainability of materials, the recyclability of products, transportation and packaging costs, and the environmental and health impacts of products.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**     \_\_\_ **Partial credit**     \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 11.** Does the town consider **lifecycle energy** costs over the lifetime of all items it purchases? **GreenPoint:** *The true energy cost of a product includes all the energy required to manufacture, transport, maintain, use and dispose of it.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 12.** Does the town consider the **sustainability** of all materials/ingredients in the products it purchases? **GreenPoint:** *"Sustainability" refers to a production process that uses renewable resources in a manner that be continued indefinitely.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 13.** Does the town consider the **recyclability** of products it purchases? **GreenPoint:** *Buying recycled products, or products containing recycled materials in the first place, can reduce the waste stream, improve sustainability and help support and develop the market for these products.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 14.** Does the town consider the **transportation and packaging costs** attributed to the products it purchases? **GreenPoint:** *Buying locally can reduce transportation costs. As packaging is reduced in volume and weight, transportation costs also go down.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 15.** Does the town consider the **health impacts** attributed to the products it purchases? **GreenPoint:** *Emerging science continues to expand the list of potentially harmful chemicals in our environment, yet it is often difficult to establish scientific certainty when it comes to human exposures. This has led many communities to adopt the "Precautionary Principle" when assessing the relative safety or threat posed by products or their ingredients.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**    \_\_\_ **Partial credit**    \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 16.** Does the town belong to a **local purchasing network**? **GreenPoint:** *Local purchasing networks allow cities and towns to reduce transportation costs and reduce greenhouse gases by purchasing goods from local vendors.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**    \_\_\_ **Partial credit**    \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

## GREEN CLEANING

**LG 17.** Does the town have a policy requiring the exclusive use of **green cleaning products**? We define "Green" cleaning products for offices and work areas as those that meet or exceed the standards promulgated by Green Seal or EcoLogo. **GreenPoint:** *Many traditional cleaning products contain toxic chemicals that pollute the environment during their manufacture, contaminate indoor air when used, and degrade the environment after disposal.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**    \_\_\_ **Partial credit**    \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 18.** Does the town prohibit the use of **anti-bacterial products** containing triclosan? **GreenPoint:** *Many products which are labeled "anti-bacterial" or "anti-microbial" contain **triclosan**, a chemical that has been shown to have significant health and environmental impacts.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**    \_\_\_ **Partial credit**    \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 19.** Does the town prohibit the use of **artificial air fresheners** in town-owned or managed facilities? **GreenPoint:** *Many of the chemicals contained in commercial air freshening products contain, among other things, phthalates (pronounced "thay-lates") — a class of hazardous chemicals known to cause hormonal abnormalities, birth defects, and reproductive problems.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**     \_\_\_ **Partial credit**     \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 20.** Does the town use micro fiber cloths for cleaning? **GreenPoint:** *Microfiber can be used to clean camera lenses, eyeglasses, furniture, mirrors, floors and almost anything else, using only hot water. Thanks to the unique design of the fibers, no chemical cleaning products are needed.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**     \_\_\_ **Partial credit**     \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

## SUSTAINABLE BUILDING / DEVELOPMENT

**LG 21.** Does the town mandate or encourage the construction of **green buildings**? Green building projects include Energy Star or LEED-certified buildings or additions. **GreenPoint:** *Almost one-third of all the energy used in the United States goes to heat, cool and illuminate buildings.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**     \_\_\_ **Partial credit**     \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 22.** Does the town have a policy to encourage **adaptive re-use** over virgin development? **GreenPoint:** *Adaptive Reuse (AR) refers to the practice of converting older residential and commercial buildings to new uses including apartments, lofts, office space, retail space and even small hotels.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**     \_\_\_ **Partial credit**     \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 23.** Does the town have a policy to preserve and protect **open space**?

**GreenPoint:** *open space can provide opportunities for sports and recreation, for citizens to escape from the pressures of everyday life, for wildlife to find habitat and refuge, and for plants and soil to assist in the removal of toxins from our environment.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_\_higher or \_\_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 24.** Does the town provide **special incentives** for green buildings?

**GreenPoint:** *Tax reductions, increased building allotment and faster permitting processes for green buildings can help drive new development.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_\_higher or \_\_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 25.** Does the town encourage **mixed-use zoning**? **GreenPoint:** *Mixed-use zoning helps reduce traffic congestion, preserves open space and natural resources, and builds communities. It has also been shown to help revitalize downtown areas and spur economic growth.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_\_higher or \_\_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 26.** Does the town mandate or encourage permeable paving for parking lots, roadways and walkways? **GreenPoint:** *Permeable paving is a method of paving low-traffic roads, walkways and parking lots in a way that permits air and water to move through the surface, reducing surface runoff from stormwater and other sources.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_\_higher or \_\_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

## LAND MANAGEMENT

**LG 27.** Does the town have a policy to prohibit the use of turf pesticides on town land, including public parks? **GreenPoint:** *Turf pesticides have been associated with environmental contamination and significant human health problems, including certain cancers, neurological and developmental problems, reproductive harm and birth defects. Children and pregnant women are particularly vulnerable to these problems.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**     \_\_\_ **Partial credit**     \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 28.** Does the town have a policy to purchase only energy-efficient, non-polluting landscaping equipment? **GreenPoint:** *According to the EPA, emissions from landscape equipment (mowers, blowers, trimmers, etc.) are often much greater than those from a car, per hour of operation. Small gasoline-powered two-cycle engines are the most polluting.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**     \_\_\_ **Partial credit**     \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 29:** Does the town operate a municipal composting facility? **GreenPoint:** *Composting — nature's original recycling system — is a cost-effective means of handling organic waste and an essential part of any successful solid waste management plan.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**     \_\_\_ **Partial credit**     \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 30.** Does the town take measures to reduce soil erosion and runoff? **GreenPoint:** *Controlling storm water runoff and preventing erosion from residential properties, agricultural areas and construction sites keeps pollutants out of rivers, streams and bays, and protects wildlife habitat and drinking water supplies.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**     \_\_\_ **Partial credit**     \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 31.** Does the town have a tree planting program and a tree protection policy?

**GreenPoint:** Trees provide shade, habitat for wildlife, and help reduce noise and visual pollution. They add value to neighborhoods, mitigate runoff and erosion, and help reduce global warming by removing carbon dioxide from the air.

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_ higher or \_\_\_ lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ No credit      \_\_\_ Partial credit      \_\_\_ Full credit (1 point)

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 32.** Does the town discourage the installation of synthetic turf fields?

**GreenPoint:** Synthetic turf fields present several problems from both an environmental and human health perspective. See web site for more details.

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_ higher or \_\_\_ lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ No credit      \_\_\_ Partial credit      \_\_\_ Full credit (1 point)

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 33.** Does the town provide space for community gardens? **GreenPoint:**

Community gardens provide an opportunity for apartment dwellers and others without open space of their own to maintain vegetable and flower gardens on publicly-owned land. It demonstrates community support for sustainable living and can reduce maintenance costs for municipalities.

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_ higher or \_\_\_ lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ No credit      \_\_\_ Partial credit      \_\_\_ Full credit (1 point)

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

## WATER CONSERVATION

**LG 34.** Has the town implemented effective water conservation measures at parks and town facilities? **GreenPoint:** Conserving water at the municipal level sets an example for residents, helps decrease capital expenditure for water delivery and wastewater treatment systems and cuts energy costs.

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_ higher or \_\_\_ lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ No credit      \_\_\_ Partial credit      \_\_\_ Full credit (1 point)

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 35.** Does the town encourage and/or mandate water conservation by residents? **GreenPoint:** *Successful residential water conservation programs usually consist of several components: Public education, rebates for water-efficient plumbing equipment, "conservation rate" pricing (increasing prices to reduce demand), building code requirements for new buildings, rainwater harvesting, leak detection and repair and residential water-use audits.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 36.** Has the town installed water-conserving plumbing fixtures in town buildings? **GreenPoint:** *In a typical office building, toilets account for almost 70% of water usage. Replacing a conventional 5-gallon-per-flush toilet with a 1.6 gallon-per-flush model can reduce water consumption by more than half.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 37.** Does your town permit and encourage the construction of private "greywater" and rainwater systems? **GreenPoint:** *"Greywater" is the waste water produced from baths, showers, and clothes washers: many municipalities are realizing that harnessing greywater could bring real results in both water and cost savings.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

## TRANSPORTATION

**LG 38.** Does the town provide or encourage the use of public transportation? **GreenPoint:** *Fare reductions (or free rides) during off-peak hours will attract new riders. Improved station and waiting facilities, clean equipment, courteous service, convenient scheduling and easy access to retail shopping areas have all been shown to increase ridership.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 39.** Does the town provide preferred parking for electric vehicles?

**GreenPoint:** Simple signage and parking lines painted green designate the special reserved parking areas for energy-efficient cars, providing a de facto showroom of hybrid and alternative fuel vehicles. Some municipalities have even waived parking fees entirely for hybrid vehicles.

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**     \_\_\_ **Partial credit**     \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 40.** Does the town have a policy mandating or encouraging the purchase of alternative fuel or hybrid vehicles? **GreenPoint:** The latest buzz in hybrid vehicles is the **Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicle (PHEV)**, a hybrid vehicle with larger batteries that can be recharged by connecting a plug to an electric power source, such as a standard home outlet. For the low-mileage trips typically required for municipal vehicles, the electric motor can provide most of the power needed between charges.

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**     \_\_\_ **Partial credit**     \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 41.** Does the town require pollution control devices on all its diesel vehicles?

**GreenPoint:** Diesel exhaust is a significant component of greenhouse gases, containing a complex mixture of chemicals and fine particles of soot. Human exposure to this mixture has been shown to exacerbate asthmatic symptoms or even cause asthma, and many of the chemicals contained in diesel exhaust have been identified as known carcinogens.

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**     \_\_\_ **Partial credit**     \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 42.** Does the town encourage tele-work by employees? **GreenPoint:** Tele-work programs have been shown to boost productivity, help recruit new talent, improve employee morale, save on office space and maintenance, and reduce energy and transportation costs.

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**     \_\_\_ **Partial credit**     \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 43.** Does the town provide ample customer parking in downtown retail areas?

**GreenPoint:** *The paucity of public transportation systems in most towns, combined with typical patterns of residential suburban housing, makes the automobile a fact of life we will need to accommodate for at least the near future. Innovative parking solutions should be part of an overall master plan for redeveloping downtown areas.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 44.** Does the town provide bicycle paths, bicycle parking and walking paths?

**GreenPoint:** *If bicycles in your town are chained to lamp-posts or street signs, it's probably because your bike parking is insufficient.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 45.** Does the town impose and enforce a legal limit on idling of vehicles?

**GreenPoint:** *The unnecessary idling of vehicles contributes significantly to dangerous air pollutants, including polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and fine particulate matter. Vehicle exhaust contains many known carcinogens, asthmagens, endocrine disruptors and neurotoxins.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 46.** Has the town enacted a no-idling policy for all town-owned vehicles?

**GreenPoint:** *No-idling ordinances require enforcement by local police, but municipalities are free to adopt and enforce their own internal no-idling policies for town-owned vehicles and vehicles working under municipal contracts.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

## RECYCLING

**LG 47.** Does the town mandate recycling of bottles, cans, cardboard and paper from town offices? **GreenPoint:** *Instilling a culture of conservation and recycling throughout town government sets an example for the community, and encourages residents to do their part at home.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**    \_\_\_ **Partial credit**    \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 48.** Does the town provide curbside recycling of paper, cans, bottles, and cardboard for residents? **GreenPoint:** *Increasing public awareness of environmental responsibility provides municipalities with an opportunity to revisit their existing programs, tighten up rules and increase enforcement.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**    \_\_\_ **Partial credit**    \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 49.** Does the town have a recycling program for batteries and e-waste? **GreenPoint:** *Consumer electronics typically contain toxins such as lead, cadmium, chromium, mercury, beryllium, polyvinyl chloride (PVC), and brominated flame retardants. Batteries contain cadmium, copper, zinc, lead, manganese, nickel, and lithium.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**    \_\_\_ **Partial credit**    \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 50.** Does the town provide curbside pickup of leaves and garden waste for residents? **GreenPoint:** *Thousands of towns are now recycling leaves for compost, or at least requiring their collection in biodegradable plastic or paper bags. Many are also providing residents with information about backyard composting, further reducing program costs.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**    \_\_\_ **Partial credit**    \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 51.** Does the town provide recycling receptacles in commercial areas and parks? **GreenPoint:** Successful municipal recycling efforts depend on an educated community, a sense of shared purpose and strong public support for the goals of the program. The placement of convenient, well-marked receptacles in downtown retail areas and town parks is a key component in building awareness and support.

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 52.** Does the town provide a facility for recycling used goods? **GreenPoint:** One of the best ways to reduce the solid waste stream in communities is to encourage and actively support the re-use of serviceable goods: bicycles, books, dishes, lighting fixtures, cooking utensils, toys, games, tools, small appliances, furniture and household knickknacks.

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

## ENVIRONMENTAL TOXINS

**LG 53.** Does the town provide regular "toxics" collection days for residents? **GreenPoint:** An effective toxics collection program consists of an educational outreach campaign conducted through print and electronic media, the establishment of a regular and frequent schedule of collection days, and the convenient siting of collection locations to encourage resident participation.

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 54.** Does the town have a policy to mandate the use of only no- or low-VOC paints and adhesives? **GreenPoint:** Most commercial paints, stains, finishes, and adhesives contain volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and other toxic additives that have been linked to significant health and environmental problems.

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 55.** Does the town have a healthy carpet installation policy? **GreenPoint:** *Chemicals such as formaldehyde, a known carcinogen, are used in the manufacture of most commercial carpet and padding materials, and the adhesives used to cement carpet to floors often contain toxic solvents with very high VOC (Volatile Organic Compound) levels.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 56.** Does the town have an IPM policy for indoor pest control? **GreenPoint:** *Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a concept that encourages the use of least toxic alternatives first, and the use of more toxic alternatives only after other methods have failed. The weakness of the IPM concept is that it usually relies on the efforts and decisions of individuals who are trained and experienced in the use of pesticides.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 57.** Does the town maintain swimming pools without chlorine or bromine products? **GreenPoint:** *Chlorine can be highly toxic to humans. In fact, it was the first poison gas to be used as a weapon during World War I. Recent studies have linked exposure to chlorine in swimming pools with increased rates of asthma. Other research has indicated a link between chlorinated water and the incidence of cancer.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 58.** Does the town restrict the use of landscaping equipment with two-cycle engines? **GreenPoint:** *The exhaust from two-cycle engines is a major source of air pollution, and contains compounds that are known to be toxic to humans. Emissions from leaf blowers, edge trimmers, small lawnmowers, chain saws and other types of two-cycle engines typically include hydrocarbons, particulate matter, carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_higher or \_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 59.** Does the town remove or seal public playground equipment made from treated wood? **GreenPoint:** *The chemicals formerly used for this purpose — chromium, copper and arsenic (CCA) — are classified as pesticides, and have been shown to be toxic to humans.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_\_ higher or \_\_\_\_ lower municipal level.

\_\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

## COMMUNICATIONS

**LG 60.** Does the town have a formal Office or Director of Environmental Affairs? **GreenPoint:** *The OEA should have both the responsibility and authority to coordinate local governmental efforts, and to develop and maintain effective communications between residents and local decision makers, as well as with surrounding municipalities.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_\_ higher or \_\_\_\_ lower municipal level.

\_\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 61.** Does the town require the use of “green” printing techniques for all documents? **GreenPoint:** *“Green printing” refers to new trends in printing and print design which reduce waste, reduce toxins, reduce use of trees, and use recycled materials.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_\_ higher or \_\_\_\_ lower municipal level.

\_\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 62.** Does the town provide a practical mechanism for communication of its environmental policies to employees? **GreenPoint:** *Establishing an environmental task force made up of representatives from various departments can facilitate communications and provide a venue for necessary feedback.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_\_ higher or \_\_\_\_ lower municipal level.

\_\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 63.** Does the town have an effective method of communicating its environmental policies to residents? **GreenPoint:** *The challenge for local governments is not necessarily how to get citizens involved but how to accomplish multiple environmental goals on limited budgets and manage public expectations at the same time.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_\_higher or \_\_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 64.** Does the town maintain a town website or web pages with all environmental information, regulations, etc? **GreenPoint:** *We recommend the creation of a distinct site or section dedicated to environmental issues where local governments, businesses, educators, students and citizens can easily access information and become active participants in local programs.*

This policy is controlled at a \_\_\_\_higher or \_\_\_\_lower municipal level.

\_\_\_\_ **No credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Partial credit**      \_\_\_\_ **Full credit (1 point)**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**LG 65.** Is the town a member of ICLEI? **GreenPoint :***ICLEI is an organization of local governments and governmental associations that have made a commitment to sustainable development.*

\_\_\_\_ **Member**                      \_\_\_\_ **Membership pending**                      \_\_\_\_ **Not a member**

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATION:**

*I hereby certify that the information contained herein is true and correct, and that I have received no instruction or incentive from any individual to alter, augment or reduce any score contained herein.*

---

Signature of Interviewer

---

Date