



Sustainable Maryland Community Certification Report

This is the Sustainable Maryland Certification Report of Thurmont (Frederick), a Sustainable Maryland certified applicant.

Thurmont (Frederick) was certified on October 05, 2016 with 220 points. Listed below is information regarding Thurmont (Frederick)'s Sustainable Maryland efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable Maryland contact for Thurmont (Frederick) is:

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Sustainability Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Thurmont (Frederick) was approved for in 2016 appears below. Note: Standards for the actions below may have changed and the documentation listed may no longer satisfy requirements for that action. Additionally, points associated with actions prior to 2013 certifications may not be accurate.

Community Action

Innovative Demonstration Projects

10 Points

Program Summary:

The Thurmont Green Team set up a display table at the 2015 Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show on September 11, 12 and 13, 2015. Volunteers staffed the table and disseminated handouts and information on our efforts. Information was available on sustainability, energy savings, recycling, protection of natural resources, along with information on the team. A local artist created a Green Team poster for us that was a big hit with visitors (see uploaded photo). Volunteers promoted activities such as our pet waste program, our Farmers' Market, and our Business Directory. Several visitors expressed an interest in joining the team. An e-mail string discussing the table and recruiting volunteers has been uploaded as part of the documentation. The Green Team has also been involved with several other Town events and provided public outreach during those events. A Municipal Open House was held in November and Green Team members were on hand once again, disseminating information to the public. Fliers on sustainability have been on hand at the Thurmont Regional Library. These flyers were kept stocked up by Green Team volunteers. Library staff were asked to send public questions directly to the Green Team. The Green Team and the Thurmont Regional Library have partnered in a "Think Green, Be Green" lecture series. Every Wednesday in May will feature a speaker on sustainability practices and the environment.

 [Innovative Demonstration Projects Documentation](#)

 [Innovative Demonstration Projects Documentation](#)

 [Think Green, Be Green Lecture Series Flier](#)

Green Team

Build SMC Resource Center

5 Points

Program Summary:

The Town of Thurmont completed an SMC Resource Center for residents to learn about sustainability programs that are available. The Resource Center has been published on the town web page, the Main Street Thurmont webpage, and the Thurmont Green Team webpage. The Resource Center has been positively received and utilized by our residents. Local residents, businesses and visitors can access this link to many sustainable programs and agencies in Thurmont, as well as Frederick County. The public is becoming more aware of the team and our objectives and is extremely supportive. The Thurmont SMC Resource Center can be found at www.thurmontmainstreet.com/green-team.html

 [Build SMC Resource Center Documentation](#)

Complete a Green Team Action Plan

10 Points

Mandatory

Program Summary:

The Green Team Action Plan was established including the Community Survey. The survey answered some questions regarding how informed our community is regarding sustainability projects and programs. Surprisingly, the survey indicated that some residents were not aware of long standing programs including our Farmers' Market. While it's easy to assume that the information is disseminated adequately and that all residents know about the events, the survey demonstrated that's not always the case. We also discovered that the community looks to the municipality to "set the bar" on sustainability. The community encouraged the Town to "buy local", decrease energy being consumed, and to promote more programs on sustainability. Priorities for our first 3 years are set quite high but are certainly attainable. While some items are already in motion, others are still in their infancy. These priorities were established with the help of the results obtained from the Community Survey. This site did not allow all documents to be uploaded. Remaining documents are available electronically by request.

 [Complete a Green Team Action Plan Documentation](#)

 [Complete a Green Team Action Plan Documentation](#)

Create Green Team

10 Points

Mandatory

Program Summary:

The Thurmont Green Team was established in May of 2015. A hard working group of volunteers have been very involved with the sustainable programs and have embraced their roles. Members have completed the Green Team Training and have chosen action items to take the lead on. Members are energized and have been empowered to recruit more

members and find more projects.

-  [Create Green Team Documentation - Thurmont GT Kick Off Meeting Minutes](#)
-  [Create Green Team Documentation](#)
-  [Agenda 2](#)
-  [Meeting Minutes 1](#)
-  [Meeting Minutes 2](#)
-  [Green Team Members List](#)

Participate in SMC Green Team Training

5 Points

Program Summary:

WELCOME ABOARD: TOWN OF THURMONT Thurmont Green Team The Town of Thurmont recently registered with Sustainable Maryland, becoming the 5th municipality in Frederick County to join our program. And SM staff conducted a Green Team training session there in June, where we came away quite impressed by the town's broad range of sustainability activities. Close by Catoclin Mountain Park, home to the historic Camp David presidential retreat, Thurmont offers a mix of small-town amenities and ample outdoor pursuits. As befitting its rural setting, Thurmont boasts a lively weekly Farmers Market. Also on the food front, it offers residents in need with a local Food Bank. Thurmont Trolley Trail The Thurmont Trolley Trail, a 3/4 mile off-road paved path, provides residents a walking/jogging/biking connection that bisects the community. Energy savings has been at the forefront of Thurmont's sustainability initiatives. Thurmont is also a Maryland Smart Energy Community, having successfully completed many energy efficiency projects, including recently relocating its Town Hall to an old funeral home, and renovating this structure to include replacement of single pane windows with double pane windows; a new high efficiency air source heat pump; new insulation in the attic, ceiling and walls; and installation of LED lights on the interior and exterior of the building. We are looking forward to working with the Town of Thurmont!

-  [Participate in SMC Green Team Training Documentation](#)
-  [Powerpoint](#)
-  [Green Team Photo](#)
-  [Green Team Training Sign In Sheet](#)

Community Based Food System

Innovative Demonstration Projects

5 Points

Program Summary:

The Town of Thurmont Food Bank - The Thurmont Food Bank is a non-profit ministry of the Thurmont Ministerium. It is supported by the Town of Thurmont, area churches, organizations, businesses and individuals. The Thurmont Food Bank is located in the former Thurmont Town Office building located at 10 Frederick Road. The Town of Thurmont owns the building and leases the building to the Thurmont Food Bank at no cost. Food is provided to those in need who live in Thurmont, Lewistown, Rocky Ridge, Utica, Sabillasville, Graceham and areas in between. An average of 320 households made up of over 1,300 individuals receive food each month from the Thurmont Food Bank. Residents and generous donors are asked to help by making a financial contribution or by donating un-expired canned goods, fruits, meats, vegetables and dairy products as well as already prepared foods that have been made in a commercial kitchen. Also needed are: hygiene and cleaning supplies such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, laundry detergent, dish soap, toilet paper and paper towels. The Thurmont Food Bank is located in the building formally used as the Town of Thurmont Town Offices. The Town supports the Food Bank by sponsoring several events each year that require an "admission fee" of canned goods or other suitable items for the Food Bank. Halloween in the Park, Christmas in Thurmont, and the Thurmont Business Showcase are just a few of these events that support the Food Bank.

<https://www.facebook.com/ThurmontMinisterium.org>

 [Innovative Demonstration Projects Documentation](#)

Local Food Consumption

Establish Local Farmers Market

10 Points

Program Summary:

The Farmers Market in Thurmont was established in Thurmont by the Main Street Thurmont organization in 2005. Originally the Farmers Market was held at the Thurmont Carnival Grounds and was well attended. Vendors with fresh produce, fruits, jams & jellies, honey, and other items were on hand each week. The market allowed residents and visitors to purchase farm-grown food instead of always purchasing food from the super market. The market relocated last year to the Municipal Parking Lot and is going stronger than ever. An average of 6 - 10 vendors regularly show up with some weeks seeing more. Vendors with breads, pies, and baked goods are also regulars this year. Plans are in place to introduce live music and local wineries for National Farmers Market week in August. The Thurmont Main Street Farmers' Market is managed by Main Street Manager Vickie Grinder and a core group of

volunteers. The Farmers Market is funded through the Main Street operating budget and by using the revenues produced by the vendors' fees collected. Each vendor who wishes to participate may pay a weekly fee or a one-time seasonal fee. Applications are filled out and turned in to the Main Street Manager (application downloaded below). The Farmers Market is held every Saturday from 9:00 AM until 12:00 PM from June through September.

<http://www.thurmont.com/2228/Farmers-Market>

 [Farmers Market Photo](#)

 [Establish Local Farmers Market Documentation](#)

 [Farmers Market Vendor Application](#)

Local Food Production

Community Gardens 15 Points Priority

Program Summary:

The Thurmont Community Garden is underway in its first year. The garden is located on existing park property at Carroll Street Park. This area was selected because of its close proximity to townhouses, condos, and apartments. Typically these higher density residential units are the ones where there may not be adequate room for gardening. The Community Gardens is within walking distance of all these units, making it very convenient. The overall area of the garden is 100' x 30' which accommodates 24 plots which are 9' x 11' each. The fee for the plots are \$25 each. Plots are separated by a common walkway and are all numbered. Watering containers are located adjacent to the garden and are filled as needed by Town staff and garden volunteers. Filling the containers with water is performed by Town staff from a nearby elevated water storage tower. A compost area has also been installed to allow gardeners to dump their gardening waste. Compost is available for all to utilize in their garden plots. Fencing and posts were donated by the local Ace hardware store to keep the gardens in and the deer and animals out. The garden has been very popular with Town residents. Advertising for the Community Gardens was performed by utilizing Facebook, the Town of Thurmont cable television channel, and by sending an ad out to all residents in their utility bill mailing (see uploaded document below). There was also mentions in local newspapers. Rules & Regulations have been established and the gardeners seem to police themselves in this regard. The Community Garden is managed by the Green Team and is lead by Community Garden Coordinator Greg Daniels. Greg expressed an interest in this project and readily accepted the position as Coordinator. Bobby Myers serves as Assistant Coordinator to Greg and both have done a terrific job with the program. The idea of a Community Garden was first initiated by Town of Thurmont CAO Jim Humerick. Jim retired as Regional Operations Manager from the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) in 2014 to accept the position as Thurmont's CAO. During his time

with M-NCPPC, Jim was involved in their Community Gardens project and was a first hand witness to the success of the program.

 [Community Gardens Terms of Use](#)

 [Community Gardens Sign Photo](#)

 [Community Gardens Photo 1](#)

 [Community Gardens Photo 2](#)

 [Community Gardens Photo 3](#)

 [Community Gardens Advertisement](#)

Energy

Innovative Demonstration Projects

30 Points

Program Summary:

In 2015, the Town of Thurmont began an LED street light retrofit program. Thurmont was named a Maryland Smart Energy Community in 2014 and has worked closely with the Maryland Energy Administration; receiving MSEC grants in 2014 and 2015. Thurmont has currently installed 62 new downtown LED street lights and 30 new subdivision LED street lights. The MSEC grant in 2015 submission involves replacing 50 more ceramic metal halide subdivision lights with LED fixtures. The installation of the 62 downtown street lights with LED lights have resulted in an annual electrical consumption savings of over 50%. Replacing the older subdivision lights with the new LED fixtures will result in a savings of a staggering 78.5% of electric consumption annually. Thurmont intends to continue to move forward with the retrofit program until all of the streetlights (approximately 1,000 lights) have been converted to LED fixtures. The 2015 Grant Agreement from MEA/MSEC has been attached to document that Thurmont received the grant for LED light installations and also stating that the project must be completed by May 2016. Previously, Thurmont received an MEA grant for energy efficient upgrades to the new Municipal Offices. The building benefited from at least 7 separate energy saving measures including the replacement of single pane windows with double pane windows, a new high efficiency air source heat pump, new insulation in the attic and exterior walls, replacement of the old exhaust fan system with an energy recovery ventilator (ERV), the addition of night set-back thermostats, the replacement of incandescent lights with LED lights, and the addition of ceiling mounted motion detectors in all offices, meeting room, and work areas. The Town of Thurmont owns and operates our own electric department. Thurmont is one of a handful of municipalities that has our own electric utility. Residential electric rates are the second lowest in the entire state of Maryland. The Town of Thurmont Electric Dept. staff consists of one Supervisor, 2 Linemen, and 1 Meter Technician. The Superintendent of Public Works is also able to provide electric service work. Streets and

Parks Dept. staff are often utilized as ground hands when an electric service interruption occurs. The Electric Dept. provides all repairs and maintenance to customers of the Town of Thurmont. This includes routine maintenance and repair, emergency response, meter reading, underground service installation, pole installations, and inspections. Current residential electric rates are .08598 per kilowatt hour. Customers often praise the work of our Electric Dept. because in the rare case of a power outage, our response times are exemplary. This is quite unique in comparison to large service providers such as Potomac Edison, Delmarva, or BGE. These providers are so large that their response rates can begin to compare with Thurmont's. Our department is also unique because we can personally respond to each and every customer. More information on the Thurmont Electric Dept. can be found at <http://www.thurmont.com/2168/Electric-Department>. The Town of Thurmont Green Team has been working closely with Frederick County in providing the opportunity for residents to become involved in several different energy efficiency programs and to educate residents about energy efficiency in their homes.

 [Innovative Demonstration Projects Documentation](#)

 [Thermostat & HVAC Info](#)

 [ERV Info](#)

 [Ceiling Mounted Motion Detector Photo](#)

 [Subdivision LED Street Lights](#)

 [Downtown LED Street Lights](#)

Residential Energy Efficiency

10 Points

Program Summary:

In 2016, Thurmont adopted Frederick County's Power Saver Challenge and its associated special initiatives for its Residential Energy Efficiency Program. Hilary Rothrock acts as the coordinator for this action item and works closely with Lisa Orr from Frederick County government. The Power Saver Challenge is Challenge 1 of the overall Frederick County Green Homes Challenge (GHC). Through this program, which includes Powerware Party educational workshops, a handbook, and an interactive website, www.FrederickGreenChallenge.org, residents can learn about "50 actions they can take to save energy. Residents earn points for actions taken and see estimates of energy, carbon emissions, costs, water, and gasoline savings resulting from their actions. When residents earn 50 points, they become Certified Power Savers and are recognized with Power Saver garden stakes and the annual GHC Recognition Event. Thurmont's goal is to have 20% of households certified as Power Savers (goal was met in 2013). Residents who participate in the Power Saver Challenge are automatically placed in an online Thurmont Green Team that tracks the actions of all participants and the estimated impacts of their collective actions. To

date, 41 Thurmont households are participating in the Power Saver Challenge and most of them have become Certified Power Savers. Residents can take advantage of special Power Saver initiatives, such as the Power Saver Retrofits programs. For example, in 2013, 2014 and 2015, 20 Thurmont households participated in the Power Saver Retrofits program which provided Home Performance with Energy Star audits and up to \$8,000 in weatherization services. By adopting the Power Saver Challenge as our municipal energy efficiency program, Thurmont residents can become educated about how to improve the energy efficiency of their homes, and get motivated to take action, and see results.

 [Residential Energy Efficiency Documentation](#)

Local Economies

Innovative Demonstration Projects

10 Points

Program Summary:

Project #1 - The Thurmont Business Showcase is an annual event that promotes local businesses. The event only allows businesses that operate within the Thurmont zip code area to participate. The showcase is a huge success among local businesses and residents and is celebrating it's 8th year. Plans for the 2016 Business Expo are now underway. The 2016 Business Showcase will be held at a new and exciting location as well, the brand new Thurmont Community Ambulance Event Complex! In years past, the event was held at Catoclin High School on Friday evenings. Businesses By holding the event on Saturday at a larger venue and for longer hours, local businesses can get a bigger “bang for their buck! In addition, we will also feature hourly demonstrations such as DIY projects, fitness, cooking, and wine tastings. Any business/non-profit with a 21788 mailing address may participate. The Thurmont Business Showcase is a Main Street Community event. Project #2 - The Town of Thurmont and Thurmont Main Street are committed to revitalization of the designated Main Street area. The Town received the prestigious Main Street designation in 2005 and has retained this accreditation each year since. Recently, Thurmont was once again named a 2016 Main Street accredited community. Many devoted volunteers and Thurmont businesses, along with Main Street Manager Vickie Grinder and Town staff have worked to ensured Thurmont remains compliant in the requirements instituted by the state of Maryland to obtain this recognition. Public outreach, programming, economic development, principles of Smart Growth and sustainability, the creation of a business-friendly environment are only a few of the many required elements of this program. Main Street programs are set in place to enhance every day lives of residents within the community as well as anyone who is visiting. Thurmont also has a variety of community events promoting sustainability such as the Farmers Market, an Art & Wine Stroll, “Think Pink-Gateway to the Cure” and the “Buy Local” program that features Thurmont Business Bucks. Each December, Main Street is home to

“Christmas in Thurmont” with pictures taken with Santa Claus in the Gazebo on the square, caroling and the lighting of the Christmas tree in Mechanicstown Square Park. Thurmont has achieved several goals, all of which help contribute to the community Main Street accreditation. One of the major goals reached was the opening of Thurmont’s Main Street Center, located at 11 Water Street in October of 2015. As one of the focal points in the town, The Main Street Center serves numerous purposes for the community including functioning as the Visitor Center where visitors can pick up information on the town’s businesses. The Center also provides a location where local artists can display and sell their artwork along with locally made products, and also serves as a public meeting space to various community groups. To further meet the goals of sustainability, Thurmont's Main Street Manager is also a member of the Thurmont Green Team. The Main Street program requirements of sustainability work hand in hand with the Green Team's efforts.

 [Thurmont Business Showcase](#)

 [Business Showcase](#)

 [Thurmont Main Street Sign](#)

 [Thurmont Main Street Display](#)

 [Thurmont Main Street Center](#)

Buy Local Campaign

Buy Local Campaign

15 Points

Program Summary:

Each year in November, the Town of Thurmont works closely with Frederick County Economic Development to promote the "Shop Local" and "Shop Small" programs. Through social media and other outlets, we urge residents and visitors to shop locally instead of utilizing large "box" stores. Our program has been very successful. So successful in fact, that the photo that has been uploaded below was featured in the annual Economic Development Report from Frederick County. Thurmont also promotes "Thurmont Business Bucks". This program allows residents to purchase "coupons" that can be used at any participating business in town. The Buy Local program is coordinated through the Thurmont Main Street program and managed by the Main Street Manager. The Buy Local program and the Thurmont Business Bucks are both advertised in several different ways. Social media, specifically Facebook, has proven to be a very effective way to get the word out. We also utilize our local cable television channel, local newspapers, flyers, posters throughout town, and word of mouth to promote these programs. Both programs were implemented in 2014 and became very popular immediately. In 2015, 36 businesses participated in the Thurmont Business Bucks program. 20 businesses participated in the Buy Local program in 2015. The

individual businesses also used marketing materials provided by American Express.

 [Buy Local Campaign Documentation](#)

 [Buy Local Campaign Documentation](#)

 [Thurmont Business Bucks Brochure](#)

 [Buy Local Poster](#)

 [Thurmont Business Bucks Ad](#)

Establish Local Business Directory

10 Points

Program Summary:

The Town of Thurmont maintains a business directory on the Thurmont Main Street web page. The directory is managed by the Thurmont Main Street Manager. The directory is frequently utilized to contact all businesses in town to notify them of events, promotions, programs, as well as police and public safety updates. We also provide the business directory to residents and visitors who are looking for services and/or goods in Thurmont. This allows the visitors and residents to shop local, sustaining our local economy and also reducing the amount of travel required, thus saving energy and reducing pollutants from vehicles. Mayor Kinnaird, who is also a local business owner, also manages the Thurmont First website and hosts a Business Directory on this site. Both websites host great business directories that are available for our businesses to promote their activities and events. Main Street website - http://www.thurmontmainstreet.com/business_directory.html Thurmont First website - http://www.thurmontfirst.com/html/business_directory.html

 [Establish Local Business Directory Documentation](#)

 [Thurmont First Business Directory](#)

Green Purchasing

Green Purchasing Policy

15 Points Priority

Program Summary:

The Mayor & Commissioners of Thurmont unanimously approved the Thurmont Sustainable Procurement Policy (attached) in May 2016. The policy ensures that town staff considers sustainability when purchasing products and/or services to be utilized within the town's operations. The policy will be administered and monitored by the Chief Administrative Officer. Elected officials embraced the policy with Mayor Kinnaird stating that he wants to make sure that the policy is followed and utilized. The CAO disseminated the policy to all town staff with

purchasing responsibilities (see attached documentation).

-  [Green Purchasing Policy - Website 1](#)
-  [Green Purchasing Policy - Website 2](#)
-  [Thurmont Sustainability Procurement Policy](#)
-  [Sustainable Procurement Policy Resolution](#)
-  [Green Purchasing Policy Dissemination](#)

Natural Resources

Innovative Demonstration Projects

5 Points

Program Summary:

The Maryland Midland Railway runs through downtown Thurmont. The trackside areas are either barren or full of weeds and undesirable woody growth. The railroad comes through annually and sprays herbicides along the trackside banks and areas, killing all vegetation. In addition to killing all the vegetation, the herbicides create dangerous and toxic results that impact animals, birds, insects, and possibly humans. The Green Team contacted the railroad offices and spoke with them about discontinuing the practice of spraying herbicides and also asked if wildflowers could be planted in the trackside areas. The railroad agreed to both of these requests. Volunteers, led by Christine Macabee, prepared the areas by raking and removing unwanted vegetation. Once this was completed, wildflower seeds supplied by the Town of Thurmont were sown into the areas. The results create an environmentally friendly area, an aesthetically pleasing area, and an area that poses no dangers to flora, fauna, and residents. The community will now see a much more pleasing view when they travel on the streets adjacent to the tracks. Plans for ongoing maintenance include monitoring for any invasive species growth and the removal if necessary. More seeds will also be sowed in the future to create a thicker vegetative cover.

-  [Innovative Demonstration Projects Documentation](#)
-  [Innovative Demonstration Projects Documentation](#)
-  [Growth Photo - May 2016](#)

Pet Waste

Adopt a Pet Waste Ordinance

5 Points

Program Summary:

Chapter 43 of the Town of Thurmont Municipal Codes, specifically subsection 43-22 details the "Removal of Feces". The codes were revised in March 2009 and are reviewed annually by the Town of Thurmont Code Enforcement Officer. Subsection 43-23 details the associated penalties for violation of this code.

 [Adopt a Pet Waste Ordinance Documentation - Chapter 43](#)

Develop a Pet Waste Program

5 Points

Program Summary:

The Town of Thurmont established the Scoop the Poop program, utilizing the existing program in place by MDE. The program is managed and enforced by the Code Enforcement Officer. Pet waste bags and dispensers are located in parks, on trail heads, and at the East End Dog Park Exercise Area. The East End Dog Park was installed in 2014 and became very popular immediately with dogs and their owners. The Pet Waste program was also immediately implemented when the park opened to allow for the effective disposal of pet waste. A pet waste station was installed and has been embraced by users. Pet waste stations are located throughout the Town of Thurmont in our parks and facilities. Scoop the Poop Brochures are disseminated at town-sponsored events, the Municipal Offices and at local veterinary offices.

 [Develop a Pet Waste Program Documentation - Thurmont](#)

 [Pet Waste Station - Thurmont Trolley Trail](#)

 [East End Dog Park](#)

Planning & Land Use

Innovative Demonstration Projects

25 Points

Program Summary:

Four projects submitted, requesting 5 points each, 20 points total. Project #1: The Trolley Trail is a .716 mile trail installed over the former trolley tracks that serviced Thurmont in the 1900's. The trail is a perfect example of the "rails to trails" concept embraced by planners all over the world. Train and trolley track beds make great trails. The base is already in place and most are typically flat and level, making access easier for bikes, strollers, and wheelchairs. Repurposing old track beds as trails is a productive way to utilize land and property that is narrow, limiting the various ways in which the property could be utilized. The Town of Thurmont also acquired and displays one of the trolley cars that was utilized in

Thurmont's history. From 1908 to 1954, Thurmont was the "end of the line" for the trolley system that traveled from Frederick to Thurmont. During its hay day in the 1920's, the Hagerstown and Frederick Railway (H &F) carried 3.8 million people per year. However, with great strides in the world of transportation, the demands for the trolley dwindled and the H&F made its final trip to Thurmont in 1954 and the tracks were removed. The existing trail begins at the historical trolley car and promotes a glimpse at Thurmont's historical transportation services. The Trolley Trail is heavily used by residents and visitors for hiking, jogging, biking, and enjoying nature. Several "Strolls" are programmed throughout the year by Thurmont's Main Street Program. In addition, more scheduled activities such as Fun Runs, Walks, Gallery Strolls, etc. also occur, promoting more recreation and leisure activities for residents and visitors. Project #2 - The Maryland Main Street program is a comprehensive downtown revitalization program that strives to strengthen the economic potential of Maryland's traditional main streets and neighborhoods. Using a competitive process, Main Street Maryland selects communities who have made a commitment to succeed, and helps them improve the economy, appearance, and image of their traditional downtown business districts. Thurmont received our Main Street designation in 2005. Thurmont Main Street is an active group who has spear-headed many positive projects and events in Thurmont. Many of these events are mentioned in several of the submissions throughout this certification process. In 2015, the Thurmont Main Street Center opened it's doors for the first time. The Center serves as a visitor center as well as an art gallery for local artists. Main Street Manager Vickie Grinder, along with CAO Jim Humerick, Town Commissioner Bill Buehrer and the Main Street Board of Directors meet monthly to plan and organize events and activities. Project #3-The Traditional Neighborhood Development Ordinance (TND) was established in 2010 by the Thurmont Planning and Zoning Commission and approved by the Mayor & Commissioners. The TND is a floating zone which can be utilized to encourage the development of residential neighborhoods. The TND zone maintains the small town characteristics while allowing for contemporary housing needs. The ordinance details specific characteristics that must be met including building design, street alignments and design, and architectural details. The TND zone is only permitted to be utilized in medium density residential neighborhoods and encourages mixed uses. These mixed uses include residential uses, civic uses, and open spaces. The TND zone encourages walking and biking as opposed to driving a vehicle to reach destinations. Project #4-The Policy on Outdoor Lighting for all Non-Residential Properties was established in 2005 by the Thurmont Planning and Zoning Commission and was approved by the Mayor & Commissioners. The ordinance was implemented to reduce unnecessary light pollution. The ordinance mandates that exterior lighting be reviewed and approved by the P&Z Commission prior to installation. The ordinance ensures that lighting does not "spill over" onto neighboring properties and does not create a condition of glare or heat. The guiding principal states that lighting levels should be minimized so that no more light is used than necessary to maintain safety, health, security, and productivity. The policy lists best practices for all outdoor lighting projects.

-  [Thurmont Trolley Trail Photo 1](#)
-  [Thurmont Trolley Trail Photo 2](#)
-  [Thurmont Trolley Trail Photo 3](#)
-  [Thurmont Main Street Documentation](#)
-  [TND Ordinance](#)
-  [Outdoor Lighting Ordinance](#)

Participation in DHCD Sustainable Communities

20 Points

Program Summary:

The Town of Thurmont became an approved DHCD Sustainable Community effective December 18, 2013. This was quite an accomplishment for Thurmont and gives us the opportunity to be eligible for grants critical to sustainability practices and processes. With this accomplishment, Thurmont is eligible to apply for funding from the Community Legacy program and the Neighborhood Business Works Program. Thurmont is now recognized as an area targeted for growth and development. Thurmont Main Street Manager Vickie Grinder and Senior Administrative Assistant Becky Long worked together on the application and the resulting approval of the certification. Since receiving the certification, the Town of Thurmont was approved to receive several Community Legacy grants. The first grant was for funding for the Main Street Beautification project which included new benches, bicycle racks, and trash cans. This grant provided the amenities that were a supplemental component to an ongoing downtown revitalization project. There was also funding within this grant to complete a mural project on a town-owned building on East Main Street. Another grant was to fund the repairs and renovations to the summer kitchen at the Thurmont Historical Society's headquarters, also known as the Creeger House. This project was critical to the sustainability and preservation of the historic Creeger House. The related documentation has been downloaded below.

-  [Thurmont Application](#)
-  [Participation in DHCD Sustainable Communities Documentation](#)
-  [Photo of Completed Mural Project](#)
-  [Community Legacy Grant Award Letter](#)