



RUMSON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
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July 6, 2020

Dear Mayor Hemphill and Council,

As part of our effort to achieve certification under the Sustainable Jersey certification process, we have identified certain sustainable initiatives in our borough which we could pursue to both become more sustainable and to qualify for points toward certification.

One such initiative would be to pass a “No Idling” resolution, to assess where in the community idling is likely to occur, and to create and distribute educational literature. As you are aware, idling for more than three consecutive minutes is prohibited in the state of New Jersey by N.J.A.C. 7:27-14,15 and Title 39 of the Motor Vehicle code 39:3-70.2 and is detrimental to the health of our residents. Specifically, fumes from idling cars, busses and trucks are a significant source of Hazardous Air Pollution (HAP) that have negative health consequences for humans, animals and the environment.

The Rumson Junior Green Team (an all-volunteer group of local high school students whose mission is to assist the Rumson Environmental Commission in identifying ways our town can become more sustainable) has conducted an analysis of the borough to determine where idling is most likely to occur, where signs presently exist and where additional signs could be positioned. The Rumson Junior Green Team report is attached and includes a map of potential signage locations.

Presently, there are signs at both the elementary and middle schools and at the public boat launch. There are a number of other locations where idling is likely to occur that do not currently have signage i.e., park parking lots (Meadow Ridge, Piping Rock and Riverside) and school parking lots.

We would respectfully request that the town pass the attached “No Idling” Resolution, allow us to print 1,000 “No Idling” bookmarks that the Junior Green Team will make available to residents and visitors. The cost of the bookmarks would be approximately \$170. Once Rumson has been certified, the Environmental Commission will be able to apply for grants during the next Sustainable Jersey Grant Cycle to cover the cost of any additional signage that the borough and Environmental Commission may identify. We welcome any other thoughts or comments from the Borough Council on this matter and ways we might work together to create a healthier environment for our community. Thank you for your consideration and support.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Rolfes Hall, Chair-Rumson Environmental Commission