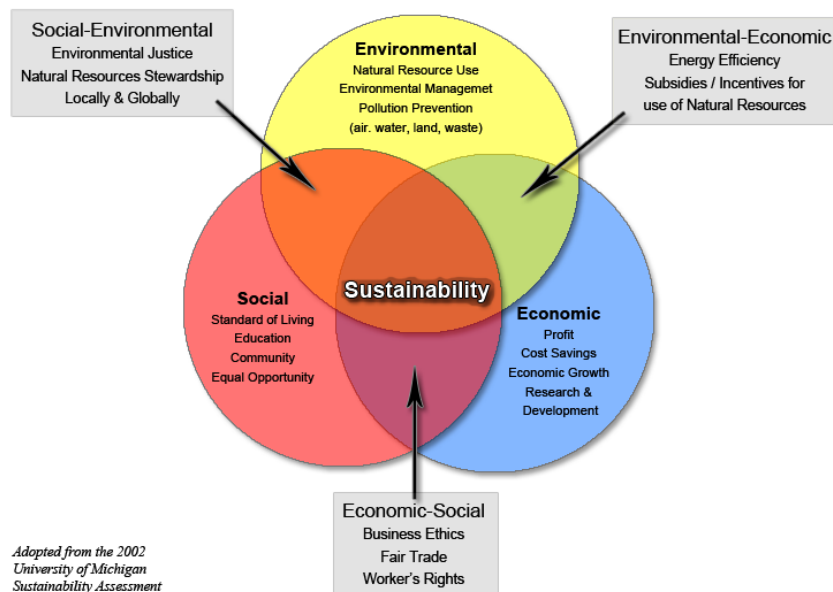


Chester County's Sustainability Program Announced

The Chester County Planning Commission announces a new planning initiative on sustainability. Simply stated, sustainability is the capacity to endure; to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Such a program will help reduce energy demand and cost and allow us to effectively conserve our resources. This requires the reconciliation of environmental, social and economic demands – known as the "three spheres" of sustainability.

The Three Spheres of Sustainability



To begin this program, Chester County has developed a strategy for conserving energy and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. On July 15th, the County Board of Commissioners accepted the [Greenhouse Gas Reduction Report](#).

The Report, developed by a 73 citizen member task force, offers a series of recommendations to conserve energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Chester County, for county government as well as local municipalities, businesses and residents. The Planning Commission will be responsible for the sustainability program as well as the clearinghouse for information and resources on the subject. This program will help implement the principles of the county's long-range policy plan, *Landscapes2*. In addition, a series of energy conservation and alternative energy projects are being installed at various county government facilities, managed by the Facilities department. These case studies will be monitored to document the savings realized by the County.

In the coming months, the Planning Commission will be seeking out partners and resources on the subject of energy conservation to implement the recommendations of both the Report and *Landscapes2*.