

TOWN OF CLINTON

RESOLUTION #115-23

RESOLUTION ADOPTING GREEN GROUNDS AND MAINTENANCE POLICY

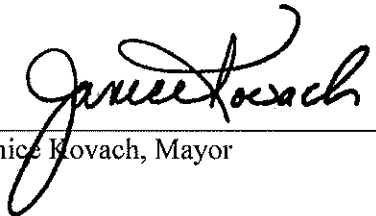
WHEREAS, the Town of Clinton is desirous of promoting initiatives and benefits that can be achieved by building a green sustainable community; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Clinton Green Team and Buildings and Grounds Committee has developed a Green Grounds and Maintenance Policy, setting forth guidelines to use that encourage the best management practices to achieve environmentally sound and efficient results in maintaining and designing municipal buildings and property; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Clinton governing body has determined it is in the best interest of the public to formally adopt the Green Grounds and Maintenance Policy as part of the Town's Sustainable Jersey initiative.

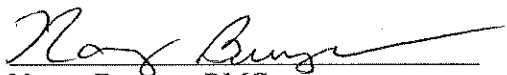
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Clinton hereby adopts the Green Grounds and Maintenance Policy and approves the continued implementation of the same; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this policy be forwarded to all department heads and commission/committee chairs and be published on the Town's website.



Janice Kovach, Mayor

ATTEST:



Nancy Burgess, RMC
Deputy Town Clerk

DATED: June 28, 2023

Town of Clinton

Green Grounds and Maintenance Policy

The policy encourages and promotes measures and initiatives that protect, preserve, and enhance the environmental quality and health of the residents of the community.

An integrated approach is used, incorporating efficient landscape design, minimization of water consumption, utilization of recycled materials and compost, and implementation of an integrated pest management (IPM) policy.

GREEN GROUNDS AND MAINTENANCE PRACTICES

1. Efficient Landscape Design

- Use only native, low maintenance plants (as native species require less maintenance and provide valuable habitat for local wildlife)
- Group plantings according to their water needs.
- Design landscaping with stormwater management and energy efficient maintenance in mind while promoting aesthetically pleasing public space.
- Consider property contours and create plantings that will slow water flows and filter runoff to improve groundwater recharge and prevent erosion.
- Use of pea gravel for walkways rather than macadam, where appropriate, to improve groundwater recharge and prevent erosion.
- Reduce water evaporation by mulching plantings (see below).
- Minimize lawn areas to reduce required maintenance, and replace lawn areas with higher value landscaping, such as meadows and gardens (see below).

2. Minimize Water Consumption

- The Town will only incorporate plantings that do not require irrigation systems.
- Continue to strive for "zero irrigation" by using only low-water-use plants when possible
- Further water conservation by installing automatic flush and sink sensors in Town buildings wherever possible

3. Recycled and Composted Materials

- Use only recycled/composted mulch material on Town grounds. Leaf mulch is preferable.
- Educate residents on the benefits of recycled/composted materials
- Continue cut-it-and-leave-it practice on all Town grounds and playing fields

4. Environmentally-Conscious Maintenance

- Use only recycled/composted mulch material on all Town grounds
- Keep mowing to a minimum particularly in the spring to allow time for pollinators to establish themselves.
- Department of Public Works, Green Team, and Environmental Commission will partner to develop a plan/map of areas that do not need to be mowed and allowed to be returned to meadow.
- Avoid fertilizer use, except for compost.
- Avoid watering, except for newly-planted trees or gardens which will be manually watered.
- Department of Public Works, Green Team, and Environmental Commission will partner to develop a plan on removing or curtailing invasive species such as Japanese knotweed, Russian olive, multiflora rose, and others.