

**WEST NORRITON TOWNSHIP  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

**RESOLUTION #18-1613**

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**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
IN SUPPORT OF THE USE OF NATIVE PLANTS**

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**WHEREAS**, Native Plants are localized, well adapted to the local soils and climate, tend to be more insect and disease resistant, and require less watering and fertilizing than non-native plants; and

**WHEREAS**, wildlife such as birds are more attracted to the Native Plants with which they coevolved, and use such plants for food, cover, and rearing their young; and

**WHEREAS**, Native Plants, having evolved in the climate, are extremely hardy and therefore have lower maintenance and replacement costs; and

**WHEREAS**, increased use of Native Plants will help to create resiliency to the impacts of climate change for people and wildlife; and

**WHEREAS**, Native Plants protect water quality by reducing stormwater runoff and erosion; and

**WHEREAS**, West Norriton Township is already taking action to manage its stormwater and restore watershed health, including the reduction of sediment pollution to Stony Creek, Indian Creek, and Schuylkill River tributaries and complying with the NPDES MS4 permit through Minimum Control Measures; and

**WHEREAS**, healthy ecosystems have been shown to provide therapeutic benefits to our mental well-being and physical health; and

**WHEREAS**, Native Plant usage helps restore the ecological balance we have lost through development and can help maintain, or even increase, property values; and

**WHEREAS**, in much the same way as saving an historic home, the use of Native Plants helps to preserve our local heritage;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of West Norriton Township, in the County of Montgomery, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, that West Norriton Township shall make every reasonable effort to ensure that all properties owned or

controlled by the Township use a minimum of 80 percent Native Plants in new plantings, and to move as quickly as possible to achieve that goal;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that replacement of preexisting, non-native plants on properties owned or controlled by the Township is required or undertaken and suitable alternative or equivalent native plants are not available, the Township may replace such non-native plants with similar, non-invasive varieties of nonnative plants;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the West Norriton Township Environmental Advisory Council and other elected and appointed officials will educate and empower residents with the goal of transitioning at least 50 percent of Township private properties to include no less than 20 percent native plants;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners and other elected and appointed officials are urged to do everything in their power to bring West Norriton Township closer to using a minimum of 80 percent native plants on all properties owned or controlled by the Township; and ensure that the benefits of native plants are realized by West Norriton Township residents from all walks of life;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that West Norriton Township will avoid taking actions that could increase the use of non-native plants or delay the transition to a minimum of 80 percent native plants;

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2018.

Attest:

WEST NORRITON TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Jason Bobst, Manager/Secretary

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Martin Miller, President