

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF NETHER PROVIDENCE  
TOWNSHIP IN SUPPORT OF THE USE OF NATIVE PLANTS  
NO. 2019-8**

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, Nether Providence Township is already taking action to manage its stormwater and restore watershed health, including the reduction of sediment pollution in the Crum and Ridley Creeks, 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 Nether Providence Township, in the County of Delaware, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, that Nether Providence 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;

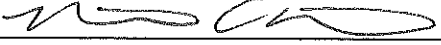
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Nether Providence Township Environmental Advisory Council and other elected and appointed officials will educate and empower residents with the goal of transitioning at least 50 percent of Township private properties to include no less than 20 percent native plants;

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 Nether Providence 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 Nether Providence Township residents from all walks of life;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Nether Providence 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.

RESOLVED this 27<sup>th</sup> day of JUNE, 2019.

**TOWNSHIP OF NETHER PROVIDENCE**

By:   
Matthew Sullivan, President  
Board of Commissioners

**ATTEST:**

  
Gary Cummings,  
Township Manager