

UWCHLAN TOWNSHIP

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-07

SUPPORTING THE USE OF NATIVE PLANTS IN UWCHLAN TOWNSHIP

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, pollinators, and amphibians 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, Uwchlan Township is already taking action to manage its stormwater runoff and restore watershed health; 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 promote ecological balance and biodiversity.

WHEREAS, the use of native plants helps to preserve our local heritage;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Uwchlan Township, in the County of Chester, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, that Uwchlan Township make reasonable efforts to ensure that all properties owned or controlled by the Township use a minimum of 75 percent native plants in new plantings;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that the replacements 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 non-native plants;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Uwchlan Township Environmental Advisory Council will develop programs to educate residents with the goal of encouraging the voluntary transition of Township private properties to include no less than 30 percent native plants;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors and other elected and appointed officials are urged to make reasonable efforts to bring Uwchlan Township closer to using a minimum of 75 percent native plants on all properties owned or controlled by the Township; and ensure that the benefits of native plants are realized by Uwchlan Township residents from all walks of life;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors and other elected and appointed officials are urged to encourage that a minimum of 75 percent native plants be placed in all new construction and development sites where planting is done;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the week beginning JUNE 6, 2021, be, and hereby is declared "Uwchlan Township Native Plant Week" and that the Uwchlan Township Environmental Advisory Council organize appropriate event(s) to be held during such week to begin educating and empowering residents to appreciate, and take advantage of, the benefits that flow from the use of native plants.

RESOLVED AND ENACTED this 12th day of April, 2021.

UWCHLAN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Chairperson



Vice-Chairperson

Member

Attested:



Secretary