



**Township Council**  
1 Municipal Plaza  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

**Louise M. Palagano**  
*Municipal Clerk*

<http://www.bloomfieldtwpnj.com>

Meeting: 08/14/23 06:30 PM

**2023 RESOLUTION APPROVAL**

**RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF HEALTH TO AMEND CHAPTERS 611 AND 640 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE TO ENCOURAGE AND PERMIT POLLINATOR GARDENS**

**WHEREAS**, A pollinator garden is a collection of flowering plants, including grasses, primarily native to New Jersey, that attracts butterflies, bees, moths, and other pollinating insects, as well as birds and bats, that transfer pollen between or within flowers; and

**WHEREAS**, A pollinator garden provides food and shelter for these beneficial insects and their larvae, as well as birds; and

**WHEREAS**, the success of important crops and healthy, biodiverse ecosystems depends upon the significant benefits provided by pollinator species; and

**WHEREAS**, properly cared for plants, flowers, shrubs, and grasses within a pollinator garden, whether native or not, that are identified as pollinator-friendly, can be misidentified as weeds, vegetative waste and/or nuisances in relation to sections of township ordinances; and

**WHEREAS**, for example, current ordinances mandate that grass and weeds growth must not exceed nine inches, and landscaping of premises shall be maintained in an orderly state, with lawns and bushes trimmed and free from litter, including brush and leaves; and

**WHEREAS**, to encourage the planting of pollinator-friendly native plants that support all kinds of pollinators, the Mayor and Council recommend and request that exceptions to Chapters 611 and 640 of the Board of Health Legislation be made for properly planted pollinator gardens; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council further recommend that the ordinance amendments encourage residents to register their pollinator gardens with the Board of Health to identify their

gardens as such rather than have them misidentified as overgrown vegetative waste and possibly fined. Now, therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and Council of the Township of Bloomfield encourage the Bloomfield Board of Health to amend Chapters 611 and 640 of the Township Code to adopt regulations and standards to encourage and permit pollinator gardens; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board consider the following provisions when amending its ordinances:

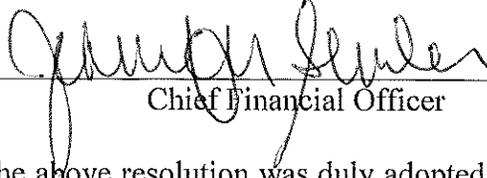
- a. Plants within a pollinator garden, whether native or not, that are identified as pollinator-friendly, are not to be considered weeds in relation to other sections of township ordinances.
- b. The use of pesticides, herbicides and chemical fertilizers should be avoided to the greatest extent possible.
- c. Pollinator gardens are not restricted in height, but may not interfere with free passage on sidewalks nor impair visibility for drivers on adjacent streets.
- d. A pollinator garden may occupy part or all of a yard. If partial, the remainder of the yard must comply with all applicable ordinances.
- e. Fallen leaves, spent flower heads and plant stems within pollinator gardens may be retained on the ground as some beneficial insects overwinter under leaves and/or in hollow plant stems, and birds use remaining seeds for food throughout the winter and portions of old stems for nest-building in the spring.
- f. Distinguishing “harmful and damaging” insects and rodents (e.g. termites and rats vs. butterflies and squirrels) will clarify that the intent of the ordinances is not to restrict conditions that permit pollinator gardens.
- g. Residents are encouraged to register their pollinator gardens with the Department of Health.

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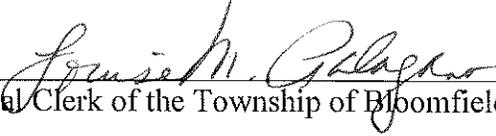
Approved as to form and procedure on basis of facts set forth.

Director of Law-Township Attorney

I do hereby certify that the funding will be legally appropriated per the above information for the purpose specified in the attached contract. Furthermore, it has been represented to me that the contracts have been processed in accordance with the applicable provisions of New Jersey Local Public Contract Law and the Code of the Township of Bloomfield.

  
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 Chief Financial Officer

I hereby certify that the above resolution was duly adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Bloomfield at a meeting of said Township Council held on August 14, 2023.

  
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 Municipal Clerk of the Township of Bloomfield

  
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 Mayor of the Township of Bloomfield

✓ Vote Record – Resolution						
		Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent	
<input type="checkbox"/> Adopt						
<input type="checkbox"/> Deny						
<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn						
<input type="checkbox"/> Table						
<input type="checkbox"/> Not Discussed						
<input type="checkbox"/> First Reading						
<input type="checkbox"/> Table with no Vote						
<input type="checkbox"/> Approve						
<input type="checkbox"/> Veto by Mayor						
<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion						
<input type="checkbox"/> Defeated						
<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion No Vote						
	Jenny Mundell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Nicholas Joanow	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Sarah Cruz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Wartyna Davis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Ted Gamble	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Richard Rockwell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Michael J. Venezia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	