



Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, September 17, 2019

Council Resolution: R-FY20-002

Introduced By: Councilor Sousa
 Date Introduced: September 3, 2019
 First Reading: September 3, 2019
 Second Reading: September 17, 2019
 Amendments Adopted: None
 Date Adopted: September 17, 2019
 Effective Date: October 18, 2019

Resolution R-FY20-002

DECLARING THE TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER, MA A POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, bees and other pollinators are a necessary component of a healthy ecosystem and food system, providing pollination of plants in order to grow vegetables, herbs and fruits; and
WHEREAS, locally grown crops such as apples, blueberries, strawberries, squash and tomatoes depend on pollinators and thus are at risk; and
WHEREAS, extensive research has documented that neonicotinoid and other systemic insecticides cause illness and death to bees and pollinators; and
WHEREAS, alternative land management practices are available that dramatically increase pollinator forage while decreasing maintenance costs; and
WHEREAS, the monetary and social costs of maintaining pollinator-friendly landscapes can be less expensive than costs associated with maintaining chemically-treated monocrop landscapes.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Bridgewater, Massachusetts, that the Town of Bridgewater is hereby declared a Pollinator-Friendly Community, and that the Town encourages adoption of policies and practices that protect and support pollinator health by minimizing the sale and use of insecticides.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Bridgewater urges all Bridgewater property owners, residents, businesses, institutions, and neighborhoods to become more pollinator-friendly by adopting practices including:

- Committing to avoiding use of insecticides, including systemic insecticides on their property;
- Avoiding the planting of flowering plants which are treated with systemic insecticides;
- Planting more pollinator-supporting forage on their property and adopting organic or chemical-free lawn and landscaping practices.

The Town Clerk is requested to send copies of this Resolution to Governor Charlie Baker, Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources Commissioner John Lebeaux, State Senator Marc R Pacheco, and State Representative, Angelo L. D'Emilia or to take any other action relative thereto.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
• This measure was not referred to any committees. 14 days has elapsed per section XVIII of the Council Rules & Procedures therefore, this measure may be finally considered this evening.	

In accordance with the applicable provisions of the Town of Bridgewater Home Rule Charter and Town Council Rules and Procedures, the Town Council assembled voted, at their meeting on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 to approve the aforementioned Resolution by a voice vote (9-0).

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:

 Ann M. Holmberg
 Town Council Clerk

VOICE VOTE – REQUIRES MAJORITY OF THOSE PRESENT AND VOTING.