



# Resolution of the Township of Bernards

1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920  
Phone: 908-204-3001; Fax: 908-204-3015; Website: [www.bernards.org](http://www.bernards.org)

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## **Resolution #080520** **Adoption of "2008 Pesticide Management System Resolution"**

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Bernards to promote matters which benefit the health, welfare, comfort and safety of the citizens of the community, and

**WHEREAS**, scientific studies associate exposure to pesticides with asthma, cancer, development and learning disabilities, nerve and immune system damage, liver or kidney damage, reproductive impairment, birth defects and disruption of the endocrine system, and

**WHEREAS**, infants, children, pregnant women, the elderly and people with compromised immune systems and chemical sensitivities are especially vulnerable to pesticide effects and exposure, and

**WHEREAS**, lawn pesticides and synthetic fertilizers are harmful to pets, wildlife, soil microbiology, plants, and natural ecosystems and can run off into streams, lakes and drinking water sources, and,

**WHEREAS**, Integrated Pest Management is coordinated use of pest and environmental information and all available pest control methods (sanitation, mechanical, biological and "least toxic" chemical) to prevent unacceptable levels of pest damage by the most economical means with the least possible hazard to people, property and the environment, and

**WHEREAS**, Integrated Pest Management has been investigated and considered by the Environmental Commission and it's recommended by the Environmental Commission as a desirable and appropriate policy in order to reduce or eliminate the use of pesticides, and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Bernards does maintain public properties at which pest management issues are an ongoing concern, and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council have determined that it is in the best interest of the health, welfare, comfort and safety of the Township's citizens to adopt Integrated Pest Management as the Township's pest management policy,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Bernards that the Township does hereby adopt Integrated Pest Management, as the pest control policy and strategy to be employed in the maintenance of the Township's public properties and facilities, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Bernards encourage all citizens to make every effort to participate in this endeavor on their own property, and that the Township will designate certain public properties such as community parks as "Pesticide Free Zones". These areas will be posted with a sign indicated that chemical pesticides have not been applied at the site.

Please send a copy of the resolution to NJ Environmental Federation, 223 Park Ave., Marlton NJ 08053 or fax to 856-768-6662

Agenda and Date Voted: 12/23/2008

**Explanative Statement:**

As you are aware, the Bernards Township Department of Public Works is now responsible for mowing, fertilizing and general pest control operations for our municipal buildings, parks, traffic islands in our municipal parking lots and roadways, and various other Public Lands throughout the Township.

Earlier this year we have been requested to look into converting over to organic fertilizers and minimizing the use of pesticides in our Public Areas. We have explored this request and are pleased to propose the "2008 Pest Management System for our Parks and other Public Areas". The Plan states that the Township shall employ "other tools" such as native planting, manual control hand weeding, organic agents, etc. before employing a "treatment of last resort" such as, various pyrethrins insecticides and glyphosate (with the appropriate notification). The plan would also set up "Pesticide Free Zones" at various areas within our parks, as described in our IPM.

We do anticipate some cost increase associated with conversion to organic products. These costs can be minimized with bulk purchasing and other proposed efficiencies.

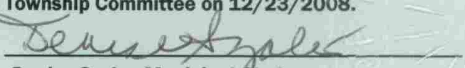
Formalization of this policy would eliminate any confusion regarding our policy and commitment to the health, welfare and well being of our residents and all that use our facilities, parks and other public lands, as well as, the protection of our environment.

Pat Monaco  
Director of Public Works

Date: 12/23/08

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify this is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Bernards Township Committee on 12/23/2008.

  
Denise Szabo, Municipal Clerk