



BOROUGH OF HAWTHORNE

County of Passaic
State of New Jersey



RESOLUTION NO. 25-25

Resolution, Introduced by Council Person Bennett Date: January 22, 2025

GREEN GROUNDS AND MAINTENANCE POLICY

WHEREAS, the Borough of Hawthorne is desirous of promoting the initiatives and benefits that can be achieved by building a green sustainable community; and

WHEREAS, the Borough is aware that using "green products and practices" provides many benefits to community sustainability; and

WHEREAS, the Hawthorne Green Team developed a Green Grounds and Maintenance Policy on April 6, 2022, setting forth guidelines to use that encourage the best management practices to achieve environmentally sound and efficient results in the area of maintaining and designing municipal buildings and properly; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the public to formally adopt the Green Grounds and Maintenance Policy as part of the Borough's Sustainable Jersey Initiative;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hawthorne, hereby re-adopts the Green Grounds and Maintenance Policy developed by the Hawthorne Green Team and approves the continued implementation of same in an effort to support the Borough's Sustainable Jersey Initiative.

CERTIFICATION

I, Lori Fernandez, Borough Clerk of the Borough of Hawthorne, County of Passaic State of New Jersey, do hereby certify this copy of R 25-25

to be a true copy as adopted by the Municipal Council on Jan. 22, 2025

Lori Fernandez
Lori Fernandez, RMC, CMC, Borough Clerk

Name	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Bennett	X		X			
Laiosa			X			
Matthews			X			
Mele			X			
Sasso			X			
Sciarra		X	X			
Wojtecki						X

Frank E. Matthews
Frank E. Matthews, Council President

Lori Fernandez
Lori Fernandez, RMC, CMC, Borough Clerk

Factual Content Certified by _____ Approved as to form and legality on basis of facts set forth _____
Name / Title _____ Borough Attorney _____ Date 1/22/25

Borough of Hawthorne

Green Grounds and Maintenance Policy

The policy encourages and promotes measures and initiatives that protect, preserve, and enhance the environmental quality and health of the residents of the community.

An integrated approach is used, incorporating efficient landscape design, minimization of water consumption, utilization of recycled materials and compost, and implementation of an integrated pest management (IPM) policy.

GREEN GROUNDS AND MAINTENANCE PRACTICES

1. Efficient Landscape Design

- Use native, low maintenance plants when possible (as native species require less maintenance and provide valuable habitat for local wildlife)
- Group plantings according to their water needs.
- Continue to strive for “zero irrigation” by using low-water-use plants when possible
- Design landscaping with stormwater management and energy efficient maintenance in mind while promoting aesthetically pleasing public space. Consider property contours and create plantings that will slow water flows and filter runoff to improve groundwater recharge and prevent erosion.
- Use of pea gravel for walkways rather than macadam to improve groundwater recharge and prevent erosion.
- Reduce water evaporation by mulching plantings
- Minimize lawn areas to reduce required maintenance, and replace lawn areas with higher value landscaping.

2. Minimize Water Consumption

- The Borough will incorporate plantings that do not require irrigation systems where possible
- Continue to strive for “zero irrigation” by using only low-water-use native plants when possible
- Further water conservation by installing automatic flush and sink sensors in Borough buildings wherever possible

3. Recycled and Composted Materials

- Use only recycled/composted mulch material on Borough grounds
- Educate residents on the benefits of recycled/composted materials
- Continue cut-it-and-leave-it practice on all Borough grounds and playing fields

4. Environmentally-Conscious Maintenance

- Use only recycled/composted mulch material on all Borough grounds
- Significantly reduce or eliminate the use of conventional pesticides through an Integrated Pest Management program.
- Avoid excessive fertilizer use. Test soils for pH to determine which plants are best-suited to the soil type. Further test soils to determine composition, and then apply specific fertilizers to correct soil chemistry if needed instead of using a generic mix that often provides excess phosphorus.
- Improve operations with efficient watering schedules, improved irrigation equipment, and rainwater capture. Water the landscape only when needed instead of setting schedules that are not sensitive to weather and species-specific needs. Minimize evaporation, and utilize efficient irrigation techniques, such as drip irrigation systems. Be sure to search for and fix leaks promptly.