

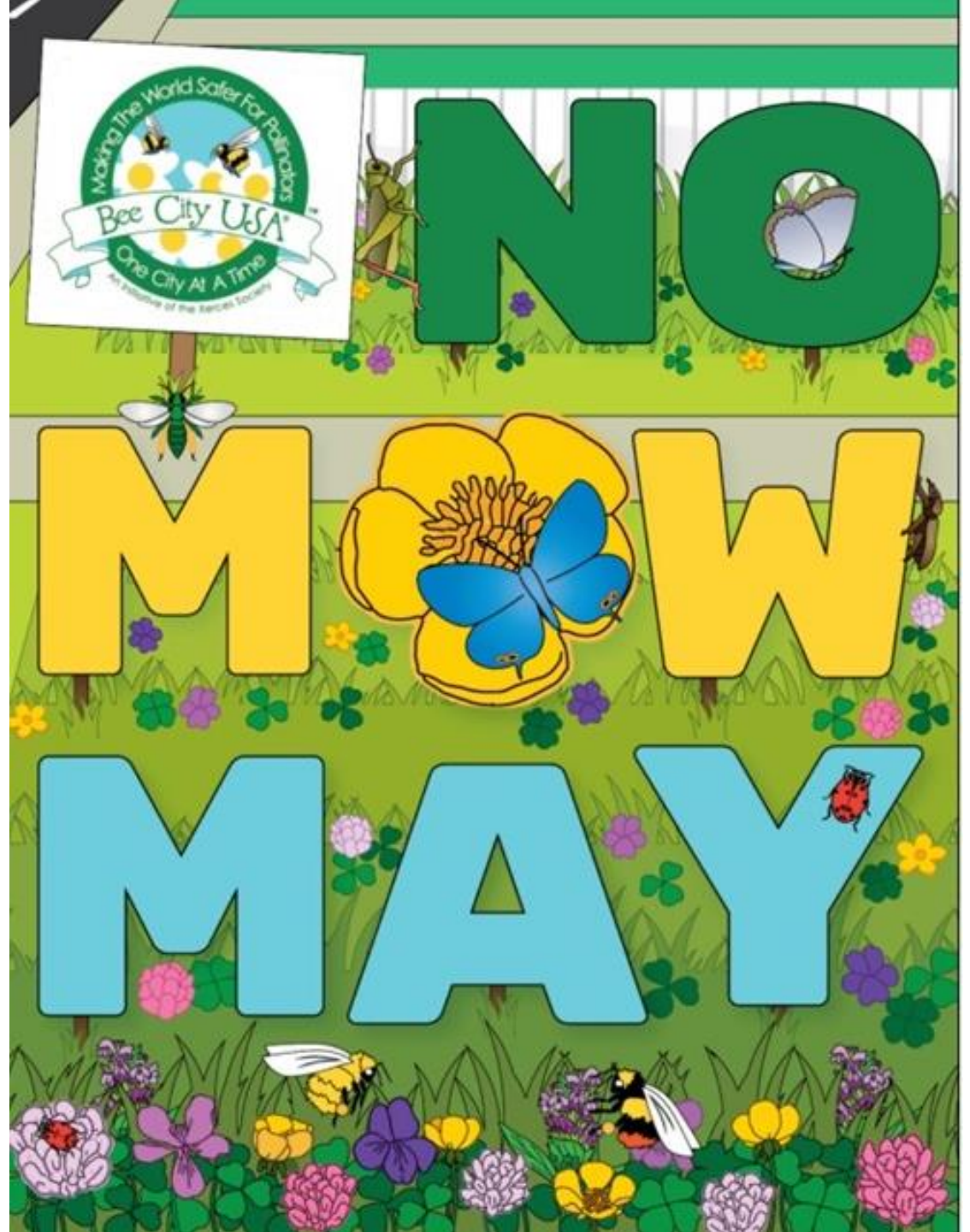
No Mow May Pilot Program



SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL
ADVISORY COMMISSION

Presented by

Martin Ryan, Assc. EAC member





Agenda



SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY
COMMISSION

- What is No Mow May?
- What are the benefits?
- Township Regulation
- Conservancy Plan
- Proposed No Mow May Pilot



What is No Mow May?

- **The goal of No Mow May is to pause mowing during the month of May,** allowing flowers to bloom in your lawn to help early season pollinators.
- Late winter and early spring is a time when blooming flowers are often limited.





What are the benefits of No Mow May?

- There are several studies that illustrate how **reducing the frequency of mowing benefits** bees, as well as butterflies, grasshoppers, and many other insects.
- **Taller grass means longer root systems** which helps absorb rainwater and reduces Storm Water Runoff, an important township priority.
- **Reduce air and noise pollution** from gas-powered lawn equipment. Reduced costs.
- Some studies also indicate that less intense mowing practices lead to **fewer pest insects including ticks.**





Chapter 11 - Brush, Grass and Weeds

- § 11-1 **Accumulation of objectionable vegetation prohibited.**
- **A.** No person, firm or corporation, being the owner or occupant of premises situated in Springfield Township, shall permit the growth or accumulation of weeds, tall grasses or other objectionable vegetation on such premises or any part thereof to such an extent or in such manner as shall, in the judgment of the Code Enforcement Officer of said Township, be prejudicial to the public health
- **D.** The following areas shall be exempt from the requirements of this chapter except that noxious weeds shall be controlled within those areas: woodlands, wildflower gardens, meadows, steep slopes, wetlands, floodplains, riparian corridors, areas within 15 feet of a watercourse, pond or lake, an active farm field, pasture, and areas where stormwater management or conservation management plans have been established. Noxious weeds shall include ragweed, thistle, oriental bittersweet, hogweed, bamboo, multiflora rose, poison ivy, poison oak, poison sumac, and wild grapevines





Conservation Management Plan

- No Mow May would run during the month of May
- **Each residence participating is required to mow**
 - the curb strip grass between the street and the sidewalk.
 - the perimeter of the lawn next to the sidewalk for the width of a lawn mower.
- **Each residence participating must display a sign** identifying participation on the lawn. Signs will be provided by EAC.
- The EAC will collect and share the names and addresses of those residents participating with the Chief of Police and the Fire Marshal.
- **All lawns would need to be cut back to regular length** by the end of the first weekend after May ends, **by end of day Sunday June, 4.**





Proposed Pilot

- We ask the Springfield Township Board of Commissioners to support a **No Mow May Residential Pilot of 25 lawns in the Township.**
- Signups and residents participating would be managed the EAC and shared with the enforcement authorities.
- The EAC will provide each participating residence with a No Mow May Lawn sign. Residents will be asked to return the sign at the end of the month.

Thank you for your consideration!

