



Resolution of the Township of Bernards

1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
908-766-2510; www.bernards.org

Resolution #2024-0176 Recognition of National Agricultural Month

WHEREAS, March signifies a national celebration of the importance of food and agriculture in the United States as it provides almost everything we eat and use each day. This month we recognize and celebrate the diversity and abundance provided by Bernards Township's farms and its contribution to our local community and families; and

WHEREAS, there are over 50 farm assessed lots with over 1,090 acres in Bernards Township; and

WHEREAS, the agricultural community is a vital aspect of our town's quality of life, including providing access to fresh, locally sourced food, preserving open space, and enhancing our community; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the month of March as Agriculture Month in Bernards Township as an opportunity for all residents of Bernards and New Jersey to better appreciate agriculture's role in providing safe, abundant, and affordable products; and

WHEREAS, in order to promote and preserve agriculture as a viable economic activity within Bernards Township and protect our town from overdevelop, the Township Committee established the Agricultural Advisory Committee in 2005; and

WHEREAS, the Advisory Committee was tasked and continues to help promote local agriculture, educate the agricultural community to meet future economic challenges, and encourage communication and cooperation among farmers and the public; and

WHEREAS, agritourism can also help protect farmlands and Bernards Township farmers by providing recreational and educational activities, such as pick-your-own produce, hayrides and tours of working farms, offering farmers markets, and other on-farm activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Bernards Township Committee recognizes the month of March as National Agriculture Month in Bernards Township and encourages residents to visit our local farms this month and all year around; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Bernards Township Committee applauds the work of our local farmers for their continued efforts to provide the food we eat, the economic diversity we appreciate, and the open space we rely on; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the Committee applauds the continued work of the Agricultural Advisory Board for supporting our farmers, protecting our open space, and for developing an interactive map of the commercial farms and seasonal newsletter to encourage residents and the broader community to visit and support our farmers.

Agenda and Date Voted: 03/26/2024

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify this is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Bernards Township Committee on 03/26/2024.

Christine V. Kieffer, Municipal Clerk