

**CITY OF WISCONSIN RAPIDS**

**RESOLUTION No. 4 (2022)**

**No Mow May Resolution**

- **Whereas**, the City of Wisconsin Rapids is participating in No Mow May to educate the community about pollinator-friendly habitats on public and private land, to encourage communities to adopt sustainable pollinator-friendly land management practices; and
- **Whereas**, the City of Wisconsin Rapids is in a unique position to increase pollinator-friendly habitat by encouraging pollinator-friendly lawn care practices and by incentivizing its citizens to take direct and meaningful action on their own properties; and
- **Whereas**, ideal pollinator-friendly habitat is comprised of mostly native wildflowers, grasses, vines, shrubs and trees blooming in succession throughout the growing season, is free or nearly free of pesticides, is comprised of undisturbed spaces including leaf and brush piles, un-mown fields or field margins, fallen trees and other dead wood for nesting and overwintering; and provides connectivity between habitat areas to support pollinator movement and resilience; and
- **Whereas**, the formative period for establishment of pollinator and other insect species, and the many songbirds and other urban wildlife species which depend upon them, occurs in late spring and early summer when they emerge from dormancy and require flowering plants as crucial foraging habitat; and these opportunities are dramatically reduced with early spring leaf-litter removal and grass-mowing;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of Wisconsin Rapids Common Council recognizes **No Mow May**, to actively promote and educate the community about the critical period of pollinator emergence, generation of crucial pollinator-supporting habitat and early spring foraging opportunities, and;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that for the duration of the month of May, the City of Wisconsin Rapids hereby suspends the enforcement of Chapter 36, Sections 302.4 of our Municipal Code for properties properly registered with the City of Wisconsin Rapids No Mow May program, to voluntarily delay homeowner lawn care practices until June, allowing pollinator species to emerge and early flowering grasses to establish, which may result in groundcover exceeding established ordinance height restrictions; and that in the month of May, the City of Wisconsin Rapids shall not issue citations for excessive weed growth or tall grasses to properties properly registered with the City of Wisconsin Rapids No Mow May program.

Dated this 17 day of March in the year 2022

Signed Shane E. Bladen

Title Mayor