



CITY OF ALLENTOWN

No. _____

RESOLUTION

R192 - 2025

Introduced by the Administration on December 3, 2025

A Resolution stating a joint commitment of the City of Allentown's Department of Parks and Recreation and Allentown Environmental Advisory Council to maintain limited use of herbicides in public parks, and to continue to pursue sustainable land management alternatives in order to protect the wellbeing of Allentown's local ecosystem.

Resolved by the Council of the City of Allentown, That

WHEREAS, the City of Allentown is committed to fostering a healthy and sustainable environment for its residents and future generations; and

WHEREAS, the City maintains a vast network of parks, playgrounds, and recreational areas that are used daily by residents of all ages, including young children and seniors; and

WHEREAS, scientific research underscores the importance of using herbicides responsibly to protect human health, particularly for vulnerable populations such as children, pregnant women, and individuals with compromised immune systems; and

WHEREAS, proper application and integrated management practices help safeguard local ecosystems, supporting pollinators, birds, aquatic life, and beneficial soil organisms that contribute to biodiversity and environmental health; and

WHEREAS, the City of Allentown Parks Department maintains one of the lowest herbicide usage rates of comparable municipalities in Pennsylvania.

WHEREAS, the City of Allentown Parks Department's applicators are state-certified through the Pennsylvania Pesticide Applicator Certification Program, administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, and undergo ongoing education and training in environmental protection; and

WHEREAS, sustainable alternatives to herbicides, including steam activated weed control, expanded native planting, timed cutting, and other mechanical strategies, have been adopted by the City of Allentown and shown to effectively control most invasive plants while supporting biodiversity, and strengthening the resilience of local ecosystems;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Allentown Department of Parks and Recreation reaffirms its commitment to maintain safe application processes, and limited use of herbicides in public parks,

and will continue to adopt sustainable land management practices that protect human health, support ecological integrity, and promote fiscal responsibility.