



Proclamation



Invasive Species Awareness Week

WHEREAS, February 22nd – February 28th, 2021 is National Invasive Species Awareness Week; and,

WHEREAS, on January 24, 2017, the Carrboro Town Council accepted the Community Climate Action Plan; and,

WHEREAS, the Community Climate Action Plan encourages the protection and enhancement of ecosystems; and,

WHEREAS, the Town adopted its first ordinance against invasive species in 1999; and,

WHEREAS, since this date, the Town has prohibited invasive species from meeting compliance with Land Use Ordinance provisions for shading and screening and from being shown on any plans submitted in support of a Land Use Permit application; and,

WHEREAS, the spread of invasive species decreases biodiversity, threatens the survival of native plants and animals, and interferes with ecosystem functions by changing processes such as fire, nutrient flow, and flooding; and,

WHEREAS, invasive species threaten 400 of the 1300 species listed under the Endangered Species Act through habitat loss, predation, and resource competition; and

WHEREAS, invasive species control and damage remediation costs reach \$120 billion yearly in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, native plant species:

- provide ecosystem services such as flood mitigation, soil nutrient cycling, and carbon sequestration;
- increase biodiversity and support food webs;
- possess adaptations to local conditions, providing savings on maintenance costs by requiring less water, pesticides, and fertilizers;
- decrease the threat of wildfire by supporting normal levels of fuel loading; and
- represent elements of a region's cultural heritage.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor of Carrboro, North Carolina do hereby proclaim February 22nd – February 28th, 2021 as “Carrboro Invasive Species Awareness Week” and I ask Carrboro residents to join in the efforts to support native species.

This the 16th day of February 2021.



Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor