



## Nitrogen Smart Communities Model Resolution

*Any municipality on Long Island can take action to reduce, prevent, or eliminate nitrogen pollution in our waters by adopting the Nitrogen Smart Communities pledge. Local governments may amend the preamble of the pledge below, but all points of the pledge should be adopted by elected officials. The final resolution document must include a signature and date of passage from the municipal clerk verifying authenticity of the resolution which will be an attachment to the NSC Step 1 Worksheet.*

Council member \_\_\_\_\_ moved and Council member \_\_\_\_\_ seconded that

WHEREAS, the municipality of \_\_\_\_\_ believes that nitrogen pollution poses a real and increasing threat to the waters of Long Island; and

WHEREAS, the municipality believes that nitrogen is the leading cause of water quality deterioration in surface and groundwater which leads to low oxygen conditions, fish kills, and degraded marine habitats, as well as contaminating the sole source of drinking water on Long Island.

WHEREAS, the municipality believes that educating, informing, and encouraging participation from members of the community is an essential step in eliminating, reducing, or preventing nitrogen pollution; and

WHEREAS, the municipality recognizes that nitrogen enters the groundwater and surface water of Long Island from wastewater (sewer and septic systems), stormwater runoff and fertilizer; and

WHEREAS, the municipality believes that a response through community-specific plans of action to reduce nitrogen pollution has beneficial environmental and economic impacts; and

WHEREAS, the municipality believes that each small step taken at the local level to reduce, eliminate or prevent nitrogen pollution has an impact in preserving Long Island's waters; and

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the municipality of \_\_\_\_\_, with the intention of to reducing, eliminating, or preventing nitrogen pollution, adopts the **Nitrogen Smart Communities Pledge**, which comprises the following elements:

- Build a Nitrogen Smart Community
- Inform, educate, and encourage community engagement related to nitrogen reduction
- Inventory priority sources of nitrogen and impacted waterbodies
- Create an implementation plan and schedule activities to reduce nitrogen and protect Long Island's waters
- Engage in an evolving and ongoing process of nitrogen reduction actions