

Letter of Renewed Commitment to Memorandum of Agreement with Respect to the Saw Mill River Watershed

Town/Village/City of Hastings-on-Hudson

Through this letter the Town/Village/City of Hastings-on-Hudson, a member of the Saw Mill Watershed Advisory Board, wishes to express its renewed commitment to the mid-2000s *Memorandum of Agreement with Respect to the Saw Mill River Watershed* as signed by our Village Manager _____ on the date of February 7, 2007 (as attached), as well as to the Saw Mill River Coalition strategies as detailed in the 5-Year Action Plan.

With the advance in scientific understanding of the impacts of climate change on the livelihood of our communities and the health of our local estuaries, it is important, now more than ever, to reiterate our commitment to take both local and county-wide actions for mitigating the growing challenges faced by the Saw Mill River Watershed. These include among others, an increase in extreme rain events and flooding, loss of natural habitat, water pollution and the spread of invasive species.

To further emphasize our renewed commitment to the goals and objectives of the *Memorandum of Agreement* and the *5-Year Action Plan*, we hereby commit to take the following local actions within the next 24 months:

1. Pass a resolution in Support of the Birds and Bees protection Act (NYS House Bill No. 7639 / Senate Bill No. 5816) to impose a 5 year moratorium on all outdoor neonic pesticide use in New York
2. Review existing ordinances and pass a Watershed Protection ordinance based on the Saw Mill River Coalition's Watershed Protection recommendations and other watershed protection plans.
3. Develop a Village Adopt-a-Spot Program in collaboration with the Hastings Pollinator Pathway program, wherein individuals or groups sign a year-long commitment to maintain selected gardens along the designated pathways (South County Trailway, Old Croton Aqueduct and Mount Hope Blvd.).

READ AND AGREED:

Mary Beth Murphy

dated: 10/15/2020

By: Mary Beth Murphy