

TOWN OF ROSEBOOM
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Otsego County

LOCAL LAW #2 – 2021 TO ADOPT A MUNICIPAL NATURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

TOWN OF ROSEBOOM

Be it enacted by the **Town Board** of the Town of Roseboom as follows:

SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

This local law of the Town of Roseboom to adopt the Natural Resources Inventory prepared by Town Planning Board and to expressly integrate use of such Inventory into land related decision-making within the Town of Roseboom. A natural resources inventory is a document that inventories the natural resources of an area, both physical and biological, and provides a foundation for municipal land use and conservation planning.

A. Purpose. to protect natural resources in The Town of Roseboom by adopting a Natural Resources Inventory, thereby enabling management and use of natural resources for present and future residents. The Town of Roseboom's protection and sustainable use of its natural resources will protect the rights of residents, both present and future, to clean air, pure water, and the natural, scenic, and aesthetic values of the environment, as set forth in Article XIV, Section 4 of the New York State Constitution.

The Town of Roseboom's quality of life will be enhanced by the sustainable management of its natural resources, including diverse habitats, natural systems and cultural resources. Such features have been identified in the Town of Roseboom's Natural Resources Inventory, as it may be amended from time to time. The mapping of natural resources by the town in accordance with the New York General Municipal Law § 239-y and the town's Comprehensive Plan, constitutes the town's Natural Resources Inventory (NRI). The incorporation of natural and cultural resource information into the decision-making processes identified herein will enable the town to balance its responsibility to promote the economic well-being of town residents, while protecting the integrity and value of the town of Roseboom's natural areas, including the town's soils, water resources, habitats and wildlife, and other significant environmental resources.

B. Intent. It is the intent of the Town of Roseboom to establish an NRI review process to guide land use and conservation planning. Integrating the NRI review process into the planning, design, review and approval processes of the Town of Roseboom's facilitates biodiversity conservation, preserves surface and groundwater resources, helps maintain natural areas, reduces impacts on agriculture and especially irreplaceable prime farmland soils, protects visual resources, scenic areas and recreational opportunities, supports community values, protects and enhances property values, and provides ecological connections throughout the community.

C. Natural Resource Identification. Specific resources identified in the NRI [shall/should] be incorporated into the Planning Board's review process. NRI information will be a valuable tool for planning land uses that are compatible with existing natural resources.

NRI resources are to include, but are not limited to:

1. Water resources including aquifers; streams and waterbodies with their State water quality classification; floodplains; wetlands and vernal pools, whether or not they are protected by local, state or federal regulations.
2. Vegetation including community types; forested areas; grasslands, meadows, and shrublands; significant trees
3. Wildlife "Species of Greatest Conservation Need," as defined by the State of New York, including but not limited to breeding birds, reptiles, amphibians and mammals.
4. Geology and soils with particular attention to hydric, prime farmland, and soils of statewide significance.
5. Elevation, aspect and slope including rock outcrops, steep slopes of 10% to 15% and 15% or greater, ridgelines, stone walls, and unique geologic features.
6. Cultural resources including locally significant as well as State and National historic sites, buildings, and districts; scenic resources; recreation resources; agricultural districts; active farmland; and lands conserved through public ownership or private conservation restrictions.

D. Applicability. Use of the NRI for all planning board review processes. Each application shall contain a conservation analysis, consisting of inventory maps, description of the land, and an analysis of the conservation value of various site features identified from the NRI. The conservation analysis shall show lands with conservation value, including but not limited to: Land exhibiting recreational, historic, ecological, water resource, scenic or other natural resource value, as shown in the NRI.

E. Interpretation. This Local Law regarding the NRI shall be deemed an exercise of the powers of the Town of Roseboom to preserve and improve the quality of the physical and visual environment on behalf of the present and future inhabitants thereof. This Local Law is not intended and shall not be deemed to impair the powers of any other public corporation.

F. Definitions. Except as defined herein, all words used in this Local Law shall carry their everyday dictionary definition. Unique terms

Natural Resources Inventory. Any area characterized by natural scenic beauty or, whose existing openness, natural condition or present state of use, if preserved, would enhance the present or potential value of abutting or surrounding development or would establish a desirable pattern of development or would offer substantial conformance with the planning objectives of the town or would maintain or enhance the conservation of natural or scenic resources.

It is the intent of the Town of Roseboom to maintain the NRI as a dynamic resource base, and to update the information contained within it on an on-going basis, to ensure accuracy, as new data becomes available.

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing in the office of the Secretary of State of New York as provided by law.

Adopted this 4th day of November 2021. I hereby certify that the foregoing Local Law was duly adopted by the Town of Roseboom at a Town Board meeting on the 4th day of November 2021.

Name: Erin Seeley

Title: Town Clerk

Signature: - Erin Seeley

Date: 11/4/2021

Town Seal: