RESOLUTION ADOPTING INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT AS THE TOWNSHIP'S PEST MANAGEMENT POLICY

April 21, 2009

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Township Council of the Township of Montclair to promote matters which benefit the health, welfare, comfort and safety of the citizens of the community, and

WHEREAS, scientific studies associate exposure to pesticides with various health problems, and

WHEREAS, infants, children, pregnant women, the elderly, and people with compromised immune systems and chemical sensitivities are especially vulnerable to pesticide effects and exposure, and

WHEREAS, lawn pesticides can be harmful to pets, wildlife, soil microbiology, plants, and natural ecosystems, and

WHEREAS, rain and melting snow cause lawn pesticides to runoff with stormwater into our storm drains, emptying as untreated effluent into Toney's Brook, Nishuane Brook, Yantecaw Brook, Pearl Brook and the other local streams and drinking water sources, until these waterways eventually flow into the Passaic River, which drains into Newark Bay and the Atlantic Ocean, and

WHEREAS, Integrated Pest Management is the coordinated use of pest and environmental information and all available pest control methods (sanitation, mechanical, biological and "least toxic" chemical) to prevent unacceptable levels of pest damage by the most economical means with the least possible hazard to people, property and the environment, and

WHEREAS, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) has been investigated and considered by the Montclair Environmental Commission, and they have recommended IPM as the most desirable and appropriate policy in order to reduce or eliminate the use of pesticides, and

WHEREAS, the Township of Montclair does maintain public properties at which pest management issues are an ongoing concern, and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have determined that it is in the best interest of the health, welfare, comfort and safety of the Township's citizens to adopt Integrated Pest Management as the Township's pest management policy,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of Montclair that Integrated Pest Management is hereby adopted as the pest control policy and strategy to be employed in the maintenance of the Township's public properties and facilities, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Montclair encourages all citizens to make every effort to participate in this endeavor on their own property, and that the Township will designate certain public properties such as community parks as "Pesticide Free Zones". These areas will be posted with a sign indicating that chemical pesticides have not been applied at the site.