



TOWN OF PENFIELD

3100 Atlantic Avenue, Penfield, NY 14526-9798

Dear Supervisor Drawe,

May 17, 2023

The Town of Penfield Parks Department, Engineering Department and Department of Public Works joined with Healthy Yards Monroe to reevaluate the Town's mowing programs. After much collaboration, it was deemed appropriate for the Town to test a "Smart Mowing" program for some municipal properties. This program aims to protect the wildlife in the region, especially the pollinators and birds, while preserving the natural resources of our community.

The "Smart Mowing" program will consist of the Town limiting their mowing of meadowland to once every 2-3 years. The Town will launch the program in the southern portion of Shadow Pines, and based on the results seen, may apply the same standards to other applicable municipal properties within the Town. This approach will allow some portions of meadowland to overwinter uncut each year while still allowing the Town to maintain the property as a mix of meadowland and woodlands.

The Town hopes to achieve the following goals with the "Smart Mowing" program:

- Promote biodiversity and ecological resilience.
- Reduce soil erosion.
- Provide habitat for wildlife.
- Practice sustainable land management and community stewardship.
- Reduce maintenance costs and environmental impacts.

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Parks Department

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