




August 26, 2025

Native Plant Resolution

Environmental Advisory Board



Background

- The Native Plant Resolution was unanimously readopted at the July 17th, 2025 EAB meeting by all present members of the current Apex Environmental Advisory Board.
 - The resolution is based on former Governor Cooper's Executive Order No. 305 issued on Feb 12th, 2024.
 - EAB is asking that Town Council instruct the Town of Apex Staff to make such modifications as necessary to the Unified Development Ordinance to incorporate the Native Plant Resolution and associated definitions promulgated in Executive Order No. 305.
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Governor Cooper's Executive Order 305

An Order to Protect and Restore North Carolina's Critical Natural and Working Lands

- **Not** rescinded by Governor Stein
- Section 6 - Native Plant Policy
 - Supports native biodiversity and pollinators.
 - Governs landscaping practices on state owned lands or for state-funded or state-permitted projects and activities.
 - Only seeds and plants that the USDA has classified as native to the state or Southeastern United States shall be used.
 - With exemptions – turf grass areas (outfield of baseball/softball diamonds).
 - **"Local governments are encouraged to adopt similar native plant policies."**



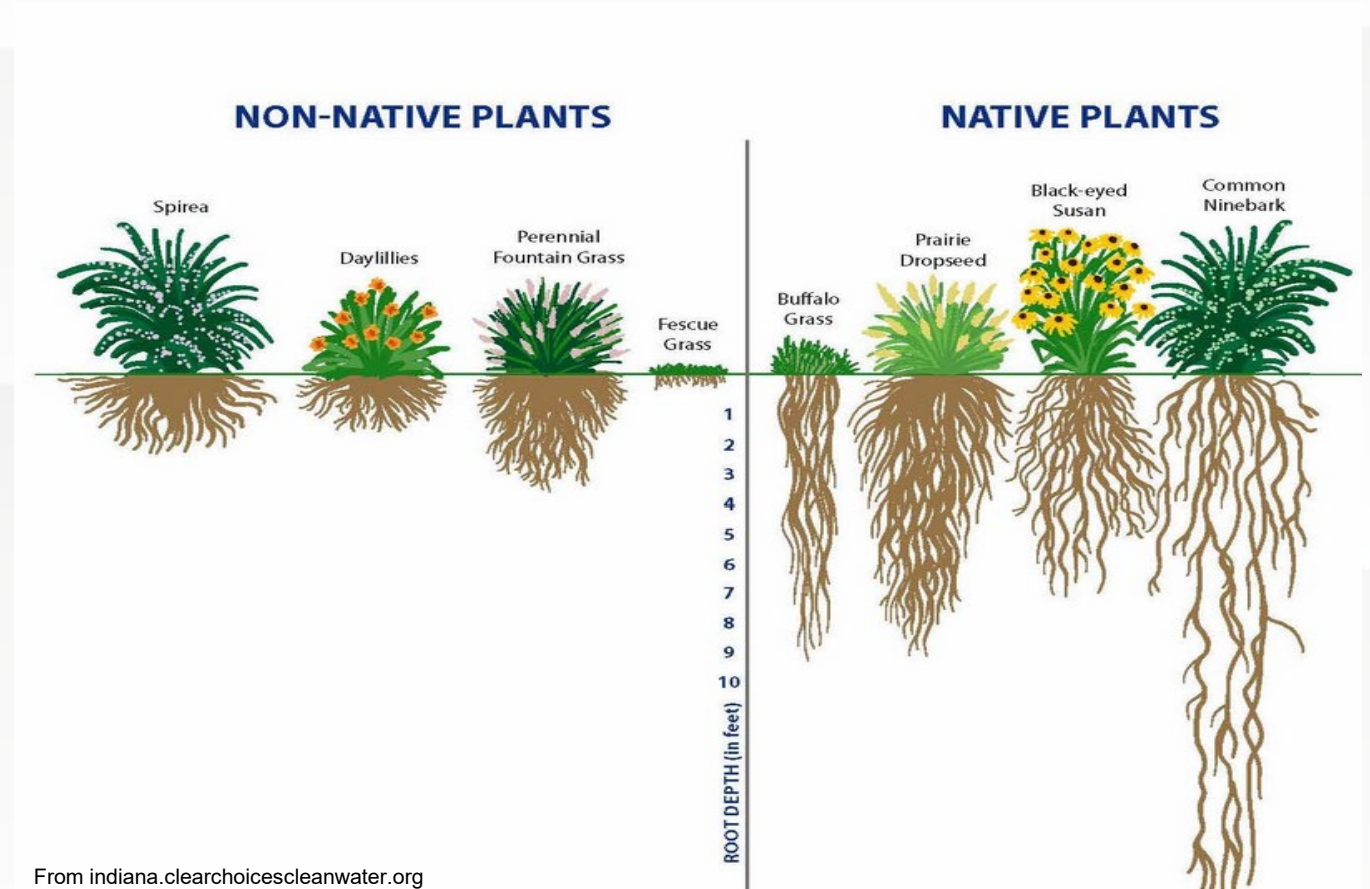
Benefits to the Town

- Leader in supporting pollinators and biodiversity
 - Supportive of Bee City and Tree City designation goals and Mayor's Monarch Pledge requirements
- Leader in stewardship of Town owned or managed properties
 - Parks, Town campus, cemetery, public works campus, fire stations, police station
 - Rights-of-way, streetscaping on Salem
- Lead by example
 - Demonstrate what is possible to individuals, commercial establishments, developers, other municipalities



Additional Benefits

- Easy to grow, minimal maintenance
- Increase beauty and property values
- Improve water infiltration and reduce soil compaction
- Reduce overall town maintenance costs



Implementation

- The Apex Environmental Advisory Board commits to provide such assistance to the Town of Apex Staff as may be necessary to effect the necessary changes to the Unified Development Ordinance.





Questions?