

# 2019 Adopt an Island Guidelines

The Adopt-an-Island Program was instituted by the Town of Swampscott to beautify the roads in and leading into Swampscott. The adoption period is for one (1) year with a renewal option at the end of that time. Renewal will be subject to DPW approval. Upon adoption, financial responsibility for the upkeep of the island, **including perennials, shrubs, watering and maintenance** will be solely that of the adopter additionally, The Town asks that all participants in the Program agree to plant and maintain their designated island in compliance with the following conditions:

1. Island plantings shall be completed by Memorial Day/May 27, 2019 and shall be maintained through First Frost.
2. Design of the island shall use **only** natural plant material (trees, shrubs, annuals, perennials, mulch, etc.) unless otherwise authorized by the Program Coordinator.
3. Locations where visibility is not a concern are encouraged to plant a variety of perennials, annuals, shrubs and trees for greater interest. Where visibility may be hindered by taller plantings, the height of plants should not exceed 30 inches to avoid impeding visibility for vehicles.
4. Islands shall be kept free of weeds and litter.
5. Plants that die during the course of the summer shall be replaced.
6. Signage permitted as specified in Article 30: Town of Swampscott. Any signage deviating from these guidelines will be removed by the Town.
9. Remove debris at the end of the season and as needed during the terms of this agreement.
10. Perform work on public spaces in daylight and in good weather.
11. Ensure adequate supervision for each participant under the age of seventeen (17).
12. The town reserved the right to terminate the adoption agreement at will should the terms or spirit of the program be knowingly or unknowingly violated. Sponsors will be contacted if their island is out of compliance and will be given 30 days to remediate.

13. In implementing the new Adopt-an-Island program, the Town recognizes the significant benefits of establishing and protecting appropriate native vegetation and, therefore, the necessity to maximize the use of appropriate native vegetation in all public landscaped areas, including traffic islands, within the Town. Lists of native plants appropriate for traffic island is attached.

Conversely, invasive plants should never be used. A list of invasive species can be found at: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/massachusetts-prohibited-plant-list>

There are many benefits of using native plants including: Conserving scarce water resources by promoting water-efficient landscaping as native plants, once established, typically require much less water than other species; reducing the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides to maintain landscaping; reducing the financial costs of landscape maintenance; and attracting a variety of birds, butterflies, and other wildlife by providing diverse habitats and food sources. The Adopt-an-Island program promotes the use of native plants.

As stated above, the intent of the Adopt-an-Island Program is to beautify Swampscott. Please be advised, therefore, that the Town reserves the right to assign islands that are not maintained to another sponsor. Thank you for your participation in the Adopt-an Island Program.

Please keep this page of conditions and refer to it as necessary during the planting of your assigned island. Thank you for your participation in the Adopt-an-Island Program. Renewal applicants receive priority, followed by new applicants.

If you have any questions or require additional information please do not hesitate to contact the Director of Public Works, Gino Cresta Jr. at the above number. **Please notify the DPW office if you do not wish to participate any longer @ (781) 596-8860**



### Traffic Island and Sidewalk Plantings

There are many benefits of using native plants including: Conserving scarce water resources by promoting water-efficient landscaping as native plants, once established, typically require much less water than other species; reducing the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides to maintain landscaping; reducing the financial costs of landscape maintenance; and attracting a variety of birds, butterflies, and other wildlife by providing diverse habitats and food sources. The following lists are suggestions of native plants that can withstand the unique risks that can impact plants growing in this environment including: pedestrian foot traffic, trash, dog waste, piles of snow, road salt, vehicle exhaust, compacted soil and drought.

Herbaceous Perennials	Trees	Ground Cover	Shrubs
Butterfly milkweed ( <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> )	Redbud ( <i>Cercis canadensis</i> )	Rock phlox ( <i>Phlox subulata</i> )	American beautyberry ( <i>Callicarpa americana</i> )
Common milkweed ( <i>Asclepias syriaca</i> )	Serviceberry ( <i>Amelanchier</i> )	Wild strawberry ( <i>Fragaria virginiana</i> )	Dwarf serviceberry ( <i>Amelanchier spicata</i> )
Yarrow ( <i>Achillea millefolium</i> )	Winterberry ( <i>Ilex verticillata</i> )	Bearberry ( <i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i> )	Evergreen winterberry ( <i>Ilex glabra</i> )
Bee Balm ( <i>Monarda didyma</i> , <i>Monarda fistulosa</i> , <i>Monarda punctata</i> )	Red Maple ( <i>Acer rubrum</i> )	Three-toothed cinquefoil ( <i>Sibbaldiopsis tridentata</i> )	Virginia rose ( <i>Rosa virginiana</i> )
Blazing star ( <i>Liatris novae-angliae</i> , <i>Liatris spicata</i> )	Common Hackberry ( <i>Celtis occidentalis</i> )	Canada anemone ( <i>Anemone canadensis</i> )	New Jersey Tea ( <i>Ceanothus americanus</i> )
Yellow false indigo ( <i>Baptisia tinctoria</i> )	Pagoda dogwood ( <i>Cornus alternifolia</i> )	Dwarf sand plum ( <i>Prunus pumila</i> )	Bayberry ( <i>Morella caroliniensis</i> )
Bellflower ( <i>Campanula rotundifolia</i> )	Basswood ( <i>Tilia americana</i> )		Sweetfern ( <i>Comptonia peregrina</i> )
Purple lovegrass ( <i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i> )	Winged sumac ( <i>Rhus copallinum</i> )		Carolina rose ( <i>Rosa carolina</i> )
Flax-leaved bristly aster ( <i>Ionactis linariifolia</i> )	Sassafras ( <i>Sassafras albidum</i> )		Bush honeysuckle ( <i>Diervilla lonicera</i> )
Sundial lupine ( <i>Lupinus perennis</i> )			White meadowsweet ( <i>Spirea alba</i> )
Black-eyed susan ( <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> )			Beach plum ( <i>Prunus maritima</i> )
Little blue-stem grass ( <i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> )			
Purple coneflower ( <i>Echinacea purpurea</i> )			
Goldenrod ( <i>Solidago odora</i> , <i>Solidago puberula</i> , <i>Solidago canadensis</i> )			
Birdfoot violet			

(Viola pedata)			
Wood lily (Lilium philadelphicum)			
Foxglove beardtongue (Penstemon digitalis)			
Narrow-leaved mountain-mint (Pycnanthemum tenuifolium)			
Sneezeweed (Helenium autumnale, Helenium flexuosum)			
Phlox (Phlox paniculata)			
Woodland sunflower (Helianthus divaricatus)			