

Topic:	Local Boards; Natural Resource Protection & Conservation; Local Environmental Law Regulations
Resource Type:	
State:	New York
Jurisdiction Type:	Municipal
Municipality:	Village of Irvington
Year (adopted, written, etc.):	Unknown
Community Type - applicable to:	Suburban; Rural
Title:	Village of Irvington Environmental Conservation Board Ordinance
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Abstract

The Environmental Conservation Board section of the Irvington Code establishes the Irvington Environmental Conservation Board (ECB), which consists of up to nine members appointed by the Village Board to serve for terms of two years, two members of which may be selected from the sixteen to twenty-one year old age group. The ECB will work to increase resources and public programs concerning the preservation, development and use of the natural resources, features, and conditions of the Village of Irvington insofar as beauty, quality, biologic integrity, and other environmental factors are concerned. Additionally, the ECB will conduct studies, surveys and inventories of the natural resources within the Village and maintain an up-to-date inventory or index of all open spaces in public or private ownership within the Village.

Resource

Village of Irvington NY Environmental Conservation Board
Code of the Village of Irvington NY
Chapter 22: Environmental Conservation Board

§ 22-1. Legislative intent.

The preservation and improvement of the quality of the natural resources within the Village of Irvington in the face of population growth, urbanization and technological change, with their accompanying demands on natural resources, are found to be of increasing and vital importance to the health, welfare and economic well-being of present and future inhabitants and require forthright action by the governing body of the Village of Irvington. It is recognized that the biologic integrity of the natural environment on which man is dependent for survival and the natural and functional beauty of our surroundings which condition the quality of our life experience cannot be protected without the full cooperation and participation of all the people of the village working in partnership with

local and state officials and with various public and private institutions, agencies and organizations. Establishment of a board for conservation, development, management and protection of the natural resources is a necessary step in fostering unified action on conservation problems.

§ 22-2. Board established.

The Board of Trustees (the "Board") hereby redesignates the Irvington Conservation Advisory Council as a conservation board which shall be known as the "Irvington Environmental Conservation Board," hereinafter called the "ECB."

§ 22-3. Membership.

A. The ECB shall consist of up to nine members, all of whom shall be appointed by the Board and who shall serve at the pleasure of the Board for terms of two years, and the remainder shall be ex officio members as provided herein. Persons residing within the Village of Irvington who are interested in the improvement and preservation of natural resources shall be eligible for appointment as members of the ECB.

(1) The members of the Irvington Conservation Advisory Council serving on the effective date of this amendment shall continue as the members of the ECB.

(2) Two members may be appointed in the sixteen-to-twenty-one-year-old age group.

B. Vacancies on the ECB shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment except that a vacancy occurring other than by the expiration of a term of office shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term only.

C. A member of the Board, the Chairman of the Planning Board, the Village Attorney and other officials who may be hereafter designated by the Board shall be ex officio members of the ECB.

§ 22-4. Officers; records.

The Board shall designate a member of the ECB to act as Chairman thereof. At the first meeting of the ECB, its members shall elect from among themselves a Recording Secretary. The ECB shall adopt rules and procedures for its meetings. It shall keep accurate records of its meetings and activities and file an annual report as provided in § 22-6 hereof.

§ 22-5. Powers and duties.

The powers and duties of the ECB shall be to:

A. Advise the Board on matters affecting the preservation, development and use of the natural resources, features and conditions of the Village of Irvington insofar as beauty, quality, biologic integrity and other environmental factors are concerned.

B. Develop and, after receiving general approval by resolution of the Board, conduct a program of public information in the community which shall be designed to foster increased understanding of the natural resources of the village and to aid in their preservation.

C. Conduct studies, surveys and inventories of the natural resources within the Village of Irvington and such other studies and surveys as may be necessary to carry out the general purposes hereof.

D. Maintain an up-to-date inventory or index of all open spaces in public or private ownership within the village, including but not limited to natural landmarks, glacial and other geomorphic or physiographic features; streams and their floodplains, swamps, marshlands and other wetlands; unique biotic communities; scenic and other open areas of natural or ecological value; and of the ownership, present use and proposed use of such open areas so as to provide a base of information for recommendations by the ECB for their preservation and/or use.

E. Seek to coordinate, assist and unify the efforts of private groups, institutions and individuals within the Village of Irvington in accord with the purposes hereof.

F. Maintain liaison and communications with public and private agencies and organizations of local, state and national scope whose programs and activities have impact on natural resources or who can be of assistance to the ECB.

G. Work in cooperation with the Planning Board, recommend from time to time to the Board features, plans and programs relating to natural resources for inclusion in the Master Plan of the Village of Irvington and, similarly, recommend to the Board appropriate and desirable changes in existing local laws and ordinances relating to natural resources or recommend new local laws and ordinances.

H. Prepare, print and distribute books, maps, charts and pamphlets in accord with the purposes hereof.

I. Obtain and maintain in orderly fashion maps, reports, books and other publications to support the necessary researches of the ECB into local natural resources.

J. When authorized by resolution of the Board, accept by gift, grant, devise, bequest or otherwise such property, both real and personal, in the name of the Village of Irvington, as may be necessary to conserve and otherwise properly utilize open spaces and other land and water resources within the boundaries of the Village of Irvington. Such real property may be accepted in fee for land and water rights, or as any lesser interest, development right, easement, including conservation easement, covenant or other contractual right, including conveyance with limitations or reversions. If a purchase is involved, the power to make such purchase, by negotiation or condemnation, is vested in the Board. Purchases may be effected in accordance with the provisions of existing laws as applicable to the village.

K. Review each application received by the Board, the Building Inspector, Board of Appeals, Planning Board or any other administrative body of the Village of Irvington, which seeks approval for the use or development of any open area listed in the open space index of the village (the "index"). The ECB shall submit a written report to the referral body within 30 days of receipt of such application. Such report shall evaluate the proposed use or development of the open area in terms of the open area planning objectives of the Village of Irvington and shall include the effect of such use or development on the index. The report shall make recommendations as to the most appropriate use or development of the open area and may include preferable alternative-use proposals consistent with open areas conservation. A copy of every report shall be filed with the Board.

L. Make available for public inspection at the office of the ECB copies of all such reports of the ECB.

M. Notify the Department of Environmental Conservation of the State of New York (the "Department") of its creation within 30 days of July 19, 1976.

N. Periodically recommend to the Board revisions of the index.

O. Where, in its opinion, desirable, request the assistance of the Department in the preparation of any report.

P. Carry out such other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the Board.

§ 22-6. Reports.

The ECB shall submit an annual report to the Board not later than the 31st day of December of each year concerning the activities and work of the ECB and from time to time shall submit such reports and recommendations as may be requested or necessary to fulfill the purposes hereof.

§ 22-7. Compensation; expenses.

The members of the ECB, including ex officio members, shall receive no compensation for their services as members thereof but may be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties within the appropriations made available therefor.

§ 22-8. Construction of provisions.

The enactment hereof as a local law shall be deemed an exercise of the powers of the Board under § 239-x and 239-y of the General Municipal Law to preserve and improve the quality of the natural resources on behalf of the present and future inhabitants thereof, and is not intended and shall not be deemed to impair the powers of any other public corporation.