

Topic:	Local Boards; Local Environmental Law; Natural Resource Preservation & Conservation
Resource Type:	Regulations
State:	New York
Jurisdiction Type:	Municipal
Municipality:	Town of Malta
Year (adopted, written, etc.):	1973
Community Type - applicable to:	Suburban; Rural
Title:	Town of Malta Environmental Board Ordinance
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Abstract

The legislature's intent in drafting Chapter 8 of the Town Code for the Town of Malta is to preserve and improve the quality of the natural and man-made environment within the Town. This has become more challenging in the face of population growth, urbanization, and technological change and its effect on the environment all of which impact the health, welfare and economic well-being of present and future inhabitants of the Town. Chapter 8 creates an Environmental Board which is charged with seeing that these goals are pursued.

Resource

Town of Malta NY Environmental Board
Code of the Town of Malta NY
Chapter 8: Environmental Board
Note: E.B. is same as CAC
General Code

[HISTORY: Adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Malta 7-3-1973 as L.L. No. 1-1973. Amendments noted where applicable.]

§ 8-1. Legislative intent.

The preservation and improvement of the quality of the natural man-made environment within the Town of Malta, in the face of population growth, urbanization and technologic 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 to require forthright action by the governing body of the Town of Malta. 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 town working in partnership with local and state officials and with various public and private institutions, agencies and organizations. Establishment of an Environmental Board* is a necessary step in fostering unified action on environmental problems. (*NOTE: The Environmental Board is to be the same as the Conservation Advisory Council

§ 8-2. Establishment.

The Town Board of the Town of Malta hereby creates an advisory commission which shall be known as the "Environmental Board of the Town of Malta," hereinafter called the "Board."

§ 8-3. Membership; eligibility; vacancies.

- A. The Board shall consist of not fewer than three (3) members nor more than nine (9) members, who shall be appointed by the Town Board and who shall serve at the pleasure of the Town Board for a period of one (1) year, with such terms to expire on December 31 of such year.
- B. Persons residing within the Town of Malta who are interested in the improvement and preservation of environmental quality shall be eligible for appointment as members of the Board; however, no more than two (2) members of the Board may be between the ages of sixteen (16) and twenty-one (21) years of age.
- C. Vacancies on the Board shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment, except that a vacancy occurring other than by the expiration of term of office shall be filled only for the remainder of the unexpired term.

§ 8-4. Officers; meetings.

The Town Board shall designate a member of the Board to act as Chairman thereof. At the first meeting of the Board, its members shall elect from among themselves a Recording Secretary. The Board shall adopt rules and procedures for its meetings. It shall keep accurate records of its meetings and activities and shall file an annual report as provided in § 8-5 of this chapter.

§ 8-5. Powers and duties.

The powers and duties of the Board shall be to:

- A. Conduct research into the land area of the town.

- B. Seek to coordinate the activities of unofficial bodies organized for similar purposes and to cooperate with other official municipal bodies active in the area of community planning for the town.
- C. Advertise, prepare, print and distribute books, maps, charts, plans and pamphlets which, in its judgment, it deems necessary for its work; however, such expenditures shall be within the Board budgetary appropriation as approved by the Town Board.
- D. Keep an inventory and map, as defined in § 239-y of the General Municipal Law, of all open areas within the town with the plan of obtaining information pertinent to proper utilization of such open lands, including lands owned by the state, any other municipality within the state or by the Town of Malta.
- E. Keep an inventory and map of all open marshlands, swamps and all other wetlands in a like manner; and it may recommend to the Town Board a program for ecologically suitable utilization of all such areas.
- F. Keep accurate records of its meetings and actions and to file an annual report with the Town Board of Malta on or before the 31st day of December of each and every year. Once approved, the Town Board shall forward a copy of this report to the State Commissioner of Environmental Conservation.
- G. In addition to the foregoing, carry out any other duties, tasks or responsibilities, consistent with the objectives of this chapter, assigned to it by resolution of the Town Board of Malta.
- H. Accept by gift, grant, bequest or otherwise money or other personal property in the name of the town; and the Board may advise the Town Board as to acquisition of real and personal property.

§ 8-6. Assistance.

To assist the Board in carrying out its functions, powers and duties, it may request the Department of Environmental Conservation to:

- A. Prepare reports outlining objectives, priorities and proposed relationships of the Board to the local legislative body.
- B. Prepare a description of work to be undertaken, advantageous techniques to be used and suggested roles of Board members.

- C. Provide research on conservation facts and procedures.
- D. Provide, on a consulting basis, technical and research assistance as may be required to assist the Board in carrying out its work and to enable the Board to offer recommendations to the local legislative body.
- E. Describe particular areas of natural resources within the city, town or village, as the case may be, which require particular attention by the Board.

§ 8-7. Compensation and expenses.

The members of the Board 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.

§ 8-8. Interpretation.

This chapter shall be deemed an exercise of the powers of the Town of Malta to preserve and improve the quality of the natural and man-made environment on behalf of the present and future inhabitants thereof. This chapter is not intended and shall not be deemed to impair the powers of any other public corporation.