

RESOLUTION 2026/20

A RESOLUTION TO USE ORGANICS-FIRST INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND STANDARDS TO PRIORITIZE THE USE OF PREVENTION-BASED, LEAST TOXIC, ORGANIC PRACTICES AND REDUCE THE USE OF SYNTHETIC PESTICIDES FOR PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT WHERE POSSIBLE

WHEREAS, Beaufort County's public lands, parks, and waterways are shared community assets. Routine synthetic pesticide and herbicide applications can create avoidable exposure pathways for residents, workers, and wildlife, and increase stormwater and watershed risks. The use of organic practices can help create and maintain healthy landscapes and ecosystems while reducing chemical dependence; and

WHEREAS, Beaufort County has an opportunity to be good stewards of the natural resources with which the Palmetto State has been blessed by implementing land management practices that prioritize the use of organics-first integrated pest management that is an organic approach to managing pests and invasive plants in order to sustain healthier ecosystems and natural habitats across our communities' public spaces, benefitting public health, flora, and fauna; and

WHEREAS, by implementing organics-first integrated pest management practices where possible, county public entities can promote models of land stewardship that encourage the protection of waterways, wetlands, and stormwater infrastructure by reducing routine synthetic pesticide use that drives runoff and drift, and by modernizing roadside and public lands management with lower-risk proven alternatives, such as organic applications, native habitat, and targeted controls. Now, therefore,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY BEAUFORT COUNTY COUNCIL, in a meeting duly assembled, would endeavor to prioritize the use of prevention-based, least toxic, organic practices and reduce the use of synthetic pesticides for public land management where possible.

Council hereby approves the Memorandum of Agreement regarding the Beaufort County Pilot Compost Program between the County, the City, and Oliver's Clean Burn.

ADOPTED, this 26th day of May 2026.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BEAUFORT COUNTY

BY: Alice G. Howard
Alice G. Howard, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sarah W. Brock
Sarah W. Brock, Clerk to Council