

Warren County Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION NO. 423 OF 2019

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY SUPERVISORS BRAYMER, SIMPSON, STROUGH, DICKINSON, MCDEVITT, MERLINO, LOEB, HOGAN AND HYDE

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PROTECTION OF ALL WARREN COUNTY'S WATER RESOURCES

WHEREAS, Warren County has an array of fresh water lakes, waters and watersheds that constitute valuable assets for drinking water, recreation, tourism, flood control, fishing, and community health, as well as essential habitat for plants and animals, and

WHEREAS, the enormous economic value of fresh waters in the County only appreciates as the needs for and pressures on these resources increase, and

WHEREAS, growing scientific documentation presents incontrovertible evidence of mounting threats and impacts on the County's fresh water lakes, waters, and their associated watersheds, and

WHEREAS, sources of these threats and impacts commonly include inadequate wastewater and stormwater controls, introduction and spread of aquatic and terrestrial invasive species, excessive use of road salt and warming from climate change, and

WHEREAS, these sources have the potential to decrease the quality of the County's fresh water resources and their natural resilience to change, and

WHEREAS, such declines in water quality can lead to negative impacts that cause substantial economic, environmental, public health and community costs, and

WHEREAS, Warren County seeks to develop and implement successful programs for stopping and reversing water quality declines, and

WHEREAS, the effectiveness of programs to stem the decline of fresh waters has been shown to be substantially strengthened through their application by watershed boundaries rather than political boundaries, and

WHEREAS, natural watersheds encompass comprehensive inputs to and influences on a waterbody, including streams and seepages, stormwater runoff, leaching from municipal and onsite wastewater treatment, weather and more, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Warren County Board of Supervisors hereby adopts the goal of ensuring that all of our lakes, waters, and watersheds are protected and that water quality is continually protected, restored, and improved, and be it further

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RESOLVED, that Warren County is dedicated to solving the problems threatening water quality with particular emphasis on improving wastewater and stormwater controls, stopping the introduction and spread of aquatic and terrestrial invasive species, reducing the use of excessive road salt, educating residents and visitors of their role in fresh water protection, and thus increasing resilience to climate change, and be it further

RESOLVED, that County-wide solutions to identify problems threatening water quality will be generated and implemented more effectively with support from Warren County, and be it further

RESOLVED, that development and implementation of solutions will be guided by best available science, water and watershed management experience, technology and analytics as being applied at and beyond the waters of Warren County, and be it further

RESOLVED, that natural watershed boundaries will frame the execution of measures to be implemented to ensure maximum effectiveness in protecting and/or restoring the waters and watersheds of Warren County, and be it further

RESOLED, that implementation of any County-funded measures dedicated to protecting the County's waters and watersheds will be monitored by best available technologies and practices to assess their effectiveness in reducing sources of water quality declines, and be it further

RESOLVED, that Warren County will work with State and Federal agencies and officials and will seek State and Federal funding to the extent possible and appropriate to accomplish the County's goal of clean waters throughout the County.