

**Borough of Matawan**  
**Code Book**  
**Chapter 2 – Administration**  
**Section 2-33 – Environmental Commission**

**2-33 ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION.**

**Editor's Note:** N.J.S.A. 40:56A-1 et seq. contains additional provisions for Environmental Commission.

**2-33.1 Establishment: Appointment of Members.**

There is established an Environmental Commission which shall consist of seven (7) members who shall be appointed by the Mayor for a term of three (3) years, except that those first appointed shall be on a staggered basis. All members of the Commission shall be residents of the Borough and one (1) member shall be a member of the Planning Board. All appointments to fill vacancies shall be for the unexpired term only. Members of the Commission shall serve without pay. (1971 Code § 2-21.1; New)

**2-33.2 Chairman.**

The Mayor shall appoint one (1) member of the Commission to serve as Chairman and Presiding Officer. (1971 Code § 2-21.2)

**2-33.3 Purpose of Commission.**

The Commission is established for the protection, development and use of natural resources, including water resources located within the Borough. (1971 Code § 2-21.3)

**2-33.4 Vacancies.**

A vacancy occurring other than by expiration of a term shall be filled for the unexpired term only. The Mayor or Borough Council may remove any member of the Commission for cause, on written charges served upon the member and after a hearing thereon at which the member shall be entitled to be heard in person or by counsel. (1971 Code § 2-21.4)

**2-33.5 Powers and Duties.**

The Commission shall have the following powers and duties:

a. Subject to the prior approval of the Unified Planning Board and Council, the Commission may acquire property, both real and personal, in the name of the Borough, by gift, purchase, grant, bequest, devise or lease, for any of the purposes of the Commission and it shall administer the same for such easement (including conservation easement), covenant or other contractual right (including a conveyance on conditions) as may be necessary to acquire, maintain, improve, protect, limit the future use of, or otherwise conserve and properly utilize open spaces and other land and water areas in the Borough.

- b. Conduct research into the use and possible use of the open land areas of the Borough.
- c. To advertise, prepare, print and distribute books, maps, charts, plans and pamphlets, which in its judgment it deems necessary for its purposes, within the limits of funds appropriated to the Commission.
- d. To coordinate the activities of unofficial bodies organized for similar purposes.
- e. Keep an index of all open areas, publicly and privately owned, including open marsh lands, swamps, and other wetlands, and to obtain information on the proper use of such areas.
- f. Recommend from time to time to the Unified Planning Board, plans and programs for inclusion in the Master Plan of the Borough for development and use of such areas.
- g. To do such other acts and things as are reasonably related to and designed to carry out the purposes and objectives of the Commission, including without limitation, the appointment and payment of such clerks and other employees of the Commission which may be required within the limits of the funds appropriated to the Commission.
- h. Keep records of the meetings and activities of the Commission and make an annual report to the Borough Council.  
(1971 Code § 2-21.5)

#### **2-33.6 Associate Members.**

The Environmental Commission may, by majority vote, invite participation by associate members of at least five (5) associate members of the Commission, who will be appointed by the Commission for a term of one (1) year as associate members. The associate members shall be residents of the Borough of Matawan. Associate members shall serve without compensation. Associate members shall, as much as possible, consist of educators, students; representative of environmental organizations, historians, scientists, and business representatives. Associate members may participate in all of the deliberations of the Commission, but shall not be voting members of the Commission and shall not represent the Commission before Mayor and Council or before any other public body. Associate members may participate in all of the proceeding of the Environmental Commission. Their terms as associate members are from January 1 to December 31 of the year of their appointment. The Environmental Commission reserves the exclusive right to not reappoint any associate members. A majority vote of the members of the Environmental Commission, shall at the organization meeting of the Commission in January of any year, confirm the appointment of associate members at the reorganization meeting. The appointment of associate members to the Environmental Commission shall follow the appointment and reorganization of members of the Environmental Commission. (Ord. No. 06-21)