

Jack Millerick, Chairman

Radnor Shade Tree Commission

1/23/2018

Radnor Board of Commissioners

President

Radnor Township

Subject: Proposed Bamboo Ordinance for Radnor Township

Dear Radnor Board of Commissioners:

In 2017 The Shade Tree Commission was given a proposed Bamboo Ordinance (2016-14) (for Radnor Township) to consider and make recommendations. We formed a sub-committee to look at the proposal. During the same general time frame we received input from the Radnor Conservancy and our own Environmental Action Committee which we took into consideration.

After careful consideration we decided to make one major change to the proposed ordinance. The proposal sent to us allowed for new planting of bamboo. The restrictions proposed were highly complex and convoluted. These restrictions would, in our opinion, be difficult (if not impossible) for the township to effectively enforce. While we are sensitive to the rights of property owners, in our judgement, the downside to the environmental damage of Bamboo, the extreme difficulty in its eradication, the costs and drain to the Township greatly outweigh its upside as a landscape asset within the Township.

Both the Radnor Conservancy and our EAC recommended that our ordinance ban the planting of new bamboo in the township. This is the favored position of many communities facing the threat of invasive bamboo overrunning large swaths of their communities. Radnor has many areas where bamboo is taking over. While the impact may not seem overwhelming to the casual observer, those who know how difficult and expensive bamboo eradication is realize we already have a serious problem. The existing problem will be a challenge to our enforcement officers from the very start.

We request you approve the revised ordinance with a total prohibition on planting new bamboo in Radnor Township.

Sincerely,

Radnor Shade Tree commission

Your Name

Subject: Insertion into Ordinance 2016-14

Please place the following insertion into the proposed Bamboo ordinance. This insertion is to replace Sections C and D.(pages 2,3) in their entirety.

Revision:

“ C. Prohibition. Upon the effective date of this provision the planting or growing of Bamboo shall be prohibited within the Township. Any person who thereafter plants or grows, or causes to be planted or grown, Bamboo within the Township shall be deemed in violation of this section, and shall be subject to such penalties as are set forth hereunder.”