



## Happy Spring! – More Colors from Less Mowing

Spring is a time to celebrate the resurgence of life. Like many of your lawns, mine is now filled with little yellow and purple blossoms. It is a colorful bonanza completely provided free by nature. The only thing I did was decide not to mow until May, and I also have multiple years of mowed oak leaves sprinkled all over the lawn. When you mow less often, such as once every two weeks, wild flowers will proliferate and your grass will look slightly wilder and more vibrant. Toward this goal, there is an initiative started in the United Kingdom called “No Mow May,” which encourages homeowners not to mow anything in May. Any reduction in mowing helps!

## Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty

As you might remember, our Town signed onto this Treaty last year, which supports a just transition to renewable energy and a focus on keeping fossil fuels in the ground. Just recently, Paris, France signed this treaty, adding to the power and growing influence of this initiative. Individuals such as yourself can also sign this treaty. For a total list of signatories, please visit: <https://bit.ly/3jVby6W>

## Earth Day and Subsequent Related Events

Although Earth Day was April 22, 2022, related events continue into June. This year, Somerset’s observance of Earth Day will be combined with the Town’s Shredding Event on Saturday, June 18. Please mark your calendars—there will be more details to come!

There will be a large UN conference in Stockholm (Stockholm + 50) on June 2-3 to commemorate the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment and celebrate 50 years of global environmental action (<https://bit.ly/3EB4hmn>). The Mother Earth Project has been invited to give a presentation at this event, including displaying 16 parachutes spelling out PEOPLE OVER PROFIT, created a few years ago by two dozen environmental groups in Tacoma, Washington for a climate march. Despite the efforts of the last 50 years, there is still plenty to do to avert the present climate emergency and rising carbon-based emissions, which despite our efforts are projected to continue rising—despite the movement to reduce such emissions by 50% by 2030. Let’s all continue to do our part by reducing our own carbon footprint by recycling, using electric vehicles and renewable electricity (<https://bit.ly/3EB4uWH>), composting and reducing meat consumption and the use of plastic. We must also share our knowledge with others as well as donate to non-profits that are focused on creating a sustainable future.

If you have ideas regarding how our Town can become more sustainable and carbon-free, please reach out to the Environment Committee at: [tos.environmentcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:tos.environmentcommittee@gmail.com).

*Parachute Proposal for the Washington Monument*

