

THURSTON COUNTY

Proclamation

Drinking Water Week May 5-11

WHEREAS, during May 5-11, 2019 we celebrate Drinking Water Week – a national observance that highlights the value of water to each of us in our everyday lives; and

WHEREAS, this year marks the 45th Anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act that forms the core of our efforts to provide quality drinking water and protect the health of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, in Thurston County people are served daily by more than 918 public drinking water systems that provide water from a range of places, including our roadside rest stops, school drinking fountains and home water faucets; and

WHEREAS, each community relies on their water system (whether large or small) to provide a safe and dependable supply of water, both now and in the future; and

WHEREAS, Drinking Water Week recognizes the importance of water source protection and conservation, as well as the value, importance, and fragility of our state's water resources; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Department of Health partners with Thurston County Environmental Health and water system operators to ensure the water delivered to consumers meets federal and state standards which is vital to Thurston County's economy and to the public's health; and

WHEREAS, the tasks facing state drinking water programs and public water systems continue to be extremely challenging – especially in an era of scarce resources; and

WHEREAS, the drinking water infrastructure in many cities is aging and presents daunting resource demands. As a county and a nation, we continue to be challenged by new and emerging drinking water contaminants associated with our industrial society; and

WHEREAS, the health, basic needs, and quality of life of Thurston County's residents depend on an ample supply of safe, quality drinking water; and

WHEREAS, Thurston County, renews its commitment to build on the successes of the past 45 years and to continue to work with all our partners in the water community to fully realize the public health goals of the Safe Drinking Water Act through celebrating Drinking Water Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Health hereby proclaims May 5-11 Drinking Water Week in Thurston County and encourages all citizens to recognize this precious resource and to help protect our waters from pollution, to practice water conservation, to actively support the upkeep of our drinking water infrastructure, to become involved in local water issues, and plan for its efficient use.

Adopted this fourteenth day of May, 2019

BOARD OF HEALTH

