

## EARTH WEEK PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the first Earth Day was celebrated 40 years ago on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1970, being proposed by Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin as an educational day to inspire awareness and appreciation for the Earth's environment; and

WHEREAS, the spirit of that first Earth Day continues to increase public awareness, inspiring individual decisions that reduce environmental impacts in order to ensure a healthy environment for future generations; and

WHEREAS, Chatham County's scenic beauty and natural resources, including Jordan Lake, the Haw, Deep, and Rocky Rivers, its piedmont forests, and rural landscapes are the jewel of central North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Counties can and must make major contributions to safeguarding our scenic beauty and natural resources, and the quality of its water, air, and land through thoughtful land use, transportation planning, solid waste reduction, wastewater treatment, and zoning ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the work done by Chatham County has protected public health and enhanced environmental and farmland protection programs, policies and activities in a manner that is designed to promote equality and afford fair treatment, full access and full protection to all citizens to ensure continued excellence in our quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the stewardship of our resources has afforded economic development opportunities and competitiveness through the "green curriculum" offerings of Central Carolina Community College and the Economic Development Corporation Strategic Plan—leveraging the County's strengths in green technologies, agriculture, and tourism; and


WHEREAS, activities to celebrate Earth Week will provide an impetus for continued commitment to environmental stewardship and our public health and wellbeing by focusing attention on and encouraging personal and community participation through recycling, conserving energy and water, cleaning up streams and lakes, encouraging use of renewable resources, using efficient transportation such as alternative fueled vehicles, adopting sustainable building practices, supporting local agriculture, and promoting other environmentally-responsible personal actions; and

WHEREAS, believing that addressing stewardship of our County's natural resources and environment is central to our county government's mission of preserving the quality of life of our citizens, now and for the future;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners proclaims April 19-23, 2010, as EARTH WEEK in Chatham County and encourages our citizens to include in their daily lives those activities that promote the goals of Earth Week 2010.

Adopted and signed this 19th day of April, 2010,

  
 Sally Kost, Chair, Board of Commissioners

  
 Sandra B. Sublett, CMC  
 Clerk to the Board of Commissioners