

## **P R O C L A M A T I O N**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Alexandria recognizes its natural environment is irreplaceable and fragile, and must be preserved for future generations; and

**WHEREAS**, Earth Day is a national event to increase people's understanding of their environment and mobilize support for its protection and was first celebrated 48 years ago, namely March 1970; and

**WHEREAS**, the Environmental Policy Commission was formed 48 years ago, namely January 1970, to advise the City Council on all matters environmental; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Arbor Day Foundation has recognized the City of Alexandria as a Tree City USA every year since 1983 and by planting a tree every year on Alexandria Earth Day, the City demonstrates the importance of trees as the backbone of our urban habitat and its commitment to the natural environment; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alexandria Earth Day Planning Committee, in partnership with the Environmental Policy Commission, the Department of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities, and the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services, sponsors the twenty-fifth annual Earth Day Celebration at Lenny Harris Memorial Fields, and

**WHEREAS**, Alexandria City Public Schools has been an integral part of an active contributor to the Alexandria Earth Day celebration; and

**WHEREAS**, because of the generous support of Alexandria's business community, nonprofit organizations, and our civic leaders' commitment to the values of environmental stewardship, Earth Day has become Alexandria's premier environmental celebration; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Alexandria, in partnership with the Environmental Policy Commission and Virginia Tech Alexandria Campus, adopted in June 2008 the Eco-City Charter and, in June 2009, the Environmental Action Plan 2030; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Alexandria, in partnership with the Environmental Policy Commission is presently updating the Environmental Action Plan to build upon the achievement of the current plan and to lead the city toward further improving its sustainability performance; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Alexandria recognizes the important role and contribution that each Alexandria resident can do on a daily basis to make the City an Eco-City, which in turn can positively affect our planet, so this year's Earth Day theme will be, "Local Actions-Global Impact."

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, ALLISON SILBERBERG**, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim April 28, 2018 as:

### **"ALEXANDRIA EARTH DAY AND ARBOR DAY"**

in the City of Alexandria and hereby commend all persons who are committed to and work toward preserving our environment.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of April 2018.

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**MAYOR ALLISON SILBERBERG**

On behalf of the City Council  
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

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Gloria A. Sitton, CMC      City Clerk