

**OCTOBER 2007**  
**PROCLAMATION**  
**RECOGNIZING THE 35<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT**

**WHEREAS**, 1972 was the year the nation passed the Clean Water Act, an ambitious piece of legislation designed to improve water quality and protect public health around the nation with an overall goal of making U.S. waters safe for swimming, fishing, and other beneficial uses.

**WHEREAS**, the Clean Water Act is regarded as one of our most important environmental and public health laws and celebrates its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary this October.

**WHEREAS**, the nation's waterways were in a precarious state in 1972 – with polluted beaches and lakes, and, thanks to the Clean Water Act, enormous progress has been made in 35 years with over 60 percent of the nation's waters now being healed to support fishing, swimming, and other uses.

**WHEREAS**, the Clean Water Act has influenced scientifically determined water quality standards, a national discharge permitting system and municipal and industrial standards, requirements for industries and businesses to pretreat and monitor their wastewater, and has driven state and local investment in wastewater infrastructure, and community watershed planning – all in the name of improved water quality.

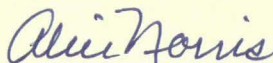
**WHEREAS**, clean water is directly tied to public and environmental health, quality of life, and successful economies, and local government, business, agriculture, and industry have stepped up to change how they operate to reduce pollution in our environment.

**WHEREAS**, here in Oregon City, many homeowners have changed their personal habits by adopting more efficient uses of water, using green landscaping practices, using fewer chemicals and pollutants in gardening, and disposing pet wastes responsibly.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, ALICE NORRIS**, Mayor of Oregon City, Oregon, do hereby proclaim that we:

- Use this occasion to celebrate the major achievements in improving water quality and public health that have resulted from the Clean Water Act;
- Recognize that challenges remain to reduce pollutants in our precious waterways for today's communities and future generations;
- Must continue to adapt our everyday practices and activities to help to keep our local waterways clean, safe, and healthy; and
- Recognize the importance of investments made by our national, state and local communities to preserve the spirit and work of the Clean Water Act for another 35 years.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand this 17<sup>th</sup> day of October 2007.

  
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ALICE NORRIS, Mayor