

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria is historically tied to the Potomac River as a prosperous port city bounded to the north by Four Mile Run and to the south by Cameron Run; and

WHEREAS, the condition of these streams and their tributaries has deteriorated overtime resulting in a need for awareness and stewardship of the drainage areas, commonly referred to as watersheds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria recognized the need to protect and restore the water quality in all watersheds and adopted the Water Quality Management Supplement to the City Master Plan in January 2001; and

WHEREAS, in June 2004, the City of Alexandria furthered its commitments to the Chesapeake Bay Act by delineating and classifying all streams as part of the Phase I Stream Assessment Project with Phase II scheduled for this spring; and

WHEREAS, efforts are currently underway for the lower section of Four Mile Run thanks to Congressman Jim Moran, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Northern Virginia Regional Commission, Arlington County, and the citizens of Arlington and Alexandria who are all presently working together to create a master plan for restoration; and

WHEREAS, a similar partnership agreement was signed in October 2004, between the City of Alexandria, Fairfax County, and the Army Corps of Engineers to conduct a feasibility study for restoration of the Cameron Run/Holmes Run watersheds; and

WHEREAS, City Council is committed to providing resources for education and outreach measures required by the City of Alexandria Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permit issued by the State of Virginia, that includes a revision of the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services', Division of Environmental Quality's website, a Public Service Announcement created by the River Network and sponsored by the City of Alexandria for the local cable access channel, and the installation of several new signs in Four Mile Run Park some sending an important watershed protection message in Spanish; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria provides opportunities to residents, businesses, schools, churches, and organizations to participate in watershed education efforts such as the Livable Neighborhood Water Stewardship Program, Stormdrain Marking Program, and the clean-up of Four Mile Run during the annual Earth Day celebration; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Policy Commission passed a resolution endorsing May as Watershed Awareness Month;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. EUILLE, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, do hereby proclaim May 2005 as:

"WATERSHED AWARENESS MONTH"

in the City of Alexandria and urge all citizens to recognize the importance of this observance and to participate in watershed protection in our community through everyday activities such as identifying the watershed where they live, cleaning up after a pet, reducing the use of fertilizers, disposing of household cleaners and used motor oil at an appropriate facility, rather than down the stormdrain, etc.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 10th day of May 2005.

WILLIAM D. EUILLE MAYOR

*On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia*

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC City Clerk