



**A JOINT PROCLAMATION AND RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING EARTH DAY 2026 IN THE CITY OF GAHANNA, OHIO, AND AFFIRMING THE SHARED RESPONSIBILITY OF PUBLIC LEADERSHIP, COMMUNITY ACTION, AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP**

- WHEREAS, *Earth Day has been observed annually on April 22 since 1970 as a time to recognize the importance of protecting the natural environment and promoting the health, well-being, and future of present and coming generations; and*
- WHEREAS, *EARTHDAY.ORG has designated the 2026 Earth Day theme as "Our Power, Our Planet," emphasizing that environmental progress is sustained not only by governments and institutions, but also by the daily actions of communities, educators, workers, families, and local leaders; and*
- WHEREAS, *many of the environmental and civic challenges facing communities are complex, interconnected, requiring thoughtful public leadership, collaboration across institutions, and shared responsibility among residents, businesses, schools, and local government; and*
- WHEREAS, *the City of Gahanna values the protection and stewardship of its natural resources, including its streams, trees, open spaces, parks, neighborhoods, and public infrastructure, and recognizes that environmental stewardship contributes to the health, resilience, beauty, and quality of life of the community; and*
- WHEREAS, *meaningful local progress is strengthened when residents, schools, businesses, civic organizations, faith communities, and local government work together in a spirit of shared responsibility and care for the place we call home; and*
- WHEREAS, *Earth Day provides an opportunity not only for reflection, but also for renewed commitment to practical actions that strengthen community resilience, environmental awareness, and the long-term well-being of the City of Gahanna.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT JOINTLY PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR AND RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA, COUNTY OF FRANKLIN, STATE OF OHIO, THAT:**

**Section 1.** *The Mayor and City Council hereby recognizes April 22, 2026, as Earth Day in the City of Gahanna and encourages all residents to observe it with a renewed commitment to environmental stewardship and community responsibility.*

**Section 2.** *The Mayor and City Council affirms that building a healthy, resilient, and sustainable community is a shared responsibility that depends upon public leadership, civic participation, community partnership, and the everyday actions of individuals and organizations throughout Gahanna.*

**Section 3.** *In recognition of Earth Day 2026, the Mayor and City Council identifies the following local focus areas for community encouragement over the coming year:*

**A. Tree Canopy and Stewardship**

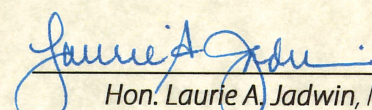
*To encourage awareness of the value of trees in strengthening neighborhood beauty, shade, habitat, and long-term community resilience, and to support efforts related to tree planting, tree care, and urban canopy stewardship within Gahanna*

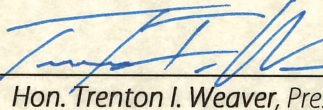
**B. Stream, Watershed, and Neighborhood Stewardship**

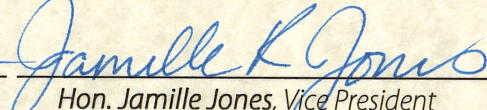
*To encourage public participation in efforts that protect Gahanna's streams, waterways, parks, and neighborhoods through litter reduction, clean-up activities, watershed awareness, and other practical actions that improve environmental quality and community pride.*

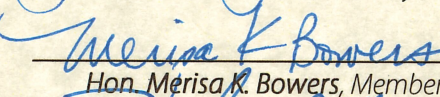
**Section 4.** *The Mayor and City Council encourage residents, schools, businesses, community organizations, and neighborhood groups to participate in activities consistent with these focus areas and to work together in advancing environmental stewardship, watershed awareness, tree canopy, and community pride throughout the community.*

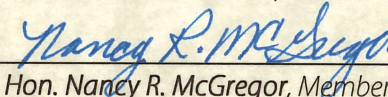
**Section 5.** *This Resolution shall take effect at the earliest period allowed by law.*

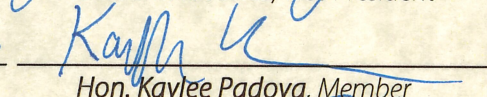
  
Hon. Laurie A. Jadwin, Mayor

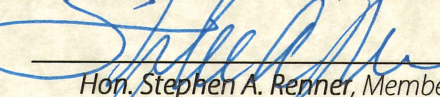
  
Hon. Trenton I. Weaver, President

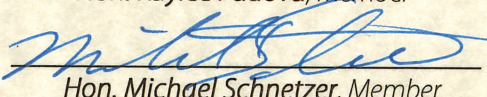
  
Hon. Jamille Jones, Vice President

  
Hon. Merisa K. Bowers, Member

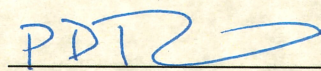
  
Hon. Nancy R. McGregor, Member

  
Hon. Kaylee Padova, Member

  
Hon. Stephen A. Renner, Member

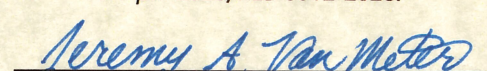
  
Hon. Michael Schnetzer, Member

Approved:

  
Hon. Priya D. Tamarasan, City Attorney



Attest: Certified as passed this 6<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026, RES-0012-2026.

  
Jeremy A. VanMeter, Clerk of Council