

# PROCLAMATION

## EARTH MONTH

April 2024

**WHEREAS**, in 1970, Senator Gaylord Nelson proposed to the Congress of the United States that a special day be set aside to celebrate and promote environmental awareness, called Earth Day, which is observed on April 22<sup>nd</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Oak Park has made a commitment to preserving and enhancing the quality of the environment by appointing residents to serve on the Environment and Energy Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 2, 2022, the Village of Oak Park declared a climate emergency and adopted the award-winning *Climate Ready Oak Park* community plan which offers concrete commitments and actions that can be undertaken by all stakeholders in response to the global climate crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Oak Park will provide a neighborhood climate coaching initiative in partnership with the local volunteer group Oak Park Climate Action Network (OPCAN) to offer a peer-expert advisory service for helping residents navigate various pathways to greenhouse gas emissions reductions, including home insulation and energy retrofits, heat pumps, rooftop and community solar, geothermal systems and elective vehicle (EV) adoption; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Oak Park will co-host the Eco-Extravaganza event at the Oak Park Public Library's Main Branch on Saturday, April 6, 2024, an all-ages information fair and treasure hunt for community members interested in learning more about local sustainability efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Oak Park is coordinating a Neighborhood Cleanup on Saturday, April 13, 2024, starting and ending at Village Hall, where a group of community volunteers, students, Village staff, and elected officials will pick up trash and litter along Madison Street; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Oak Park will host a Paper Shredding and Foam Recycling Collection event at the Oak Park Public Works Center on Saturday, April 20, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Oak Park continues to expand and improve environmental programs, such as the residential Compostable Program and Keep Oak Park Beautiful, to increase opportunities for waste reduction and diversion in the community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Vicki Scaman, President of the Village of Oak Park and Board of Trustees, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2024, as **EARTH MONTH** and ask citizens, businesses, government agencies and other organizations to strive to address the challenges of climate change, engage in regional sustainability initiatives, and promote environmental stewardship, not only during this month but throughout the year.

**DATED** this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March 2024.

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Vicki Scaman  
Village President

**ATTEST**

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Christina M. Waters  
Village Clerk