

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

INTERNATIONAL COMPOST AWARENESS WEEK

May 7 - 13, 2023

WHEREAS, the Compost Research & Education Foundation, along with Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom and other countries have declared the first full week of May to be the annual International Compost Awareness Week, and;

WHEREAS, composting is a way of returning organic resources to the soil and conserving water during extreme drought or flooding conditions, reducing water consumption and non-point pollution; and a proven method of decreasing the dependence on chemical fertilizers and decreasing erosion, and;

WHEREAS, composting is an effective form of waste reduction, reuse and recycling; and since organic materials make up approximately 30% of the material going to landfills, composting is becoming one of the primary methods communities use to reach waste diversion goals, and;

WHEREAS, Climate Ready Oak Park promotes strategies to reduce waste and increase awareness of Village composting and recycling services to residents, schools, and other institutions, and;

WHEREAS, composting creates local green jobs and infrastructure for cities and states who implement composting programs, and;

WHEREAS, the Environmental Services Division will host a sign-up drive and raffle activity to increase participation in the Village's *CompostAble* Program, as well as launch a program for multi-unit residents to have the ability purchase a kitchen compost pail from the Village to facilitate easier access to our four compost drop-off sites.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Vicki Scaman, President of the Village of Oak Park and Board of Trustees, in recognition of the efforts of the Compost Research & Education Foundation, extension agents, soil conservation stewards, householders, landscapers, farmers, recyclers, public workers, composters, gardeners, and plant growers everywhere, do hereby proclaim the week of May 7-13, 2023 as **INTERNATIONAL COMPOST AWARENESS WEEK**.

DATED, this 8th day of May, 2023.

Vicki Scaman
Village President

ATTEST:

Christina M. Waters
Village Clerk