



Proclamation



PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH

WHEREAS, the U.S. House of Representatives has designated July as Parks and Recreation Month; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs are an integral part of communities throughout this country, including in Carrboro, North Carolina; they are important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our communities, ensuring the health of all residents, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of a community and its region; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs build healthy, active communities that aid in the prevention of chronic disease, provide therapeutic recreation services for those who are mentally or physically disabled, and also improve the mental and emotional health of all residents; and

WHEREAS, parks and natural recreation areas improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, and produce habitat for wildlife; our parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and

WHEREAS, the global pandemic has highlighted that public parks are crucial to a community's quality of life; and especially in the last fifteen months, people have turned to their parks like never before—for fresh air, exercise, meditation, and a sense of peace; and

WHEREAS, despite a global pandemic, the Town of Carrboro adapted and continued to safely offer programming in 2020 and 2021, including youth and adult classes, athletic programs, camps, workshops, and clinics; and large virtual community events such as Carrboro Day, the Freight Train Blues Concert Series, the July 4th Celebration, the Carrboro Music Festival, the West End Poetry Festival, and the Carrboro Film Festival; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Carrboro also safely opened and operated parks throughout the town during the global pandemic for patrons, recognizing how parks benefit health and wellness, reduce anxiety, stress, and depression and improve physical health; and

WHEREAS, the Carrboro Town Council expresses appreciation to the employees of the Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Resources Department for their provision of such excellent service to our community, noting a 16-year average of dedicated employee service among this department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, hereby proclaim July 2021 as **RECREATION AND PARKS MONTH** in the Town of Carrboro. I encourage all residents to enjoy our parks and natural areas, and to safely take advantage of classes, camps, programs, and events provided by our Recreation, Parks and Cultural Resources Department.

This the 22nd day of June, 2021.



Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor