



GROW Ecological Commission is proud to have advised the Village President and Board of Trustees to proclaim May 6 through May 10, 2024 as Air Quality Awareness Week to increase awareness of the harmful effects air pollution poses to our environment, economy, and the health of Westchester residents. Visit the GROW page on the Village website to view the recent "Air Pollution & Your Health" presentation to learn more.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MAY 6 THROUGH MAY 10, 2024 AS AIR QUALITY AWARENESS WEEK IN THE VILLAGE OF WESTCHESTER

WHEREAS, air pollution can threaten our environment, economy, and the health of the residents of Westchester; and

WHEREAS, annual air pollution levels for ground level ozone "smog" and fine particulate matter "soot" in Westchester exceed the current National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) set by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); and

WHEREAS, on June 27, 2023 Chicago was deemed to have the "worst air quality in the world" due to Canadian wildfire smoke producing harmful levels of fine particulate matter; and

WHEREAS, children, older adults, people with lung disease and people with heart disease are particularly affected by poor air quality, and make up about two out of every five residents in Westchester; and

WHEREAS, information from EPA's most recent NAAQS reviews indicate public health benefits from further reductions in ground level ozone "O₃" and fine particulate matter "PM_{2.5}" pollution within the Village; and

WHEREAS, attaining compliance with NAAQS is important not only for public health, but also for the Village's economy and ability to conduct transportation planning; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has designated May 6 – 10 as National Air Quality Awareness Week; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Westchester Board of Trustees support the efforts of the American Lung Association and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to promote air quality.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Westchester, Illinois, do hereby proclaim May 6 – 10 as "Air Quality Awareness Week" and encourage our residents and employees to educate themselves about air quality, including visiting the GROW Ecological Commission presentation on "Air Pollution and Your Health" at [https://www.westchester-il.org/government/grow-ecological-commission-\(1\)/presentations](https://www.westchester-il.org/government/grow-ecological-commission-(1)/presentations), and promote air quality and air quality awareness within our community.

PROCLAIMED this 23rd day of April 2024

Greg Hribal, Village President

ATTEST:

Sophia Collins, Village Clerk

