

## **REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

### **HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**MEETING DATE:** April 17, 2019

**SUBJECT:** Proclamation – International Compost Awareness Week, May 5-11, 2019

**PRESENTER:** Christine Brown, Environmental Programs Coordinator

**ATTACHMENTS:** Yes  
1.) Proclamation

#### **SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

The Henderson County Board of Commissioners are requested to proclaim May 5-11, 2019 as International Compost Awareness Week (ICAW). Henderson County Solid Waste has made a dedicated effort to promote backyard composting and food waste diversion options for citizens through outreach, educational workshops, expanded Convenience Center offerings, and community engagement with a variety of non-profit and private partners. Workshops are scheduled throughout the spring and summer, and staff is working with local, regional, and state partners to determine the landscape of organics production and diversion opportunities throughout the county.

International Compost Awareness Week began in 1995 and is the largest and most comprehensive education initiative of the compost industry. The goal of the program is to raise public awareness regarding the benefits of using compost to improve or maintain high quality soil, to grow healthy plants, reduce the use of fertilizer and pesticides, improve water quality and protect the environment.

#### **BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:**

The Board is requested to adopt the attached Proclamation as presented.

#### **SUGGESTED MOTION:**

*I move that the Board adopt the attached Proclamation designating the week of May 5-11, 2019 as International Compost Awareness Week.*

# HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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## PROCLAMATION

### *International Compost Awareness Week*

**WHEREAS**, the Composting Council Research and Education Foundation, Canada, Australia and the United Kingdom have declared the May 5-11, 2019 to be the annual International Composting Awareness Week; and,

**WHEREAS**, composting is a way of nourishing soil while reducing erosion, conserving water, reducing non-point source pollution, decreasing chemical fertilizer use; and,

**WHEREAS**, composting is an effective form of waste reduction, reuse, and recycling, whereby organic materials are converted into a beneficial product known as compost; and,

**WHEREAS**, International Compost Awareness Week is a publicity and education initiative to showcase compost production and demonstrate use, promoting the importance of compost for healthy soil and clean water, now and for the future; and,

**WHEREAS**, this week recognizes the efforts of the Composting Council Research and Education Foundation, extension Agents, soil conservation stewards, householders, landscapers, farmers, recyclers, public workers, composters, gardeners, and plant growers everywhere to preserve our local soils and waterways; and,

**WHEREAS**, Henderson County supports and promotes waste diversion through public education, waste reduction programs, and community engagement as a resource steward and member of the US Composting Council and NC Composting Council Chapter;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED**, that we, the Henderson County Board of Commissioners, do hereby designate May 5-11, 2019 as International Compost Awareness Week in Henderson County and encourage all County officials, employees, students, and residents to participate in and learn about local waste diversion educational activities.

Adopted this the 17<sup>th</sup> day of April 2019.

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GRADY H. HAWKINS, CHAIRMAN  
HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

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TERESA L. WILSON, CLERK TO THE BOARD