

SNOHOMISH COUNTY
PROCLAMATION OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

PROCLAMATION NUMBER: 23-02

PROCLAMATION SUBJECT: WORLD ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DAY

WHEREAS, World Environmental Health Day is observed every year on September 26th, with an aim to increase awareness about the crucial work done by environmental health professionals, and encourage people to contribute to the protection of our living environment; and

WHEREAS, World Environmental Health Day was established by the International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH) on September 26, 2011, and since then, it has been celebrated annually; and

WHEREAS, the IFEH aims to raise awareness regarding the health of our environment, and was founded in 1986 in London with a focus on scientific and technical research on environmental health and the exchange of ideas between countries; and

WHEREAS, the field of environmental health provides critical services to the residents of Snohomish County, and the world, by ensuring the purity of food, water, air, and other factors that contribute to their personal community environments; and

WHEREAS, the field of environmental health has made important contributions in disease control and prevention; and

WHEREAS, most consumers are unaware of the many programs within the scope of environmental health because of the success of the protection and prevention efforts; and

WHEREAS, the dedicated professionals within the field of environmental health have a common interest in protecting the public's health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, the staff of the Food Safety Program are responsible for protecting the safety of the food served to the public in Snohomish County, including at restaurants, bars, grocery stores, bakeries, mobile food units, temporary food events and donated food distribution centers, and through new establishment plan review, ensuring establishments adhere to all current regulations, and have significant influence over the economic viability of food service establishments; and

WHEREAS, the staff of the Land Use Program are responsible for protecting properties and residents with onsite sewage disposal systems and individual drinking water supplies, and the protection of surface water quality, by ensuring systems adhere to all current regulations, by reviewing construction clearance applications, and by encouraging the regular monitoring and maintenance of existing systems by responding to complaints, reviewing inspection reports and educating the public; and

WHEREAS, the staff of the Safe Environments Program are responsible for protecting the public from hazards posed by water recreation facilities, including pools, spas and splash pads, solid waste facilities and solid waste hazards on private and public property, and vector borne illnesses, as well as ensuring the safety of public and private schools and providing technical assistance to potential sources of pollutants; and

WHEREAS, the staff of the Customer Service Program are responsible for providing customer service excellence to all customers of Environmental Health by processing application materials, answering phones and emails, and processing payments, as well as providing legally required access to vital records; and

WHEREAS, the staff of the Environmental Health Division of the Snohomish County Health Department perform their duties in the face of adverse weather conditions, uncomfortable indoor and outdoor environments, with individuals who are irate or hostile, and complex and changing regulations, and do so with integrity, professionalism and compassion; and

WHEREAS, the Snohomish County Board of Health would like to extend its gratitude and appreciation to all Environmental Health professionals;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Snohomish County Board of Health declares September 26th as World Environmental Health Day.

ADOPTED this 12th day of September 2023.

ATTEST:

Megan Dunn, Chair
Board of Health

Dennis Worsham
Director, Health Department