

WHEREAS, recycling is a process that allows materials that would otherwise be wasted to be manufactured into new materials that can be used again. By decreasing landfill waste and conserving important natural resources, recycling can mitigate pollution, save energy, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, many common items such as paper, cardboard, and food and beverage containers made from plastics, aluminum and glass are known to be recyclable, but so are many other household products, such as cleaners, pesticides, rechargeable batteries, paints and electronics; and

WHEREAS, traditional recycling began in Palm Beach County with pilot programs in 1988 and the dual stream recycling program was implemented countywide in 1992, with the current dual stream Recovered Materials Recycling Facility opening in 2009, and

WHEREAS, home chemical recycling began in Palm Beach County with STOP – or Stop Throwing Out Pollutants - collection events in 1988-89, then a permanent Home Chemical and Recycling Center opened in 1990, and Home Chemical and Recycling drop offs were added at all six transfer stations as they were constructed so residents countywide had convenient disposal options; and

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency released the 2016 Recycling Economic Information Report, which was compiled through a cooperative agreement with the National Recycling Coalition, to demonstrate the economic value of recycling using a base year of 2007. This report showed that recycling and reuse activities in the United States accounted for:

- 757,000 jobs;
- \$36.6 billion in wages; and
- \$6.7 billion in tax revenues.

This equates to 1.57 jobs for every 1,000 tons of materials recycled (<https://www.epa.gov/smm/recycling-economic-information-rei-report>); and

WHEREAS, locally, in 2010, the Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County created a Recycling Revenue Share Program, in which half of the traditional recycling revenue the SWA generates – after processing costs – is shared with participating cities based off of their population or collected weight. Since the Recycling Revenue Share Program began, the SWA has shared almost \$9.5 million dollars with the partnering cities – of which **CITY OF DELRAY BEACH has received- \$879,947.59**

WHEREAS, with county residents Recycling Right, Palm Beach County has the state’s 75 percent recycling goal within its sights well ahead of the 2020 deadline.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the City of Delray Beach recognizes November 15, 2018, as

America Recycles Day

in Delray Beach, and hereby encourages all residents to continue to Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rethink their waste whether they are at work, home, school or play, and to Recycle Right every day by putting the correct items in their blue and yellow recycle bins!

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Delray Beach, Florida, to be affixed this 6th day of November 2018.

Shelly Petrolia
MAYOR