

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER

GOVERNOR

SEPTICSMART WEEK

2020

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, proper septic system use and routine care are vital to protecting public health, preserving our highly valued groundwater, lakes, streams and waterways, and avoiding costly repairs that can result from neglect; and

WHEREAS, 85 local health departments serve 100 counties with approximately 750 environmental health authorized agents of the state for the design, siting, permitting, compliance, and repair of subsurface septic systems; and

WHEREAS, slightly over two million septic systems in North Carolina treat wastewater from homes and businesses, serving nearly half of the state's population; and

WHEREAS, wastewater professionals in our state utilize their expertise in the permitting, design, installation, maintenance, troubleshooting, and regulation of septic systems in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 survival in septic systems is currently unknown; wastewater professionals follow best practices to prevent exposure to wastewater that may contain the virus; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina health officials use the United States Environmental Protection Agency's SepticSmart program to educate homeowners about the need for proper septic system use and routine maintenance; and

WHEREAS, properly-designed, installed, operated, and maintained septic systems benefit the environment, as well as the people of our state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 14 – 18, 2020, as "SEPTICSMART WEEK" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.

Roy Cooper Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this thirty-first day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fifth.