



Mayoral Proclamation

10th Anniversary of the Safe Grow Act

WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park has a history of striving to be an environmentally sustainable community; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, in its 2010-2015 Strategic Plan and as recently as the 2023-2024 adopted City Council Priorities, recognizes the importance of a sustainable local environment, clean water, and the health of residents; and

WHEREAS, many scientific studies show that pesticide exposures are linked to numerous health and environmental effects, including impacts on pollinators; and

WHEREAS, given these priorities, this scientific information, and in response to community advocacy, the City enacted the Safe Grow Act to reduce harmful pesticide use within the City by restricting the use of cosmetic pesticides for lawn care on public and private property, and

WHEREAS, the Safe Grow Act was effective March 2014 for commercial pesticide applicators and January 2015 for property owners and tenants, and

WHEREAS, Takoma Park was the first Maryland jurisdiction to adopt this approach which garnered national and even international attention; and

WHEREAS, consequently, Montgomery County and nearby municipalities have also passed similar laws.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TALISHA SEARCY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND, hereby recognize, with pride, Takoma Park's 10th anniversary of the Safe Grow Act, and encourage all residents to celebrate 10 years of a more sustainable community.

Date this 3rd day of April, 2024.

Talisha Searcy
Mayor