



WHEREAS, the first *Earth Day* was proclaimed in 1970 to foster public environmental awareness; and

WHEREAS, *Earth Hour*, an annual global event organized by the World Wildlife Fund, calls on individuals, governments, and businesses around the world to turn off all non-essential lighting for one hour between **8:30 p.m.** and **9:30 p.m.** on **Saturday, March 28, 2026**, to call attention to climate change and loss of biodiversity; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council approved Rockville's first Climate Action Plan on January 10, 2022, to equitably reduce greenhouse gas emissions and strengthen resiliency, and encourage community participation to support climate goals; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rockville supports global and local environmental stewardship and education, and will host events and outdoor volunteer opportunities throughout March, April, and May that promote actions to protect our climate, water, air, forests, and wildlife; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rockville proudly recognizes all who participate in these activities and their contributions to environmental stewardship.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and Council do hereby proclaim the month of **April 2026** as *Earth Month* in the City of Rockville and further proclaim **Wednesday, April 22, 2026**, as *Earth Day* and **Saturday, March 28, 2026**, between the hours of **8:30 p.m.** and **9:30 p.m.** as *Earth Hour*, and urge all members of the community to take actions to promote a healthy and sustainable environment.



Monique Ashton, Mayor

Kate Fulton, Councilmember

Izola (Zola) Shaw, Councilmember

Barry Jackson, Councilmember

Mahssa Valeri, Councilmember

David Myles, Councilmember

Adam Van Grack, Councilmember

April 13, 2026