



Office of the Mayor

The City of Morgantown
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Proclamation

- Whereas,* Morgantown has the goal of being a sustainable community that utilizes its resources efficiently so that we can meet Morgantown's present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs; and
- Whereas,* Morgantown has the goal of decreasing its use of energy produced by the combustion of fossil fuels and thereby reducing the amount of carbon dioxide it contributes to global warming; and
- Whereas,* Morgantown has the goal of promoting the construction of residential and commercial buildings that are energy efficient, utilize renewable construction materials, recycle existing structures, create a healthy indoor environment for residents and workers, minimize the disposal of construction debris, and have a minimal adverse impact on our local environment; and
- Whereas,* Morgantown has the goal of improving its air quality, which has been borderline non-compliant according to EPA standards; and
- Whereas,* Morgantown has the goal of sustaining a vigorous green environment of native trees and plants that improve our air and water quality, slow the heating of our urban areas, and provide an opportunity for people to interact with a natural environment; and
- Whereas,* Morgantown has the goal of increasing all types of recycling, recognizing that each person in the United States generates an average of four pounds of garbage per day; and
- Whereas,* Morgantown has the goals of decreasing the release of toxic chemicals into our local environment and removing toxic chemicals already present in our environment; and
- Whereas,* Morgantown has the goal of protecting and restoring its watersheds to a healthy, natural state; and
- Whereas,* Morgantown has the goal of increasing the consumption of locally-grown foods, which can decrease the amount of energy required for transporting food to our stores and dinner tables; and

Whereas, green buildings make good economic sense because they have higher occupancy rates, property values, and investment returns; and

Whereas, Morgantown's economy may benefit from cost savings produced by increased energy efficiency and from new job opportunities created by emerging green businesses and industries; and

Whereas, many of the actions necessary to achieve these goals and be a more sustainable community are relatively "easy" and can be accomplished through public education, the adoption of new, available technologies, and a commitment to a vision of a sustainable community;

Now Therefore, I, Bill Byrne, Mayor of the City of Morgantown do hereby proclaim the year 2010 as:

2010: It's Easy Being Green

and encourage all citizens of Morgantown, whether individually or as members of any group to which they may belong, to actively participate in the events of this year in order to explore new, sustainable opportunities for the home, business, and community; and to be open to learning about additional ways of protecting, preserving, and enhancing our community, region, nation, and world; and to share their experiences, passion, and expertise with others so that together we may implement strategies that are socially, environmentally, and economically salubrious to all.

Seal.

Bill Byrne, Mayor