



# CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

*By virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution of Virginia in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there is hereby officially recognized:*

## **FALL IS FOR PLANTING MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, trees and plants support a healthy environment and are essential to human well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, trees help promote clean air, with tree leaves and roots acting as natural water filters that trap pollutants; and

**WHEREAS**, storm water is a leading source of pollution for Virginia's rivers, streams, and the Chesapeake Bay; and

**WHEREAS**, planting regionally compatible plants, particularly native plants, also slows the flow of storm water runoff, preventing it from running into nearby rivers and streams; and

**WHEREAS**, cooler temperatures, warm soils, increased rains, and fewer insects and pests make fall an ideal time of year for planting trees, shrubs, and hardy perennials; and

**WHEREAS** Virginia has 290 commercial plant growers that generate \$272 million in sales; \$1.2 billion in landscaping, installation and maintenance; and ranks 6<sup>th</sup> in Virginia agriculture commodity sales; and

**WHEREAS**, stock planted between September and the first frost in November or December have months to develop roots to survive the hot and humid summer to follow; and

**WHEREAS**, the Central Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association has joined with the James River Association, the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, the Green Industry Council, the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, and the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to celebrate October as Fall is for Planting Month; and

**WHEREAS**, Fall is for Planting Month is an opportunity for Virginians to plant more trees and shrubs to help reduce the flow of storm water runoff;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Terence R. McAuliffe, do hereby recognize October 2014 as **FALL IS FOR PLANTING MONTH** in our **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.



  
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Governor

  
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Secretary of the Commonwealth