



**City of Harrisonburg, Virginia**  
**Office of the Mayor**

345 South Main Street  
Post Office Box 20031  
Harrisonburg, VA 22802  
(540) 432-7701 / FAX (540) 432-7778

Deanna R. Reed  
Mayor

**CHESAPEAKE BAY AWARENESS WEEK PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay is the largest and, at one time was the most productive estuary in the United States, spanning six states and the District of Columbia; and

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay watershed is an extraordinary and vital natural resource, as well as an integral part of the history and heritage of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay is fed by 50 major tributaries, including the Susquehanna, Potomac, Rappahannock, York, and James Rivers, and contains more than 15 trillion gallons of water; and

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay stretches 200 miles from Maryland to Virginia, has an average depth of 21 feet, and ranges from 3.4 to 35 miles wide; it supports 348 species of finfish, 173 species of shellfish, and more than 3,600 species of plant and animal life, including 2,700 types of plants and more than 16 species of underwater grasses; and

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay area is home to more than 17 million people, many of whom rely upon the bay for their livelihood and recreational activities; and

WHEREAS, as an important source of food for the Commonwealth and the east coast of the United States, the Chesapeake Bay produces more than 500 million pounds of seafood harvest each year; and

WHEREAS, the rich history, pivotal economic importance, and astounding beauty of the Chesapeake Bay watershed never cease to amaze residents and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, the City of Harrisonburg is a part of Chesapeake Bay watershed.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Deanna Reed, Mayor of the City of Harrisonburg, Virginia, do hereby proclaim June 2-12, 2016 as Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week in the City of Harrisonburg and urge all citizens to recognize the importance of this observance and to participate in events, activities, and educational programs designed to increase awareness of the importance of the Chesapeake Bay.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Harrisonburg to be affixed.

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deanna Reed, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Pamela Ulmer, Deputy City Clerk