City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Lauren Poe PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Gainesville City Commissioners recognize the value of wetlands, sometimes referred to as "nature's kidneys"; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gainesville thanks the citizens, organizations and agencies that safeguard them, and pledge our support for their conservation and protection; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gainesville is known for having a large range and distribution of wetland habitats, and is extraordinary in its diverse range of wetland plant and animal species; and

WHEREAS, wetlands are critical for protecting the water quality of our aquifer, local creeks, lakes, rivers, and springs, sustaining the local ecosystem and providing flood control; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gainesville and many non-governmental organizations are dedicated to and are making great efforts to protect and preserve local wetlands and surface waters; and

WHEREAS, World Wetlands Day is an opportunity for citizens, government agencies and non-governmental organizations to undertake actions aimed at raising public awareness of wetland values and the benefits from these rich environmental resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jauren Poe, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim February 2, 2019 as

World Wetlands Day 2019

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in visiting and appreciating a wetland.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 18th day of December, A.D., 2018.

Jauren Poe

Mayor