

Office of Mayor Craig Lowe PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, citizens of Gainesville recognize the vital role that swimming and aquatic-related activities have in relation to good physical and mental health, and how they enhance the quality of life for all people; and

WHEREAS, citizens of Gainesville recognize the essential role that water safety education plays in preventing drowning and water-related injuries; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gainesville develops and offers quality aquatic programs that are designed with the safety and well-being of participants in mind, including swim lessons where over 1,200 participants received instruction last year; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gainesville operates three public pools that offer the safest water-related recreational programs, enabling citizens to participate in recreation and swimming activities at municipal aquatic facilities operated by trained professional staff; and

WHEREAS, these contributions add to the quality of life in our community and include developing safe swimming facilities, aquatic programs and water safety education; allowing all participants to learn and grow, and build self-esteem, confidence and a sense of self-worth; and

WHEREAS, people of all ages and abilities can now enjoy swimming and other aquatic activities throughout the year, due to the passage of the Wild Spaces, Public Places sales tax initiative that voters approved in 2008, enabling the installation of year-round heating and cooling geo-thermal equipment at the Dwight H. Hunter Pool.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Craig Lowe, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim May 2012 as

National Water Safety Month

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in supporting and promoting this important observance and by recognizing community leaders and volunteers for their involvement and support of these critical safety programs and efforts at the City's swimming pools and other aquatic facilities throughout the community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 12th day of March, A.D., 2012.

Craig Towe