

Office of the Mayor

Proclamation

August 21, 2014

Wilderness Act Celebration Day

Whereas, The Wilderness Act was signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on September 3, 1964; and

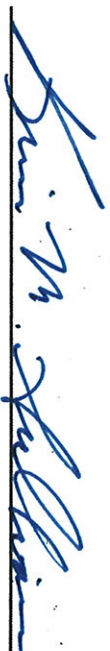
Whereas, when President Johnson signed the act, he spoke these words: "*If future generations are to remember us with gratitude rather than contempt, we must leave them a glimpse of the world as it was in the beginning, not just after we got through with it.*"; and

Whereas, The Wilderness Act states, in part, "*A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain.*"; and

Whereas, the Township of Chatham and its residents have been blessed by the extraordinary environment and beauty of the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, designated by Congress in 1968 as a wilderness area, making it the first such wilderness area within the Department of Interior and

Whereas, Chatham Township resident Helen Fenske of Green Village was instrumental in leading many other residents of Chatham Township in the effort to preserve the Great Swamp, the Township of Chatham has pledged to protect and preserve the integrity of wilderness; and

Whereas, September 3rd, 2014 marks the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act; Now, therefore, let it be proclaimed by the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham that September 3 is hereby declared Wilderness Act Celebration Day.



Kevin Sullivan, Mayor