



RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF EARTH DAY APRIL 22, 2013

Whereas, the planet Earth has been recognized on Earth Day for the past forty-three years as a day of tribute for people to recognize the planet Earth for all it offers in the sustainment of life, habitats and the wonders of the natural environment; and

Whereas, the Earth, surrounded by the Sun, moon, and stars and a specialness of place in a galaxy and universe, provides for human life, flora, fauna and natural habitats which share an interdependence between the people of the world and its natural resources; and

Whereas, the Earth, with its attributes of seven continents, possesses unique geography of oceans, seas, lakes, rivers, and streams, and landscape features of mountains, plains, valleys, prairies and deserts; and abundant natural resources of forestlands, including rain, tropical, transitional and the temperate forests of the Adirondack Park region and the Northern Forest; and

Whereas, the specialness of the Adirondack Park is defined in having the largest area of protected and managed temperate hardwood forests in North America – a mosaic of public and private lands; and

Whereas, in the 1885 establishment of the Forest Preserve, the 1892 creation of the Adirondack Park, and the subsequent Article XIV constitutional protection of public forest lands as “Forever Wild” in 1894, New York State has been a leader in environmental protection and the ensurance of a Park landscape that combines the attributes of open space and communities; and

Whereas, 2013 is recognized as the fortieth anniversary year of the Adirondack Park Agency Act and the Land Use and Development Plan for private lands, with the maintenance of a forty-year track record of ensuring the conservation and protection of the Park’s private lands and the important attributes of the scenic, aesthetic, wildlife, recreational, open space, historic, ecological and natural resources, with resultant benefits to the Earth and its environment and communities within the Adirondack Park; and

Whereas, to recognize that in interconnection lies the responsibility of stewardship of the Earth's environment in the Adirondack Park, its community of people who live in ways that are sustainable, and in acknowledgement of a past history of settlement and longevity into the future, and in so doing, ensuring that the honoring of the Earth on this Earth Day goes beyond one day of recognition and extends into a stewardship model that remains throughout the year;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Adirondack Park Agency, in recognition of Earth Day 2013, pauses in its deliberations to honor the Earth and pay tribute to the interconnectiveness of life and habitats, the miracle of the Earth's bounty, and the importance of the Adirondack Park as one of the Earth’s special places with tremendous value to its residents, visitors, the State of New York and the world, with a commitment to the public and private stakeholders who together are involved in the important task of the protection and enhancement of the Park’s resources.