

# Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, one of the world's most valuable resources, water is the basic and essential need of every living creature, and clean, safe, and sustainable water resources and supplies are vital to the city of Tampa, Florida's economy, the environment, and to citizens and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Tampa is committed to the protection and preservation of water resources and strives to provide the community with clean water, protect habitats, provide for safe waterway activities including boating and swimming, and to increase awareness about the importance of maintaining Tampa's water resources to insure quality and conservation; and

**WHEREAS**, the **Hillsborough River Trash Free Waters Partnership** (the Partnership) led by **Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful** was established as a call to action to create more sustainable communities by focusing volunteer efforts on counteracting behaviors and preventing activities that damage water quality; and

**WHEREAS**, Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful is a Keep America Beautiful Affiliate, and its mission is to provide environmental education and volunteer opportunities to develop individual responsibility and environmental stewardship, and is dedicated to the protection and restoration of the Tampa Bay watershed; and

**WHEREAS**, the Partnership's vision is to collect data about sources and locations of aquatic trash in the Hillsborough River watershed, identify key community stakeholders, educate people about ways to prevent litter from entering waterways through outreach programs, pursue and promote new technologies, policies and practices that will control and prevent aquatic trash, and assist in establishing monitoring programs; and

**WHEREAS**, presented by *Zephyrhills Brand 100% Natural Spring Water* and sponsored by supportive organizations, Hillsborough River Trash Free Waters Partnership is hosting the **Tri-County Trash Free Waters Day** and the **Robles Park Community Enhancement Project** on Saturday, January 16, 2016, and volunteers will work together to clean up the Hillsborough River removing litter and place storm drain markers to prevent aquatic debris; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Tampa is proud of its local water resources and their surrounding communities, and seeks to protect and improve our waterways through the actions of citizens, schools, government and businesses working together.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Saturday, January 16, 2016, as

## ***"TRASH FREE WATERS DAY"***

in the city of Tampa, Florida and encourage each citizen and business to help protect our precious resource by keeping our waterways free of litter and becoming more aware of the value of good water resource stewardship.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 5<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor