

WHEREAS, proper septic system use and routine care are vital to protecting public health, preserving our highly valued groundwater, lakes, streams and waterways, and avoiding costly repairs that can result from neglect; and

WHEREAS, septic systems play a critical role in Colorado's infrastructure and are responsible for treating millions of gallons of wastewater each day across Colorado; and

WHEREAS, public health and wastewater professionals of the State of Colorado use their expertise in the design, installation, maintenance, and regulation of septic systems in Colorado; and

WHEREAS, if not used and maintained properly, septic systems can become leaky, broken, or ineffective, and introduce nitrogen, phosphorous, household chemicals, bacteria, viruses, and other harmful pollutants into state waters; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's SepticSmart program used by Colorado public health and wastewater professionals does educate homeowners about the need for proper septic system use and routine maintenance; and

WHEREAS, residents and the environment of Colorado benefit from properly designed, installed, operated, and maintained septic systems;

THEREFORE, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim the period of time between September 16 and September 20, 2024, as

SEPTICSMART WEEK

in the State of Colorado.



GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this sixteenth day of September, 2024

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Jared Polis Governor