

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the people of the City of Fernandina Beach treasure our wildlife and the natural heritage that benefits us all; and

WHEREAS, the gopher tortoise is the official state tortoise of the State of Florida and is an iconic species in Fernandina Beach; and

WHEREAS, the gopher tortoise is a protected species listed as threatened in Florida and in some other parts of the United States; and

WHEREAS, gopher tortoises are ecologically important as a keystone species in upland habitats, providing habitat and refuge in their burrows for more than 350 wildlife species; and

WHEREAS, raising awareness increases appreciation and conservation of the species and helps us understand our role in conserving gopher tortoises.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John A. Miller, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Fernandina Beach, Florida, do hereby proclaim April 10, 2019, as:

"GOPHER TORTOISE DAY"

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Fernandina Beach, Florida, to be affixed this 2nd day of April, 2019.

CITY OF FERNANDINA BEACH

JOHN A. MILLER
Mayor-Commissioner