

JEA Recognizes Gopher Tortoise Day

Whereas, JEA is committed to being an environmental steward in our local community;
and

Whereas, Gopher Tortoise Day will be observed annually by JEA on April 10, and

Whereas, the Gopher Tortoise has been living on the earth for over 500,000 years, and

Whereas, the Gopher Tortoise today, in the State of Florida, is listed as
Threatened, and in parts of the U.S., is Federally listed as Threatened, and

Whereas, the Gopher Tortoise is considered a keystone species, and

Whereas, the Gopher Tortoise's burrow protects more than 350 other commensal species,
some of which are also listed as Threatened, and

Whereas, the Gopher Tortoise's habitat needs protection, and

Whereas, having Gopher Tortoises and other species in our area, helps to sustain the
area's ecology and provide a source of joy and appreciation for nature.

Now, therefore, JEA recognizes April 10th as Gopher Tortoise Day, and urge all citizens
to protect this species by doing and learning more about them.

Dated this day of April 10, 2022
