



## **Pollution Prevention Week and Creek Week 2023**

### **Russian River Watershed Association Proclamation**

**WHEREAS**, throughout the United States the week starting on the third Monday of September is recognized as National Pollution Prevention Week; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout much of California, including the Russian River watershed, cities, counties and other stewardship organizations are recognizing the fourth week of September as Creek Week; and

**WHEREAS**, our pollution prevention practices are intrinsically linked to the health of our watershed lands and waterways; and

**WHEREAS**, the Russian River Watershed Association supports programs to reduce pollution, increase the environmental quality of our watershed, and provide our communities with the knowledge to be effective stewards of the Russian River watershed lands and waterways; and

**WHEREAS**, the nearly 1,500 square miles of lands, 150 creeks, and approximately 360,000 residents of the Russian River watershed are connected and mutually support each other; and

**WHEREAS**, the Russian River, along with its tributaries and associated features are important resources to the people of Sonoma and Mendocino Counties; and

**WHEREAS**, pollution in the form of trash and debris, chemicals from industry and everyday living, and sediment from construction and many land uses and activities all have the potential to degrade the quality of life and the quality of resources within the Russian River watershed; and

**WHEREAS**, the Russian River Watershed Association strives to protect our lands and waterways through ongoing pollution prevention outreach which aims to raise awareness of the harmful effects of pollutants to our natural systems; and

**WHEREAS**, during Pollution Prevention Week and Creek Week, creek, river and ocean clean-up campaigns will take place throughout Sonoma and Mendocino Counties.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, The Board of Directors of the Russian River Watershed Association, proclaims on this day, August 24, 2023, that September 18-24, 2023 is Pollution Prevention Week and September 16-23, 2023 is Creek Week in the Russian River watershed, and asks all members of our community to support efforts to protect and enrich our watershed health by participating the many Pollution Prevention Week/Creek Week activities, and to take active steps to reduce pollution and care for our environment throughout the year.

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Russian River Watershed Association Chair