



City of Takoma Park, Maryland

Mayoral Proclamation

Declaring September 28, 2013 “Play Day” in the City of Takoma Park

- WHEREAS,** play is a crucial factor in the overall well-being of children, yet play spaces and playgrounds within walking distance of children’s homes are missing from many communities and neighborhoods; and
- WHEREAS,** unstructured, unplanned, spontaneous, and self-motivated play is on the decline as fewer children spend time outside at parks and playgrounds; and
- WHEREAS,** recess is being shortened or removed from school curriculums; and
- WHEREAS,** children who play are healthier and suffer less obesity and obesity-related health problems such as diabetes and heart disease; and
- WHEREAS,** children who play do better in school and develop cognitive skills that are linked to learning and academic performance; and
- WHEREAS,** children who play learn the social skills that help them become happy and well-adjusted adults; and
- WHEREAS,** parents, schools, child care centers, nonprofit organizations, businesses, churches, synagogues, mosques, and all interested parties wish to raise this community’s children to become healthy, happy, and successful adults.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BRUCE R. WILLIAMS, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim September 28, 2013 as **PLAY DAY** in the City of Takoma Park and I urge all residents to celebrate Play Day and support efforts to create, enhance, and maintain play spaces and playgrounds in the community for the well being of this and future generations.

Dated this 28th of February, 2013.

Bruce R. Williams
Mayor

Attest:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk