

PROCLAMATION

Leave No Child Inside Month

June 2010

WHEREAS, the Village of Barrington recognizes the healthy benefits of outdoor play, and that direct exposure to nature is essential to nourish children's physical, social, intellectual, and emotional development; and

WHEREAS, scientific research is showing children are becoming disconnected from nature-based experiences due to hours engaged with electronic media; and

WHEREAS, time spent in nature by children, promotes curiosity, creativity, cooperation, improves the learning of science, and provides joy, a sense of well-being, and confidence; and

WHEREAS, providing children with outdoor nature experiences increases involvement in stewardship of our environment; and

WHEREAS, bringing children into nature and creating safe places and programs that provide increased and improved outdoor nature exploration opportunities to promote discovery and creative play, is of great importance to our society; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Barrington and its neighboring communities have rich natural venues ranging from community parks, conservation areas, prairies, woodlands, and forest preserves, all of which must be shared with children to promote environmental education; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Barrington shows our support for the children's Outdoor Bill of Rights, which states that every child should have the opportunity to: discover the wilderness, camp under the stars, follow a trail, catch and release fish, frogs, and insects, climb a tree, explore nature in neighborhoods and cities, celebrate their heritage, plant a flower, play in the mud, and learn to swim.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Karen Darch, President of the Board of Trustees for the Village of Barrington, Cook and Lake Counties, Illinois, do hereby proclaim **the Month of June as Leave No Child Inside Month** in the Village of Barrington, and do hereby urge the citizens to support this important initiative.

Dated this 10th day of May, 2010

Karen Darch, Village President