

CHRISTINE O. GREGOIRE
Governor



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PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, healthy people and healthy communities are the centerpiece of Washington's strong and vibrant society; and

WHEREAS, this region hosts many days of cloudy skies when harmful ultraviolet rays still penetrate, increasing the importance of raising awareness among our children that overexposure to the sun can cause cataracts, skin cancer and other adverse health effects; and

WHEREAS, melanoma cancer can occur just as often in the typically cloudy and rainy part of the state bordering the Puget Sound as in traditionally sunnier Eastern Washington; and

WHEREAS, the SunWise Program is an environmental and health education program that uses classroom-based, school-based, and community-based components to help teach about protection from overexposure to the sun; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to bring sun safety information to our schools, the Environmental Protection Agency will provide free SunWise Tool Kits to each K-8 school in our community, so children can learn about ozone science and how to protect themselves from the harmful effects of UV radiation; and

WHEREAS, through interactive lessons, the SunWise program offers fun and educational ways for students to incorporate sun-safe behavior into their lifestyles at a young age; and

WHEREAS, the state of Washington is proud to partner with the Environmental Protection Agency to encourage all students, their families and all state residents to learn about sun-safe behavior at school, work and at home;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Christine O. Gregoire, Governor of the state of Washington do hereby proclaim Washington to be a SunWise state, and I encourage everyone to join me in making sun safety a priority and adopt lifelong, preventative, sun-safe behaviors.

Signed this 30th day of July, A.D, 2008

/s/

Governor Christine O. Gregoire