



**PROCLAMATION
DECLARING May 2026 as WATER SAFETY MONTH®**



WHEREAS, The City of Fort Bragg is committed to ensuring the safety of all residents and visitors to our great city and CV Starr Community Center; and

WHEREAS, swimming and aquatic-related activities promote good physical and mental health and enhance the quality of life for all people; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease and Prevention, ten people die from unintentional drownings every day, with about one in five being children 14 and younger; and

WHEREAS, basic water safety tips include: children should always be supervised by an adult; when a child or vulnerable adult has uninterrupted access to a body of water, barriers should be installed; children should be given swimming lessons at a young age, and everyone especially caregivers should learn CPR and have safety equipment such as floatation devices; and

WHEREAS, Water Safety Month in Fort Bragg is an opportunity to promote water safety and provide education on prevention of recreational water-related injuries, illness and deaths; and

WHEREAS, it is important for everyone including children, parents and caregivers to be aware of water safety rules and programs in order to prevent drowning and recreational water-related injuries; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Fort Bragg are aware of the contributions made by the recreational water industry, as represented by organizations involved in the National Water Safety Month Coalition, providing healthy places to recreate, learn and grow, build self-esteem, confidence and sense of self-worth which contributes to the quality of life in our community; and

WHEREAS, The Pool & Hot Tub Alliance with support from the American Red Cross, National Recreation and Park Association along with World Waterpark Association launch an annual public awareness campaign aimed at aquatic safety and drowning prevention in all aspects from backyard and local pools to lakes and beaches to inform and educate citizens of the many potential hazards and large benefits of utilizing aquatic attractions, programs, and services; now, therefore, be it resolved that the citizens of California recognize the importance of access to local pools, beaches and lakes for the health, wellness, development, inspiration, and safety of all Californians; and be it further resolved, that we declare the month of May 2026 as “National Water Safety Month®”.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jason Godeke, Mayor of the City of Fort Bragg, on behalf of the entire City Council, and I do hereby proclaim May as “National Water Safety Month®”

ATTEST:

SIGNED this 11th day of May, 2026

JASON GODEKE, Mayor

Diana Paoli, City Clerk

No. 22-2026