



WHEREAS, November 15th is America Recycles Day; and

WHEREAS, the City of Key West committed to reducing its greenhouse gas reductions by 15% by 2006; and

WHEREAS, solid waste incineration and waste hauling combined are the City of Key West's number one source of greenhouse gas, comprising 24% of our footprint; and

WHEREAS, the other three R's of Reduce, Reuse and Rot are important first actions before recycling; and

WHEREAS, 71% of our community waste stream is either compostable or recyclable; and

WHEREAS, community volunteers like Jody Smith Williams, Shirley Freeman, Bridget McDonald, Lucy Carleton, Christine Russell, Marianne Schippereit and Erika Biddle have led by example, providing the City of Key West with the leadership, education & action to go forward;; and

WHEREAS, business leaders like First State Bank of the Florida Keys not only recycle at all branches, also purchase office supplies with recycled content, and have provided bumper stickers to designate recycle bins; and

WHEREAS, government employees like Peter Horton, Monroe County's Director of Airports, who cut the Key West International Airport's trash bills by 42% by increasing recycling and mulching yard waste, saving \$54,000 annually; and

WHEREAS, government leaders like our sitting City Commission have voted to move forward with the Solid Waste Master Plan and a waste diversion goal of 75%

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Craig Cates, Mayor of the City of Key West, do hereby proclaim
November 2012 as

R4 MONTH

in the "Southernmost City of the Continental United States." I would like to urge all residents, businesses, organizations and visitors of our Southernmost City to participate fittingly in Reducing, Reusing, Recycling and Rotting their waste stream.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the City of Key West, Florida, this 20th day of November 2012.

Craig Cates, MAYOR