

PROCLAMATION

- Whereas: Healthy people and healthy communities are the centerpiece of a strong and vibrant society; and*
- Whereas: Skin cancer cases make up almost half of all cancer diagnoses each year in the United States; and*
- Whereas: More than one million Americans will be diagnosed with skin cancer this year; and*
- Whereas: One in five Americans will be diagnosed with skin cancer during their lifetime; and*
- Whereas: Skin cancer affects people of all skin types; and*
- Whereas: Exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation is the number one preventable risk factor for the development of skin cancer; and*
- Whereas: The City of Boston is a national leader in work to eliminate racial and ethnic disparities in health; and*
- Whereas: The City of Boston has made healthy living and protection of the environment among its top priorities; and*
- Whereas: The City of Boston, in order to reduce the urban heat island effect, energy use, the city's net emissions of carbon dioxide and the lack of shade, and protect its residents from heat exhaustion, increased air pollution, higher energy bills and overexposure to UV radiation, will plant 100,000 trees in the city over the next 10 years; and*
- Whereas: SHADE Foundation of America is dedicated to the eradication of melanoma through the education of children and the community in the prevention and detection of skin cancer and the promotion of sun safety; and*
- Whereas: The SHADE Foundation of America is providing 100 trees and 10 shade tents to provide the citizens of Boston with shade and sunscreen to protect themselves from overexposure to the sun's UV radiation; and*
- Whereas: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s SunWise Program is an environmental and health education program that teaches children and their caregivers how to protect themselves from overexposure to the sun through the use of classroom-, school- and community-based components; and*

Whereas: In an effort to bring sun safety information to our schools, the EPA 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: The SunWise Program has provided sun safety training to educators in the City of Boston; 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, so that they continue to spend active time outdoors while protecting themselves from the sun;

Therefore, The City of Boston, in partnership with the SHADE Foundation of America and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's SunWise Program, and as an advocate for protecting children's health and the environment, is becoming a SunWise City and encouraging all city students and their families to learn about and practice sun-safe behavior; and further

Therefore, I, Thomas M. Menino, Mayor of the City of Boston, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, April 22, 2008 to be

SunWise Day

and give full support to efforts to promote sun safety and primary prevention of skin cancer in the City of Boston.

Mayor