

Proclamation

- WHEREAS ~** The world water crisis is one of the largest public health issues of our time; and
- WHEREAS ~** nearly 1.1 billion people (roughly 20% of the world's population) lack access to safe drinking water; and 2.6 billion people (40% of the world's population) lack access to adequate sanitation; and
- WHEREAS ~** an estimated 4,500 children die per day due to lack of clean, safe drinking water; of the millions of deaths yearly, 90% were children under the age of 5; and
- WHEREAS ~** the United Nations has prioritized water access because it contributes to such widespread suffering, including increased poverty, high child mortality rates, depressed education levels and political instability; and
- WHEREAS ~** the United Nations passed a resolution in 1992 designating World Water Day as an international day of observance and action on March 22 of each year and celebrated within one week's time.

NOW THEREFORE I, Ron Tussing, Mayor of the City of Billings, Montana, do hereby proclaim Saturday, March 29, 2008 as:

WORLD WATER DAY

in the city of Billings, and call upon all citizens to observe the day, pause to reflect on the impact of the world water crisis. Furthermore, I encourage the citizens of Billings to participate in the Walk for Water awareness event and support any person or group within the community that is associated with taking ACTION on the world water crisis.

Ron Tussing, Mayor of Billings, Montana